

# New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency Limited (LGFA)

The New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency Limited (LGFA) is a government-related entity (GRE) under Fitch Ratings' GRE rating criteria and is credit-linked to the New Zealand government (AA+/Stable). LGFA's Issuer Default Rating (IDR) considers the government's significant responsibility and incentives to provide financial support to LGFA, given the agency's key policy role in providing most of the local government financing. LGFA's ratings are equalised with those of New Zealand accordingly.

## Key Rating Drivers

**Support Assessment 'Virtually Certain':** We believe extraordinary support from the New Zealand government to LGFA would be 'Virtually Certain' if needed, as reflected in a support score of 55 out of a maximum 60 under our GRE criteria. This is based on our assessment of the government's responsibility and incentive to provide support.

**Responsibility to Support:** LGFA serves as New Zealand's primary lender to local governments, operating under strong central government oversight despite minority ownership of 20%. Its strategic alignment with national priorities — including water reform and emergency response — underscores its role as a key policy agent. LGFA's financial stability is supported by a committed liquidity facility, currently under review for expansion. Historical policy actions and a robust guarantee structure reinforce our expectations of extraordinary support if needed.

**Incentive to Support:** LGFA accounted for approximately 80% of local government debt as of August 2025, underscoring its dominance in New Zealand's local government financing landscape. Its role as the sole lender for many councils enables access to lower-cost, longer-tenor funding than alternative sources like bank loans or capital markets, which are less favourable.

A default by LGFA would severely disrupt infrastructure and essential services — notably water and transport — with material implications for economic stability and living standards. A failure by LGFA, as the second-largest New Zealand dollar bond issuer after the sovereign, would signal government inaction, triggering broader contagion risks across public-sector funding channels.

## Ratings

| Foreign Currency |     |
|------------------|-----|
| Long-Term IDR    | AA+ |
| Short-Term IDR   | F1+ |
| Local Currency   |     |
| Long-Term IDR    | AA+ |
| Short-Term IDR   | F1+ |

## Outlooks

|                                |        |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Long-Term Foreign-Currency IDR | Stable |
| Long-Term Local-Currency IDR   | Stable |

## Debt Ratings

|                                    |     |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Senior Unsecured Debt - Long-Term  | AA+ |
| Rating                             |     |
| Senior Unsecured Debt - Short-Term | F1+ |
| Rating                             |     |

## Issuer Profile Summary

LGFA is a centralised financing entity for New Zealand's local government sector. Its primary objective is to raise debt for local authorities to optimise their debt funding terms and conditions.

## Financial Data Summary

| (NZDm)                                       | FY24   | FY25   |
|----------------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Interest revenue                             | 1,213  | 1,267  |
| Net interest income                          | 19.5   | 34.8   |
| Net profit (loss)                            | 10.1   | 19.0   |
| Total assets                                 | 23,508 | 26,468 |
| Total debt                                   | 21,857 | 25,270 |
| Net interest income/earning assets (%)       | 0.1    | 0.1    |
| Long-term debt/total equity and reserves (%) | 15,337 | 17,035 |

Source: Fitch Ratings, Fitch Solutions, LGFA

## Applicable Criteria

- [Government-Related Entities Rating Criteria \(July 2025\)](#)
- [Public Policy Revenue-Supported Entities Rating Criteria \(January 2024\)](#)

## Related Research

[Fitch Affirms New Zealand at 'AA+'; Outlook Stable \(August 2025\)](#)

## Analysts

Paul Norris  
+61 2 8256 0326  
[paul.norris@fitchratings.com](mailto:paul.norris@fitchratings.com)

Ethan Lee  
+65 6796 2726  
[ethan.lee@fitchratings.com](mailto:ethan.lee@fitchratings.com)

