Weekly Executive Update Report

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General Updates

1 Council diary

1.1 You can watch a live stream of public meetings here or play them back at a later time Council meetings - Dunedin City Council. From this page you can also access the agendas and see the calendar of upcoming council meetings.

2 DCC's 2025/26 Annual Report and Summary have now been published

2.1 DCC's 2025/26 Annual Report and Summary have now been published on the DCC website - Annual Reports - Dunedin City Council

3 Enterprise Dunedin update

Armageddon Expo comes to Dunedin in 2027

3.1 We are delighted to have procured the Armageddon Expo for Dunedin. The Expo, New Zealand's most popular showcase of pop culture, comics, movies, television, animation and gaming, will take place in September 2027 – the first event here in ten years. Timed to coincide with the secondary school holidays, the event has been secured through the Festivals and Events Plan and supports the plan's strategic objectives of building a balanced, year-round events programme. It will contribute to community vibrancy and visitor activity while bringing events into the shoulder season and strengthening the city's offering beyond peak periods.

Pre Summer Destination Hui

3.2 Enterprise Dunedin hosted the final 2026 Destination Hui, bringing together sector leaders to discuss Dunedin's future visitor economy. This hui saw a different format with MC Doug Kamo hosting a Q&A session with an expert panel on opportunities for and the future of Dunedin as a destination. Some fantastic insights were shared from panellists, Ben Taylor, Phil King, Hoani Langsbury MNZM and Deputy Mayor Cherry Lucas, on what the future could look like for Dunedin, tourism in the city, and the wider economy.

3.3 Conversations explored how visitor growth benefits business beyond tourism and hospitality, ultimately benefiting residents. Panellists reflected on the city's competitive strengths, what's needed to enable growth, future visitor needs and expectations, as well as the risks of moving too slowly. There was strong recognition of the potential within Dunedin's sectors of strength, lifestyle, music scene, standout facilities and natural treasures. The visitor industry can support the city's potential by ensuring the city is an attractive, vibrant place to visit and live - creating experiences that make people want to stay longer and return.

3.4 Overall, we heard strong support for a city-wide master plan and long-term vision. The discussion was a very encouraging start to a collaborative review of the destination management plan, and development of a shared destination vision for the city.

Tourism Summit

3.5 The Destination Manager (Interim) attended the Tourism Industry Aotearoa Summit in Christchurch. With the theme Tourism Inc: Distinctive by Design, the programme explored a broad range of topics across the tourism sector, from tourism trade and visitor

engagement to artificial intelligence, and from the importance of human connection to the role of culture in shaping experiences for both manuhiri and those working within the industry.

3.6 The summit provided a valuable opportunity to hear from experts across a range of fields, gain insights into emerging trends and developments, and discuss the significant changes facing the sector with industry leaders from around New Zealand.

Destination Development and Aviation Partnerships

3.7 Attendance at the DUD - OOL Workshop on the Gold Coast provided an opportunity to engage with airport, tourism and destination partners, supporting ongoing discussions around connectivity, visitor attraction and regional tourism growth opportunities.

BEIA Conference

3.8 The Business events and Tourism Trade Lead (Interim) attended the Business Events Industry Aotearoa Conference in Christchurch. The Conference brought the business events and incentives industry together for two days of meaningful kōrero, fresh perspectives, learning and connection. With both venues, services and event organisers in the room this year's conference helped to build both networks and potential event leads for Dunedin.

Economic Development Collaboration

3.9 The team hosted Tourism New Zealand Business Development Manager, Business Events, Sherylee Eyles, for a busy programme of meetings over three days. It was a valuable opportunity to continue growing Dunedin's network of conference ambassadors and strengthen relationships with key stakeholders.

3.10 The team met with industry leaders and experts across Dunedin's sectors of strength and academic institutions to discuss the support available through Enterprise Dunedin and Tourism New Zealand to those attracting and hosting conferences. Business events deliver significant benefits to Dunedin by generating visitor expenditure at off peak times, supporting year-round vibrancy and employment, and showcasing the city's academic, research, cultural, and business strengths to national and international audiences.

3.11 Enterprise Dunedin participated in the Otago Mayoral Forum - Economic Narrative and the regular ORED regular catch up, continuing work with regional partners on shared economic development priorities and regional economic narrative development across Otago.

Tourism Visits

3.12 The city hosted two cruise ships, Celebrity Edge and Grand Princess, bringing combined visitor numbers of 5,630 visitors and 2,520 crew. Cruise ship days are welcome boosts to retail, hospitality and tourism businesses in the city as our summer season starts to build. The delayed arrival of the Grand Princes due to fog on 8 November resulted in a somewhat busier than expected for the i-site team at the Port terminal and in the Octagon visitor centre. Changes to visitor schedules required additional support to help passengers make the most of Dunedin's wide range of visitor experiences and attractions.

