

A scenic photograph of a coastline with a bay, waves, and a rocky headland, viewed from an elevated position with trees in the foreground.

COMMUNITY WELL-BEING SERVICE

*The stories behind the data*

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Information Booklet



# Foreword by Dr Ganesh Nana

Business and Economic Research Limited (BERL)

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*Making sense of the numbers*

BERL's tag-line is *making sense of the numbers* and so it should be no surprise that we are whole-hearted supporters of this initiative from SOLGM.

Presenting data and information in a way that makes sense is no easy task and we are fully aware of the mahi required to construct the Indicator Data, the Tableau tool and the associated services. Hence, we congratulate SOLGM for investing the necessary time and effort to develop this Service for those active in the local government sector.

Like most information though, it is only as good as its user and its interpretation. For this reason, we are

heartened that SOLGM have placed these tools within a Service to inform community well-being. A well-being framework is critical for advisors to understand the context of data and to construct a rich kōrero that assists decision-makers faced with challenging choices.

Having ready access to this data, information and the SOLGM Community Well-being Service will not guarantee enhanced economic development, progressive community prosperity, or improved well-being. But it will provide clearer maps and pathways ahead for the local government sector and is a welcome innovation from the SOLGM team.

# SOLGM Community Well-being Service

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The Local Government (Community Well-being) Amendment Act has resulted in a change in the purpose of local government, which is to promote community well-being.

This means that we, as local authorities, are responsible for improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of our communities.

The SOLGM Community Well-being Service has been developed to support you and your council to improve the well-being outcomes of your community. The Service is comprehensive and consists of training support, e-learning modules, best practice case studies and information sharing.

The Service also includes a data warehouse which contains a range of indicators which you can use to measure the current well-being of your community. These indicators can be

reviewed over time to measure the progress being made within each well-being area.

There will be infographic reports produced which can be easily understood by your community and used as a conversation starter, helping your community articulate their aspirations.

The Service will also provide guidance within the SOLGM Toolkit on community participation and best practice examples on effective collaboration within your community.

# Why measure well-being?

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If you look at “wealth” through a well-being lens you measure outcomes in a very different way.

While GDP is a marker of economic activity, it doesn’t measure human happiness, social connection, safety and security, or physical and emotional health. Nor does it factor in the negative impact of economic growth such as income inequality and the state of our natural environment.

The shift to well-being means that we can now measure our progress in lifting people’s quality of life and reporting on the things that people care about, such as the environment, and the quality of social connection.

# What are the well-beings?

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**Social** – involves individuals, their families, whanau, hapu, iwi, and a range of communities being able to set goals and achieve them, such as education, health, the strength of community networks, financial and personal security, equity of opportunity, and rights and freedoms.



**Economic** – looks at whether the economy can generate the employment and wealth necessary to provide many of the requirements that make for social well-being, such as health, financial security, and equity of opportunity.



**Environmental** – considers whether the natural environment can sustainably support the activities that constitute healthy community life, such as air quality, fresh water, uncontaminated land, and control of pollution.



**Cultural** – looks at the shared beliefs, values, customs, behaviours and identities reflected through language, stories, visual and performing arts, ceremonies and heritage that make up our communities.

# What is the SOLGM Community Well-being Service, and how can it help with measuring well-being outcomes?

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The SOLGM Community Well-being Service provides a variety of tools to the sector to assist you and your council to achieve this new purpose.

Your community are the experts in voicing what good life looks like for them and through council planning processes the community participates directly with its local authority. This Service will provide a range of support to your work in the well-being space.

The Service will provide information, guidance toolkits, training, best practice examples and membership support on the four well-beings.

The Service also consists of a data warehouse containing a range of

indicators which can be used to support your strategic planning and LTP process. It also includes a range of resources to support your well-being journey.

The indicators are presented as flexible, tailored and easy to understand reports and dashboards which can be shared with internal and external stakeholders and the community.

The indicators provide a snapshot of the current well-being of YOUR community.

Knowing where you're at helps to work out where you need to go, the outcomes you want to achieve, and how you're going to achieve them. This is the starting point of discussions in your community.



SOLGM DATA  
WAREHOUSE

YOUR WELL-BEING  
MEASURE

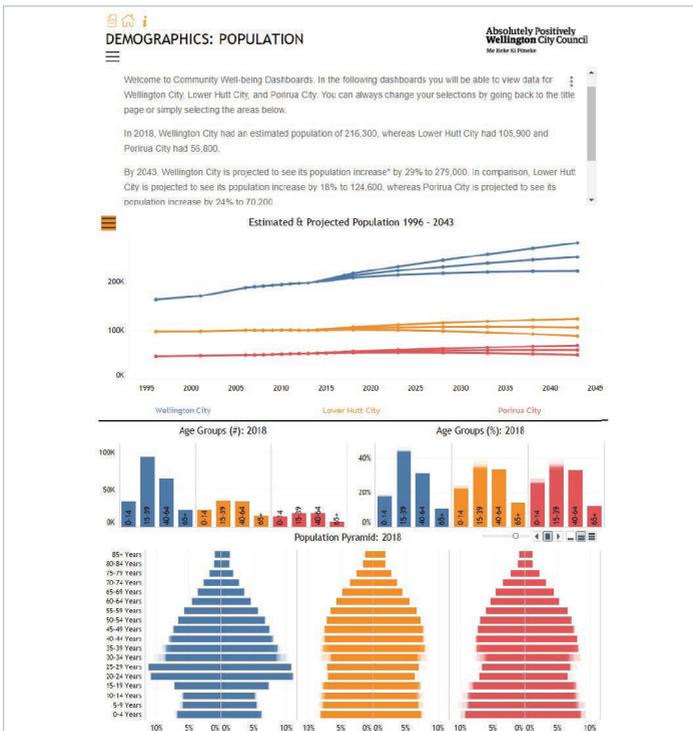


Tableau Dashboard Example

## About the indicator data and Tableau training

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The data held in our data warehouse includes population, social, economic, environmental, cultural and demographic data from a range of sources, including Stats NZ, MBIE, HUD, MSD, NZ Police, MFE and LAWA. A data dictionary is provided with the indicators.

It is possible to add your own data to the data warehouse - Bring Your Own Data (BYOD).

The data is regularly updated and support will be given on how to use the data including interpretation tools. Using the data, you can create your own dashboards within Tableau. Tableau training is included in the cost.

## Levels of access

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There are three different subscription levels of access and service (**Basic**, **Gold** and **Platinum**) to suit your council's needs. Contact us for details on what is included at each level and what the costs are.

*Email [info@solgm.org.nz](mailto:info@solgm.org.nz)*

# The story behind the data: using data to improve employment outcomes in South Auckland

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Kia Puāwai is a programme designed to improve employment outcomes in South Auckland by bringing unemployed local people into the Council's contact centre workforce. Kia Puāwai offers not just a job, but the prospect of a career. It has provided life-changing opportunities for graduates, is a reliable source of motivated staff for the contact centre, and has sustainable benefits for South Auckland.

It is a great example of identifying the needs of a particular demographic in the community, and targeting services to improve their social and economic well-being outcomes.





Find out more about the SOLGM Community Well-being Service at [www.solgm.org.nz/CommunityWellbeing](http://www.solgm.org.nz/CommunityWellbeing) or email [info@solgm.org.nz](mailto:info@solgm.org.nz).

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