## Rating Synopsis

### New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency Limited Rating Derivation

| Summary                                |                     | Government LT IDR | GRE LT IDR |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Government LT IDR                      | AA+                 |                   |            |
| GRE Standalone Credit Profile (SCP)    | No SCP              | AAA               | AAA        |
| Support category                       | Virtually certain   | AA+               | AA+        |
| Notching expression                    | Equalised           | AA                | AA         |
| Single equalisation factor             | No                  | AA-               | AA-        |
| GRE LT IDR                             | AA+                 | A+                | A+         |
|                                        |                     | A                 | A          |
|                                        |                     | A-                | A-         |
| GRE Key Risk Factors and Support Score |                     |                   |            |
| Responsibility to support              | 15                  | BBB+              | BBB+       |
| Decision making and oversight          | Very Strong         | BBB               | BBB        |
| Precedents of support                  | Strong              | BBB-              | BBB-       |
| Incentives to support                  | 40                  | BB+               | BB+        |
| Preservation of government policy role | Very Strong         | BB                | BB         |
| Contagion risk                         | Very Strong         | BB-               | BB-        |
| Support score                          | 55 (max 60)         | B+                | B+         |
|                                        |                     | B                 | B          |
|                                        |                     | B-                | B-         |
| Stylized Notching Guideline Table      |                     |                   |            |
| Support score                          | Notching expression |                   |            |
| >= 45                                  | Equalised           | CCC+              | CCC+       |
| 35-42.5                                | Top down - 1        | CCC               | CCC        |
| 30-32.5                                | Top down - 2        | CCC-              | CCC-       |
| 20-25                                  | Top down - 3        | CC                | CC         |
| <= 15                                  | Not ratable         | C                 | C          |
|                                        |                     | RD                | RD         |
|                                        |                     | D                 | D          |

Note: Refer to the GRE criteria for further details

LT IDR – Long-Term Issuer Default Rating; GRE – Government-related entity

Source: Fitch Ratings

## Rating Sensitivities

### Factors that Could, Individually or Collectively, Lead to Positive Rating Action/Upgrade

Positive rating action on the New Zealand sovereign would result in the same action on LGFA's ratings.

### Factors that Could, Individually or Collectively, Lead to Negative Rating Action/Downgrade

LGFA's ratings could be downgraded on negative rating action on the New Zealand sovereign or a weaker assessment of the government's responsibility or incentive to provide support that leads to a support score of less than 45 under our GRE criteria.

## Issuer Profile

LGFA began operating as a centralised borrowing vehicle for New Zealand's councils in 2011 following the enactment of the Local Government Borrowing Act. Its main objective is to raise debt for local governments and associated entities – known as council-controlled organisations (CCOs) – to optimise debt funding terms and conditions. This includes facilitating access to debt capital, minimising interest costs and providing borrowing flexibility, such as long-term loans and liquidity facilities. The LGFA borrowing channel is optional for councils and CCOs.

LGFA had 18 foundation council shareholders at incorporation as well as the New Zealand government. It currently has 30 council shareholders in addition to the government. LGFA is also a CCO given the councils' ownership of the agency, and operates under the Local Government Act 2002. Governance includes a six-person shareholder-appointed board along with the LGFA shareholders' council, consisting of appointees from the government and council shareholders. LGFA membership has risen over the years, with 77 of New Zealand's 78 local councils and eight CCOs currently borrowing from the entity. LGFA lending accounts for 80%-90% of local-government sector debt.

Support Rating Factors

Summary

| Responsibility to support     |                       | Incentives to support                  |                | Support score | Support category  |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Decision making and oversight | Precedents of support | Preservation of government policy role | Contagion risk |               |                   |
| Very Strong                   | Strong                | Very Strong                            | Very Strong    | 55 (max 60)   | Virtually certain |

Source: Fitch Ratings

Decision Making and Oversight

LGFA's strategic role as New Zealand's primary lender to local governments is reinforced by tight government oversight and operational influence. The central government owns a minority share but exercises strong oversight through legislative mandates, regular reporting to the Department of Internal Affairs, and representation on the shareholders' council. LGFA's alignment with national priorities — such as water reform and emergency response — demonstrates its function as a key policy instrument, operating under close government scrutiny to deliver public-sector financing.

Precedents of Support

LGFA benefits from a strong record of government support, reinforcing its strategic role in public-sector financing. A NZD1.5 billion committed liquidity facility — currently under review for expansion — acts as a financial backstop, ensuring LGFA's financial stability. Past policy responses, including the Reserve Bank of New Zealand's asset purchases and legislative provisions for direct lending, highlight the government's readiness to act. LGFA has not required substantial financial support to date, but its central role and robust guarantee structure underpin our strong expectation of extraordinary support if needed.