3.13 Significant uplifts in visitors are also evident around arrival of the Mainlander train service each weekend. These bring passengers from Christchurch to Dunedin on Fridays, leaving for Invercargill on Sundays – and from Invercargill to Dunedin on Sundays, leaving for Christchurch on Mondays. It was encouraging to hear that the Southerner passenger rail

service will return to a regular Christchurch-Dunedin service in 2027. The 12-month trial, funded through the Regional Infrastructure Fund, will significantly increase the frequency of services from the current monthly schedule, supporting greater visitor connectivity.

Enterprise Dunedin staff attend Economic Development NZ conference

3.14 Staff attended a two-day gathering of economists and economic development leaders at Cromwell last week. Workshop and presentation topics included energy transition, tourism conversion for investment, spatial planning, KiwiSaver and Iwi based investment opportunity, resilience and disaster planning for recovery.

4 Dunedin takes centre stage in Amazon's Christmas campaign, *Joy Delivered*

4.1 Of all the places in the world, this year's Amazon Christmas commercial came to our very own hometown of Dunedin – and it's already making waves internationally, clocking up more than 6.5 million views in the UK alone.

4.2 Amazon's heartwarming festive advertisement, Joy Delivered, was filmed entirely in Dunedin, showcasing the city's distinctive character, stunning scenery and surrounding coastal landscapes to an international audience.

4.3 The story follows Joy, who, after having her flight cancelled on the way home for Christmas, finds herself on an unexpected journey filled with acts of kindness from strangers. In the spirit of Christmas, she goes on to spread that kindness by gifting them the presents she had originally packed for her family.

4.4 Behind the beautiful result was a massive and complex production, delivered within a very tight timeframe. Dunedin's Film Office was heavily involved throughout, assisting with location scouting, connecting the production with local crew and services, and helping coordinate permits. Teams from Transport, Parks and Reserves, and Property also played an important role in making the shoot happen.

4.5 It was a huge collaborative effort, and everyone involved did an incredible job of pulling it together. It's a real credit to the skill, creativity and can-do attitude of the people and organisations across our region.

5 Property Services update

5.1 The $785,000 Sargood Centre roof renewal is underway with scaffolding now being installed. The project will replace two sections of ageing roof that have caused ongoing leaks, helping protect the well-used sporting and education facility for the future.

5.2 The Dunedin Tramways War Memorial marked its 80th anniversary on Sunday 15 November with a rededication ceremony following the relocation of the memorial plaque to Market Reserve on Princes Street. The memorial honours nine former Dunedin City Corporation Tramways employees who lost their lives while serving in the First and Second World Wars. Around 70 people attended the ceremony including descendants of those commemorated and Mayor Sophie Barker.

6 Kā Kete Wānaka Dunedin Public Libraries

6.1 Dunedin Public Libraries met with Aukaha staff involved in the Healthy Homes Initiative and Ready to Rent workshop to explore opportunities for collaboration. Aukaha can now

recommend DCC heat kits, available for loan through the library, to whānau, and has been provided with information about the kits and library membership. A library team member will also attend an upcoming Ready to Rent workshop to highlight library services and resources that can support people on tight budgets. The teams hope to establish this as an ongoing collaboration.

6.2 The book buses will return to service on 18 January 2027 following an additional week for e-bus repairs and maintenance in Christchurch.

6.3 Dunedin Public Libraries' Senior Management Team is meeting with a Shanghai Library delegation on Wednesday 18 November. The visit includes viewing donated books in the existing Window on Shanghai collection at City Library, followed by a tour of the new Window on Shanghai collection at South Dunedin Community Library. The meeting also provides an opportunity to discuss the libraries' Memorandum of Understanding.

6.4 Dunedin Public Libraries Heritage Foundation event on Thursday 19 November is celebrating the digitisation of biographies and portraits of NZ High Court Judges collected by William Downie Stewart and his sister Mary Downie Stewart which are part of the Dunedin Public Libraries Heritage Collections. The digitised collection will be available through He Purapura Marara Scattered Seeds Digital Archive.

6.5 Public Libraries New Zealand has released its 2025-26 Analysis and Insights Report, which draws on data provided annually by Dunedin Public Libraries as part of the national data collection. See the report in attachments at the end of this document.

6.6 Two Dunedin Public Libraries staff will attend the National Digital Forum conference in Pōneke Wellington from 23 to 25 November 2026.

7 Cities of Literature Lowdown #1 has been viewed in 27 countries so far

7.1 Ōtepoti He Puna Auaha Dunedin UNESCO City of Literature has produced the first-ever Cities of Literature Network quarterly online newsletter as part of its role on the Network's Steering Group. In the newsletter Cities of Literature across the globe share recent projects and international collaborations and reveal future happenings. Check it out here Cities of Literature Lowdown #1

7.2 Cities of Literature around the world are sending the inaugural international newsletter to their communities and their UNESCO National Commissions. It has been viewed in 27 countries so far and counting!