Preservation of Government Policy Role

Local councils' sector-wide reliance on LGFA for long-term funding makes it integral to the delivery of essential public services across New Zealand. A default would severely disrupt infrastructure projects and undermine economic stability and living standards. Councils have alternative funding options, but these are less favourable and insufficient to fully replace LGFA's role. Its centrality to public-service delivery and economic continuity creates a very strong incentive for the government to ensure LGFA's uninterrupted operation.

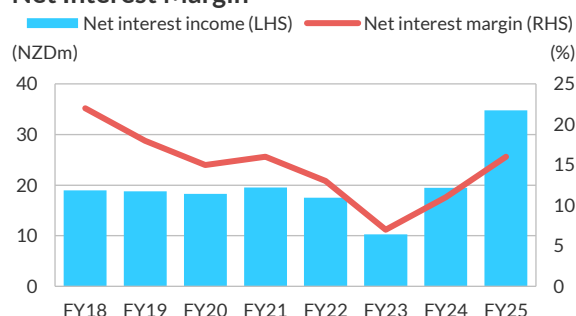
Contagion Risk

LGFA's position as New Zealand's second-largest New Zealand dollar bond issuer after the sovereign underscores its systemic importance in domestic capital markets. This visibility and its deep integration into both local and offshore debt markets make LGFA a reference issuer in New Zealand's capital markets. Any default would trigger investor concern over the government's willingness or ability to support public-sector entities. Such an event could severely impair broader market access and funding conditions. Legislative provisions for government support reinforce our expectation of intervention to safeguard financial stability.

Operating Performance

Net operating profit rose 89% yoy to NZD19.0 million in the financial year ended June 2025 (FY25), driven by lower offshore borrowing costs and increased liquid asset holdings. Total operating income increased 63% to NZD35.6 million and net interest income surged 79% to NZD34.8 million. Operating expenses rose 42%, largely due to a NZD5.4 million approved issuer levy; excluding this, expenses were contained at NZD11.3 million, a 15% yoy increase. LGFA remains income tax-exempt.

### Net Interest Margin

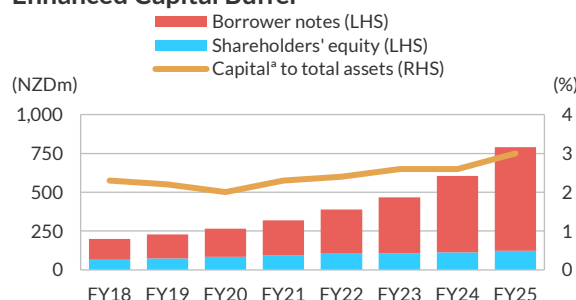


Source: Fitch Ratings, LGFA

Loans outstanding grew 10% to NZD22.7 billion in FY25, with long-term lending comprising 95% of the portfolio. This growth reflects LGFA's role in financing local government infrastructure and reform initiatives. Councils' preference for shorter tenors (average 4.6 years in FY25) widened the asset-liability mismatch, as councils increasingly opted for shorter maturities to manage costs and prepare for water sector reform. LGFA's top-three borrowers now account for 34% of total lending, down from 56% in FY15, with Auckland Council's exposure reduced to 14%.

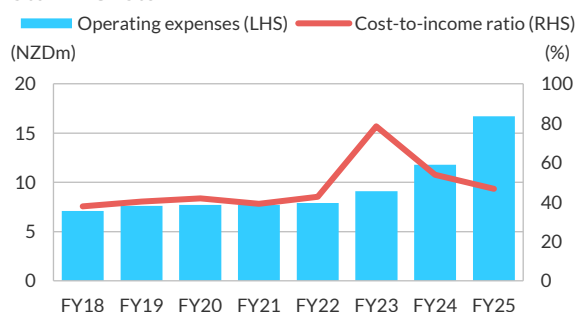
Equity increased 8% yoy to NZD121.8 million in FY25, enhancing LGFA's capital resilience. Borrower notes rose to NZD669 million following a policy change, lifting the capital ratio - equity plus borrower notes to assets - to 3.0%, above the 2% minimum threshold. LGFA has a right to convert borrower notes into redeemable shares if it still needs capital after making calls for all unpaid capital, which amounted to NZD20 million in FY25, to be paid in full. This enhances LGFA's loss-absorbing capacity and overall financial resilience.