8 Changes to the 2GP for Transitional Consenting

8.1 New planning legislation is being introduced across New Zealand, with the Planning Act 2026 and Natural Environment Act 2026 progressively replacing the Resource

Management Act 1991 (RMA). Although resource consents will continue to be processed under the RMA for several years, some important changes came into effect for applications lodged from 30 October 2026.

8.2 These changes affect how some resource consent applications are assessed and what matters councils can consider during the decision-making process.

8.3 The DCC are working with other councils, NZPI, and the Ministry for Cities, Environment, Regions and Transport (MCERT) to achieve consistency where possible in interpreting and applying the provisions.

8.4 The Dunedin City Second Generation District Plan (2GP) has been updated to show the changes to provisions.

8.5 Guidance on how these new provisions apply during the resource consent process has been developed by the MCERT and is available at Transitional consenting guidance - Planning.govt.nz.

8.6 More information is also available Changes to the 2GP and Resource Consents.

9 Waste minimisation

9.1 A cross-sector group for businesses in construction and demolition and multiple DCC departments recently held their quarterly meeting. The group gathered to hear from the leading business practising deconstruction of buildings in New Zealand. The Working Group meets to lift sustainable practices for building in the Dunedin construction and demolition sector.

9.2 The end of October and beginning of November has been an extremely busy time for the team due to collating, reporting, and submitting all annual environmental compliance monitoring to the ORC, ensuring we meet our consent requirements.

9.3 Student information packs are currently being arranged to educate the next round of students in the new year about the waste services available in the tertiary precinct and how to use them. This is one of the tools we use each year to try and educate new students and reduce waste. In addition, our waste audit kit is being used to identify what rubbish students are disposing of at the end of the year, to inform what actions might help reduce waste in the tertiary precinct.

9.4 The September round of Waste Minimisation Grants applications have been assessed, and decisions on funding allocations will be made at the Grants Subcommittee meeting on Tuesday 17 November. This was an unusually big round for the waste team, showing good growth in waste minimisation initiatives in the community.

10 Parks and recreation update

Aquatics

10.1 Tiling work continues on Te Puna o Whakaehu, with the project progressing well. We currently expect the spa pool to reopen in mid-December 2026. (Photo 1 attached)

10.2 Tile repair work is continuing in the deep end of Moana Pool's 50m pool. The use of the tile tank is allowing this work to be completed while the pool remains open and operational for customers. (Photo 2 attached)

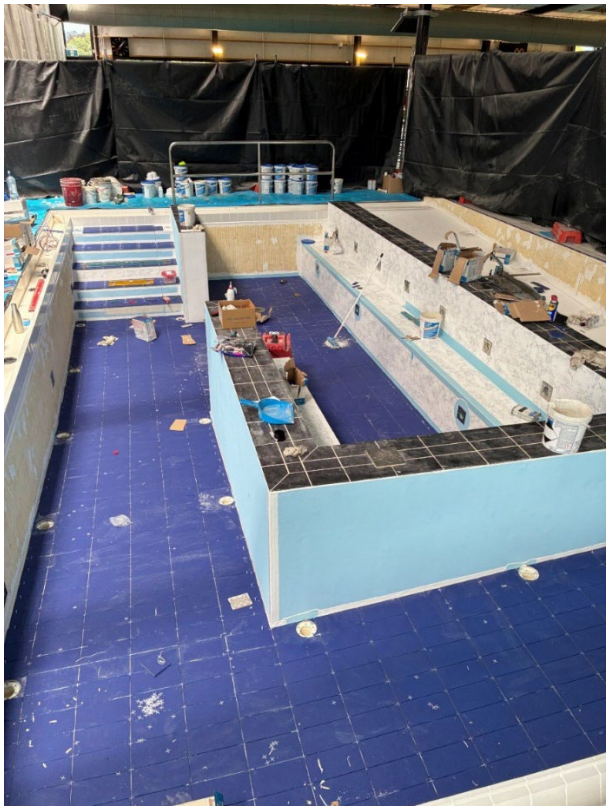


Photo 1 - Tiling work continues on Te Puna o Whakaehu

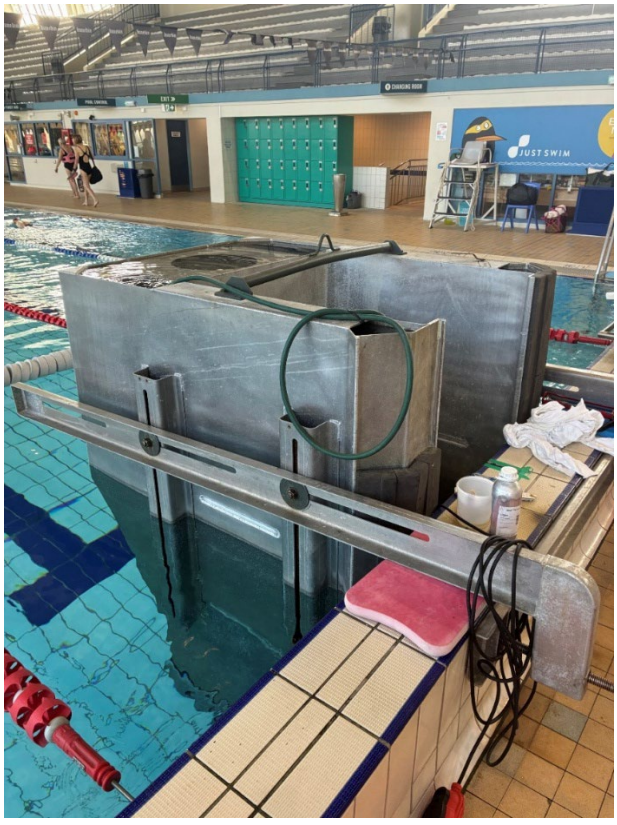


Photo 2 - Tile repair work at Moana Pool's 50m pool

Dunedin Botanic Garden

10.3 The Botanic Garden Information Centre recorded 1,411 visitors over the seven days from Wednesday 4 November to Tuesday 10 November.

Parks Planning

10.4 Parks and Recreation staff engaged with one of the city's schools to discuss play, including different types of play and where these opportunities can be found across the city.

10.5 The engagement period for the Hereweka Harbour Cone Reserve Management Plan closed on 10 November 2026, with 50 submissions received.

Parks Operations

10.6 The seasonal cemetery beam installation programme is underway and will continue through to the end of March 2027. New ash and burial infrastructure will be installed across several cemeteries, including Andersons Bay, Allanton, Middlemarch, Green Island, Portobello and Dunedin Cemetery, providing families with local options for their loved ones.

10.7 A new accessible kerb and paved entrance to ANZAC Gardens at Dunedin Railway Station has improved access to the gardens for visitors. Developed in consultation with the Dunedin Amenities Society the project also incorporates donated bricks within the precinct.

Bookings

10.8 Sportsgrounds and venue bookings totalled 301 for the week to Wednesday 11 November.

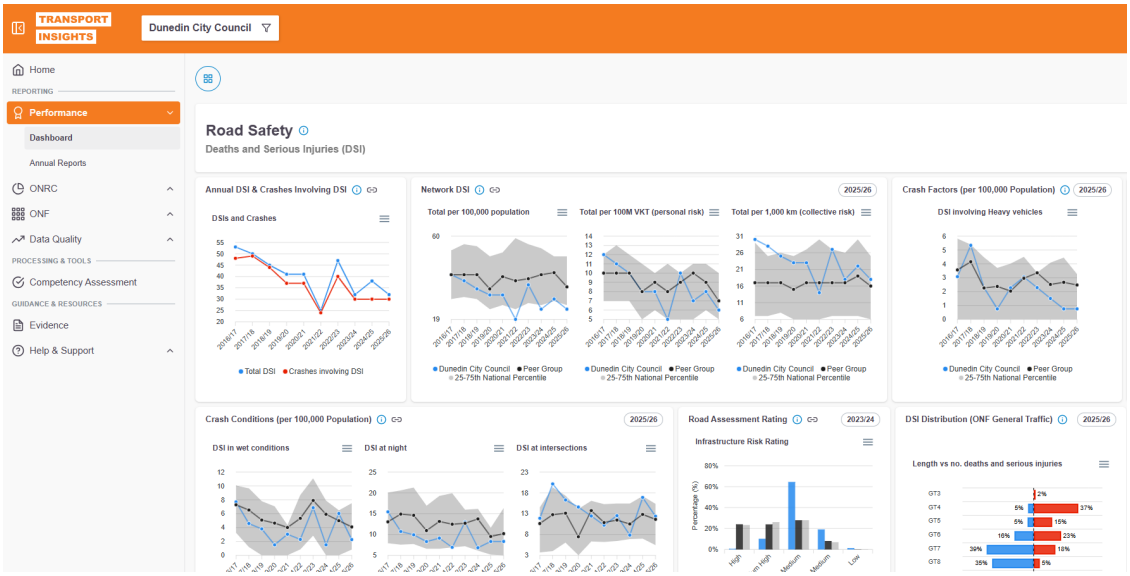
Field Bookings	231
Gymnasium Bookings	25
Lights	0
Change facilities	23
Athletics Track and fields	11
Botanic Gardens	2
Reserves & Carparks	8
Pavilions and function rooms	0
Total	301

11 Transport Insights portal

11.1 The **Transport Insights** portal is an open tool to access roading related statistics and benchmarking across New Zealand's Road Controlling Authorities (RCAs) and NZTA Waka Kotahi networks.