### Enhanced Capital Buffer



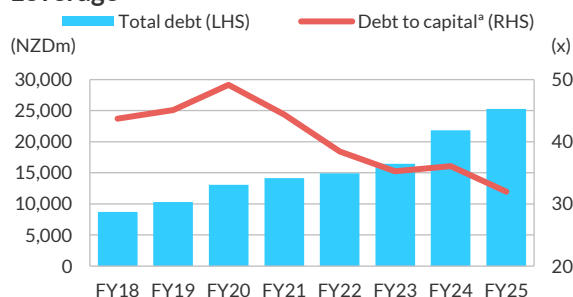
<sup>a</sup> shareholders' equity + borrower notes  
Source: Fitch Ratings, LGFA

### Stable Costs



Source: Fitch Ratings, LGFA

### Leverage



<sup>a</sup> shareholders' equity + borrower notes  
Source: Fitch Ratings, LGFA

### Interest Income Summary, FY25

|                                 | (NZDm)         | % of interest revenue |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Interest on loans               | 1,086.3        | 85.7                  |
| Interest on securities          | 100.0          | 7.9                   |
| Interest on deposits with banks | 47.0           | 3.7                   |
| Other interest revenue          | 33.8           | 2.7                   |
| <b>Interest revenue</b>         | <b>1,267.1</b> | <b>100</b>            |
| Interest expenditure            | -1,232.3       | -                     |
| Net interest income             | 34.8           | -                     |
| Net interest margin (%)         | 0.1            | -                     |

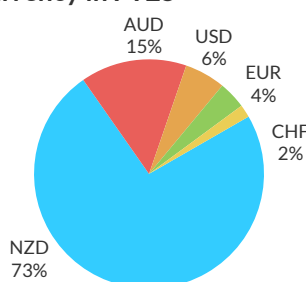
Source: Fitch Ratings, Fitch Solutions, New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency Limited (LGFA)

## Debt and Liquidity Analysis

LGFA maintains diversified funding sources and high borrower credit quality. Total borrowings rose 16% yoy to NZD25.3 billion in FY25, reflecting sustained demand from councils for infrastructure financing. Offshore issuance under its euro medium-term note and Australian dollar programmes made up 59% of FY25 issuance, offering cost advantages over domestic funding but introducing foreign-exchange hedging complexity and exposure to global market volatility. Liquidity remains strong, backed by NZD2.8 billion in cash and marketable securities (excluding collateral), NZD579 million in deposits, and a NZD1.5 billion liquidity facility from the Treasury (NZD750 million undrawn as of FY25).

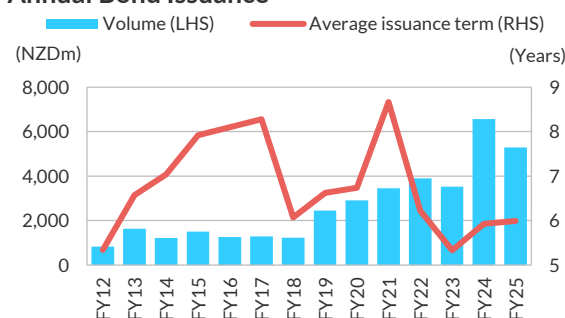
The average tenor of council borrowing of 4.6 years at FYE25 was shorter than the average bond issuance term of six years during the year, limiting LGFA to issuing longer-dated bonds and increasing refinancing frequency. The asset-liability mismatch remains a risk, though mitigated by strong loan demand and portfolio rebalancing.