11.2 The tool is owned by a member of the DCC's Transport team and is continuously being improved to introduce new measures and views on roading data.

11.3 The portal is accessible to anyone and is a great way to self-serve trend data and benchmark across RCAs without needing to contact them directly for information and can be found here https://transportinsights.nz



12 Fraud Awareness Week 2026

12.1 DCC takes fraud risk seriously and is supporting Fraud Awareness Week 2026 by sharing Serious Fraud Office messaging with staff. The campaign aims to strengthen awareness of fraud risks and warning signs, and ensure staff know the appropriate steps to take if concerns arise.



13 Armistice Day keynote address by Curator of Toitū Otago Settlers Museum

13.1 Sean Brosnahan, Curator at Toitū Otago Settlers Museum, delivered the keynote address at Dunedin's 2026 Armistice Day Commemoration, held at the Queens Gardens Cenotaph. Armistice Day is observed annually on 11 November to mark the moment the guns fell silent on the Western Front in 1918, bringing an end to the fighting of the First World War. The commemoration honours the service and sacrifice of military personnel and provides an opportunity for reflection on the impact of war and the importance of peace. The ceremony brought together veterans, serving personnel, dignitaries and members of the public to mark the 108th anniversary of the Armistice.



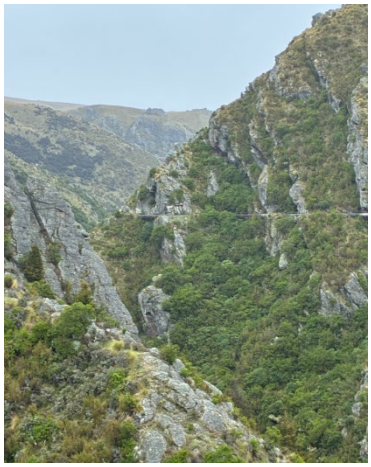
14 3 Waters update from the Network Operations team

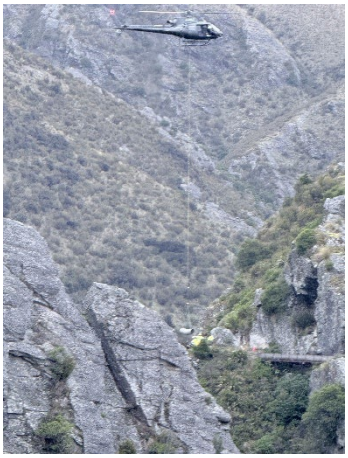
14.1 The Network Operations team recently completed a critical repair on the Deep Creek raw water line, a vital intake that supplies Dunedin with approximately 8,300 cubic meters of water daily (about 18% of the city's daily supply).

14.2 The pipe was constructed in 1936 in the Deep Creek catchment about 65km northwest of Dunedin near Lammermoor. Located on a cliff edge around one kilometre from the nearest vehicle access, the team carefully exposed and removed the old pipe in preparation for the repair.

14.3 To complete the repair safely and efficiently, a helicopter airlifted the 400kg replacement pipe directly into position. The lift took less than an hour, providing a safe and cost-effective solution for the challenging site.

14.4 The repair was completed in-house by DCC's catchment technicians, who collectively bring more than 80 years' experience managing the city's water sources across approximately 21,000 hectares of catchment, often in challenging and remote environments.








Attachments

15 Public Libraries New Zealand 2025-26 Analysis and Insights Report

Public Libraries of New Zealand

ANALYSIS AND INSIGHT REPORT

2025-26



Photo supplied by Wellington City Council

National Data Collection

Love your Library

Sustaining Community Value in Times of Change

Over the past five years, public libraries across Aotearoa have thrived as vibrant community hubs and digital gateways. Driven by surging visits, expanding online services, record event attendance, and fine-free borrowing, New Zealanders are connecting with local libraries in record numbers. This report celebrates the enduring value, vitality and adaptability of public libraries as essential places of connection and lifelong learning.

As local councils across Aotearoa are faced with rates capping, rising infrastructure costs and potential amalgamation, difficult choices lie ahead. In this environment, Public Libraries of New Zealand (PLNZ) urges local government leaders to keep one fundamental fact in mind: public libraries are not an optional extra, they are a core service that deliver unmatched value for money.

Smarter Structural Reforms
If regional amalgamations move forward, councils should use them to streamline back-office operations, unifying digital licensing, and procurement across boundaries. Efficiency gains belong behind the scenes, not at the expense of local branches, opening hours, or frontline staff. Preserving local physical access is vital for rural, isolated, and lower-income communities who rely on these facilities the most.

The Case Against Overdue Fines and "User-Pays" Fees
When budgets tighten, reintroducing overdue fines or adding user-pays charges can look like a quick fix. National data shows this is a false economy. Overdue fines reduce usage without generating meaningful revenue and historically account for less than 1% of library operating budgets, yet they actively turn away children, struggling families, and seniors.

Going fine-free yields real results. Since PLNZ's 2021 push for a fine-free Aotearoa, 60 council systems are fine free for adults and 64 for youth, resulting in adult physical borrowing growing by 12%, reaching over 20 million loans last year, while annual physical visits per active borrower climbed from 11.9 to 19.9 visits.

Rather than shifting costs onto borrowers, the focus should be on returning to core library services, prioritising what matters most to our communities, and identifying opportunities to reduce spending and improve efficiencies without compromising equitable access.

Safe and Supported Spaces
Keeping libraries safe and welcoming requires realistic staffing levels, training, and visible support from senior council management. PLNZ considers reductions in frontline staffing a significant risk to staff wellbeing, public safety and the ability of libraries to provide accessible and welcoming spaces for their communities.

The Bottom Line – Invest in Public Libraries
Public libraries are not just a core service; they are fundamental to creating equitable, connected and resilient communities. They level the playing field, provide opportunities for learning and social connection, and ensure everyone has access to resources and support, regardless of their circumstances.

As the cost of living continues to rise, libraries are more important than ever. It is time for councils to recognise the value libraries deliver, protect these core services and invest in the communities that depend on them.

Tiffany Rawlings, Chair
Public Libraries of New Zealand



A YEAR IN REVIEW 2025-26

THE STORY IN NUMBERS

PUBLIC VALUE HIGHLIGHT: $1.33 PER WEEK

Operating at an annual per-capita investment of just **$69.11 per person ($1.33 per week),** public libraries provide access to free books, digital resources, computers, Wi-Fi, programmes, information, community spaces and more.

63.3 million visits

- 28.9 million in-person visits
- 34.4 million virtual visits

340 service points

312 branches, 25 mobile libraries & 3 unstaffed locations, providing 13,000+ hours of weekly access, incl. 105 additional extended-access hours

14.5 million collection items

available to the public; supported by $48.6mil of investment to keep collections relevant, current and accessible

44.8 million loans

- 33.6 million physical loans
- 11.2 million digital loans

94,977 library programmes delivered

attracting more than 1.7 million attendees

1,456,958 active borrowers

2,364 public computers



Photo supplied by Queenstown Lakes Libraries

A FIVE YEAR OVERVIEW

160% *increase*

Library Programme attendance since 2021

58% *increase*

In-person visits per active borrower since 2021

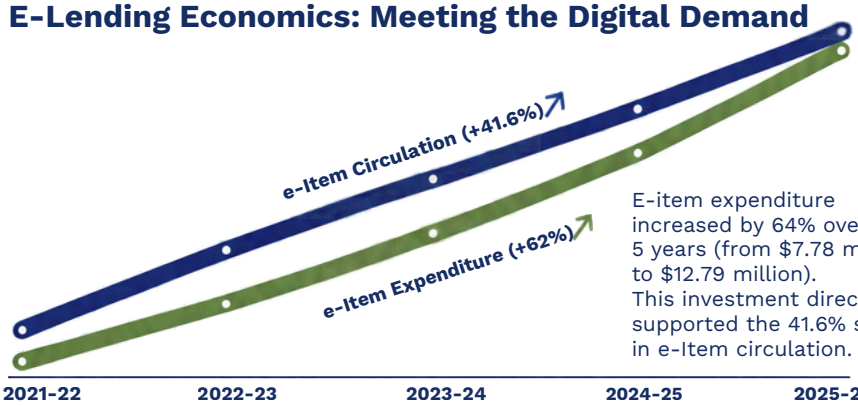
4% *decrease*

In collection size of Physical Books since 2021

72,011

Children participating in Reading Programmes

E-Lending Economics: Meeting the Digital Demand



E-item expenditure increased by 64% over 5 years (from $7.78 million to $12.79 million). This investment directly supported the 41.6% surge in e-Item circulation.

When libraries invest in digital collections, the community responds immediately. Modern collection budgets must remain agile to sustain this parallel growth.

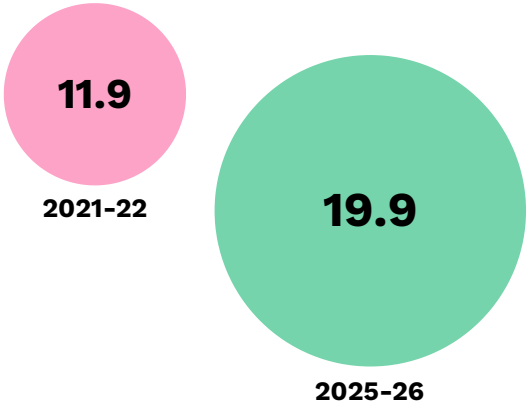
Fine free libraries

64 out of 65 library services are fine free for children and young adult materials.