### Debt by Currency in FY25



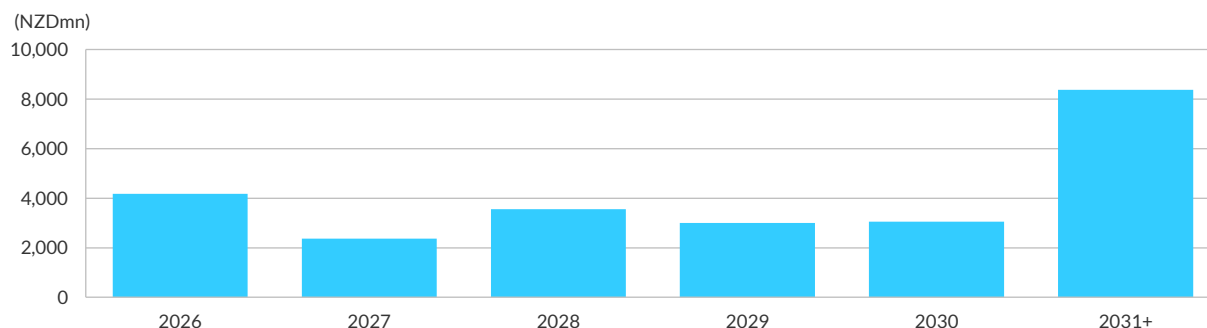
Note: before fair value adjustment.  
Source: Fitch Ratings, LGFA

### Annual Bond Issuance



Source: Fitch Ratings, LGFA

### Principal Debt Repayment in Nominal Value (as of FY25)



Source: Fitch Ratings, New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency Limited (LGFA)

### Debt Analysis

| (NZDm)                                | FY25   | % of total debt |
|---------------------------------------|--------|-----------------|
| Total debt                            | 25,270 | -               |
| Issued debt                           | 25,270 | 100.0%          |
| Short-term debt                       | 4,524  | 17.9%           |
| Government-related debt               | 0      | 0.0%            |
| Debt in foreign currency              | 6,755  | 26.7%           |
| Apparent cost of debt (%)             | 3.9    | -               |
| Weighted-average life of debt (years) | 4.6    | -               |

Source: Fitch Ratings, Fitch Solutions, New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency Limited (LGFA)

## Short-Term Rating Derivation

LGFA's Short-Term IDRs are equalised with those of the sovereign, given the equalisation of the Long-Term IDRs.

## Debt Ratings

LGFA's long-term debt obligations are rated in line with its Long-Term IDR. Its short-term programme ratings are aligned to its Short-Term IDR.

## Peer Analysis

### Peer Comparison

|                                                            | Sponsor                          | Support category  | Notching expression | Single equalisation factor | Long-Term IDR |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency Limited (LGFA) | New Zealand                      | Virtually Certain | Equalised           | No                         | AA+/Stable    |
| Agence France Locale S. A.                                 | Pool of French local governments | Very Likely       | Top-down - 2        | Yes                        | A+/Stable     |
| Export Finance Australia                                   | Australia                        | Virtually Certain | Equalised           | Yes                        | AAA/Stable    |
| Korea Ocean Business Corporation                           | Korea                            | Virtually Certain | Equalised           | No                         | AA-/Stable    |
| Agence Francaise de Developpement                          | France                           | Virtually Certain | Equalised           | No                         | A+/Stable     |
| EPIC Bpifrance                                             | France                           | Virtually Certain | Equalised           | No                         | A+/Stable     |
| Power Finance Corporation Limited                          | India                            | Virtually Certain | Equalised           | No                         | BBB-/Stable   |

Source: Fitch Ratings

Peer analysis highlights varying degrees of government support across financial GREs. Entities assessed in the highest support category, including LGFA, typically exhibit tight sovereign linkage, strong contagion risk implications, and direct oversight. Lower support categories reflect diluted ownership structures, narrower policy roles, or substitutability of services. Equalisation to sponsor government ratings is generally driven by explicit guarantees or robust support frameworks. Differences in legal obligations, ownership concentration and strategic importance influence the assessment of support strength across peers.

## Criteria Variation

A variation to the *Government-Related Entities Rating Criteria* was applied to the "Issuers with no SCPs" provision, under which Fitch determined that assigning a Standalone Credit Profile (SCP) to LGFA is unnecessary for the analysis, even though the specific conditions to consider an SCP "not meaningful" defined in the criteria were not strictly met.