60 out of 65 library services are fine free for adult materials.

Over the past 5 years, libraries have reduced barriers to access, with fine-free borrowing now offered by 60 of 65 library systems for adults and 64 of 65 for youth. This has contributed to increased visits, borrowing and programme participation, demonstrating the important role of barrier-free libraries in supporting literacy, learning and community engagement.

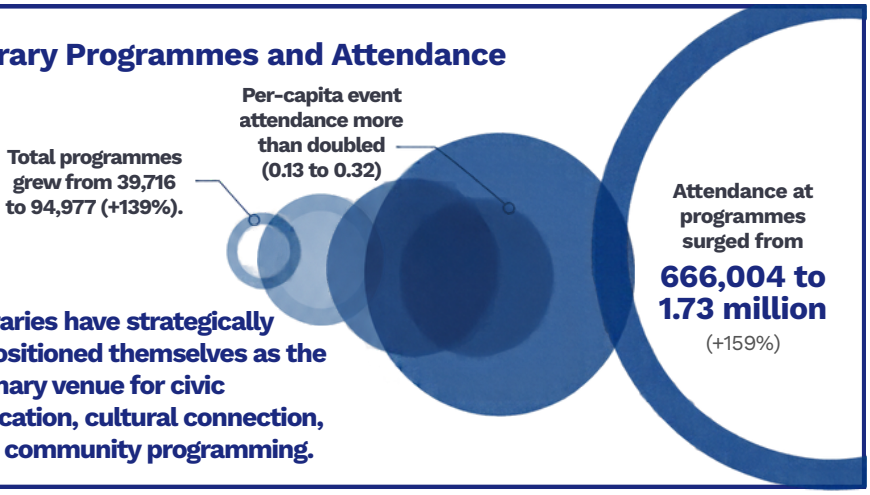
Physical Visits: A Deeper Connection



Total Physical Visits per Active Borrower

While the number of borrowers has decreased slightly over the past 5 years, library users remain highly engaged, returning repeatly.

Library Programmes and Attendance



Libraries have strategically repositioned themselves as the primary venue for civic education, cultural connection, and community programming.

Public Libraries of New Zealand

Love your Library

PUBLIC LIBRARY DATA

Table 1. National Population	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Change
Population	5,010,950	5,034,509	5,146,848	5,257,227	5,345,822	1.69%

Table 2. Library numbers and total opening hours	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Change from previous year
Number of Libraries	332	315	315	313	312	-0.32%
Number of Mobile Service Vehicles[1]	N/A	23	23	26	25	-3.85%
Number of Unstaffed Library Managed Outlets	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	3	-40.00%
Opening hours - normal week	13,051	12,924	12,863	13,064	13,185	0.93%
Extended Access	N/A	N/A	2	3	3	0.00%
Extended Access Hours	N/A	N/A	N/A	105.5	105.5	0.00%

Table 3: Memberships and visits	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Change from previous year
Active Borrowers	1,533,464	1,425,957	1,444,167	1,500,930	1,458,380	-2.83%
Active Borrowers as % of population	30.60%	28.32%	28.06%	28.55%	27.28%	-4.45%
Visits (physical)	18,266,344	25,052,158	28,664,001	28,686,910	28,982,170	1.03%
Visits (virtual)[2]	29,860,821	26,929,502	30,259,467	32,838,111	34,394,991	4.74%
Total Visits	48,127,165	51,981,660	58,923,468	61,525,021	63,377,161	3.01%
Physical visits per active borrower	11.9	17.6	19.8	19.1	19.9	3.98%
Physical visits per capita	3.6	5.0	5.6	5.5	5.4	-0.65%
Virtual visits per active borrower	19.5	18.9	21.0	21.9	23.6	7.80%
Virtual visits per capita	6.0	5.3	5.9	6.2	6.4	3.01%
Total Visits per active borrower	31.4	36.5	40.8	41.0	43.5	6.02%
Total Visits per capita	9.6	10.3	11.4	11.7	11.9	1.30%

Table 4: National collection size	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Change from previous year
Collection size (physical)	10,274,693	10,057,053	9,869,412	9,791,125	9,857,440	0.68%
Collection size (electronic)[3]	6,642,179	12,621,012	3,748,301	4,357,615	4,659,223	6.92%
Total Collection size (physical and electronic)	16,916,872	22,678,065	13,617,713	14,148,740	14,516,663	2.60%
Collection size per capital (physical)	2.1	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.8	-0.99%
Collection size per capital (electronic)	1.3	2.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	5.15%
Total Collection size per capita[4]	3.4	4.5	2.6	2.7	2.7	0.90%

Table 5: Collection Usage	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Change from previous year
Physical Issues - Children and Young Adult	12,925,010	15,269,407	15,485,715	14,318,734	13,098,935	-8.52%
Physical Issues - Adults	18,399,901	19,255,307	19,528,000	20,196,156	20,567,399	1.84%
Issues (e-Item)	7,973,002	8,647,292	8,878,327	10,448,509	11,290,109	8.05%
Issues (e-Resources)[5]	10,418,531	8,095,496	3,951,666	4,534,201	5,579,503	23.05%
Total Issues	49,716,444	51,267,502	47,843,708	49,497,600	50,535,946	2.10%
Physical Issues %	63.0%	67.3%	73.2%	69.7%	66.6%	-4.46%
e-Item and E-Resources Issues %	37.0%	32.7%	26.8%	30.3%	33.4%	10.28%
Issues per capita (physical)	6.3	6.9	6.8	6.6	6.3	-4.08%
Issues per capita (electronic)	3.7	3.3	2.5	2.8	3.2	10.73%
Total Issues per capita	9.9	10.2	9.3	9.4	9.5	0.41%

Table 6: Events and Programmes	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Change from previous year
Programming	39,716	72,732	83,184	91,850	94,977	3.40%
Attendance at Programmes	666,004	1,288,991	1,510,454	1,666,639	1,730,216	3.81%
Attendance at Events per capita	0.13	0.26	0.29	0.32	0.32	2.09%

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Table 7: Services	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Change from previous year
Reading Programme Participants	89,016	108,699	106,923	57,353	72,011	25.56%
Home delivery service	58	59	60	59	59	0.00%
Libraries systems with maker/creative spaces	N/A	17	20	23	23	0.00%
Number of Maker/Creative Spaces	N/A	24	30	32	32	0.00%
Maker/Creative Space Equipment	N/A	N/A	N/A	9	31	244.44%

Table 8: Internet and WiFi Usage	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Change from previous year
Internet Access by Library Device	1,475,757	1,847,200	2,108,151	2,214,956	2,911,173	31.43%
Number of public devices	2,598	2,676	2,742	2,624	2,364	-9.91%
Public computers per 10,000 persons	5.18	5.32	5.33	4.99	4.42	-11.40%

Table 9: Fine free	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Change from previous year
Fine free for children and young adult materials	54	59	63	64	64	0.00%
Fine free for adult materials	23	38	50	59	60	1.69%

Table 10: Staff	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Change from previous year
Staff numbers (FTE)	2,232	2,360	2,450	2,311	2,319	0.36%
Staff numbers (actual)	N/A	3,207	3,275	3,133	3,155	0.70%
Funded Staff Hours	N/A	129,893	123,030	88,198	95,285	8.04%
Vacant Staff Positions (FTE)	N/A	182	149	152	118	-22.47%
Staff members (FTE) per 10,000 persons	4.5	4.7	4.8	4.4	4.3	-1.30%

Table 11: Expenditure	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Change from previous year
Staff expenditure	$157,867,764	$173,052,428	$184,655,419	$197,101,835	$216,504,277	9.84%
Physical Collection expenditure	$28,412,146	$30,299,438	$32,714,585	$32,727,376	$36,047,842	10.15%
e-Item expenditure	$7,786,257	$8,410,606	$11,339,657	$11,846,145	$12,793,224	7.99%
e-resources expenditure	$2,400,518	$4,663,879	$4,784,154	$4,835,387	$4,261,257	-11.87%
Total Opex expenditure[6]	$74,297,898	$89,573,589	$83,638,997	$96,113,833	$100,279,693	4.33%
Total expenditure per capita	54.03	60.78	61.62	65.17	69.19	6.17%

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Notes

1 Data collected starting 2022-23.

2 The 2022-23 data has been updated and corrected, with social media references removed from the virtual visit information.

3 For the 2023-24 period, pay-per-use platforms have been excluded from the reported collection size. These platforms were previously included in the 2021-22 and 2022-23 data. The current year's data provides a more accurate representation of the actual collection owned by libraries.

4 The removal of pay-per-use (PPU) platforms has led to a decrease in the total collection size per capita. PPU data was not included in the 2020-21 figures, which has resulted in the 2023-24 data being more consistent on a per capita basis.

5 In 2023-24, data collected included only e-Magazines, e-Comics and digital movies. 2022-23 data included any e-Resources a library subscribed to. With the numerous platforms and reporting metrics, this metric was too variable to include all e-Resources.

6 Total operating (OPEX) expenditures reported by each council include different types of expenses, so this data should not be used to make direct comparisons between councils.

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