Government support, underpinned by a clear policy mandate, is assessed as 'Virtually Certain'. This, along with our assessment that the entity is not in financial distress (where default is a real possibility) and the supporting government would have ample access to the cash or assets of the GRE such that the rating would be constrained by that of the New Zealand government, leads to our conclusion there is no risk that the IDR would differ if an SCP were assigned, nor would an assessment of an SCP enhance the analysis at this stage.

## ESG Considerations

Fitch does not provide ESG relevance scores for LGFA. Where Fitch does not provide ESG relevance scores in connection with the credit rating of a transaction, programme, instrument or issuer, Fitch will disclose any ESG factor that is a key rating driver in the key rating drivers section of the relevant rating action commentary. For more information on Fitch's ESG Relevance Scores, visit [www.fitchratings.com/topics/esg/products](https://www.fitchratings.com/topics/esg/products).

## Appendix A: Financial Data

### New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency Limited (LGFA)

| (NZDm)                                         | FY21   | FY22   | FY23   | FY24   | FY25   |
|------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| <b>Income statement</b>                        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Interest revenue                               | 377    | 394    | 764    | 1,213  | 1,267  |
| Interest expenditure                           | -358   | -376   | -753   | -1,194 | -1,232 |
| Net interest income                            | 20     | 18     | 10     | 19     | 35     |
| Net fees and commissions                       | 0.2    | 1      | 1      | 1      | 2      |
| Operating expenses                             | -8     | -8     | -9     | -12    | -17    |
| Net gains and losses on securities and trading | 0      | 0      | 0      | 1      | -1     |
| Net operating income (loss)                    | 12.0   | 10.7   | 2.5    | 10.1   | 19.0   |
| Taxation                                       | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0      |
| Net profit (loss)                              | 12.0   | 10.7   | 2.5    | 10.1   | 19.0   |
| <b>Balance sheet</b>                           |        |        |        |        |        |
| <b>Assets</b>                                  |        |        |        |        |        |
| Cash and cash equivalents                      | 392    | 158    | 226    | 474    | 326    |
| Deposits with banks                            | 655    | 463    | 348    | 718    | 579    |
| Loans                                          | 12,066 | 14,042 | 16,314 | 20,549 | 22,657 |
| Other earning assets                           | 768    | 1,491  | 1,221  | 1,649  | 2,646  |
| Fixed assets                                   | 0.2    | 0.2    | 0.1    | 0.3    | 0.4    |
| Intangible assets                              | 0.2    | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0      |
| Other long-term assets                         | 604    | 96     | 65     | 117    | 259    |
| Total assets                                   | 14,485 | 16,250 | 18,175 | 23,508 | 26,468 |
| <b>Liabilities &amp; equity</b>                |        |        |        |        |        |
| Short-term borrowing                           | 2,350  | 2,601  | 3,139  | 4,496  | 4,524  |
| Other short-term liabilities                   | 1      | 1      | 1      | 1      | 6      |
| Debt maturing after one year <sup>a</sup>      | 11,812 | 12,292 | 13,294 | 17,360 | 20,746 |
| Other provisions and reserves                  | 0.2    | 0.3    | 0.3    | 0.4    | 0.5    |
| Other long-term liabilities                    | 228    | 1,251  | 1,634  | 1,536  | 1,070  |
| Share capital                                  | 25     | 25     | 25     | 25     | 25     |
| Reserves and retained earnings                 | 70     | 80     | 81     | 88     | 97     |
| Equity and reserves                            | 95     | 105    | 106    | 113    | 122    |
| Total liabilities and equity                   | 14,485 | 16,250 | 18,175 | 23,508 | 26,468 |

<sup>a</sup> Including borrower notes: LGFA can convert borrower notes into redeemable shares and these act as a form of contingent capital, strengthening LGFA's capital base and loss-absorbing capacity.

Source: Fitch Ratings, Fitch Solutions, New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency Limited (LGFA)

## Appendix B: Financial Ratios

### New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency Limited (LGFA)

| (%)                                                                  | FY21   | FY22   | FY23   | FY24   | FY25   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| <b>Performance</b>                                                   |        |        |        |        |        |
| Interest revenue on loans/loans                                      | 1.3    | 1.6    | 4.2    | 5.2    | 4.8    |
| Interest expense on borrowings/borrowings                            | 2.5    | 2.5    | 3.1    | 3.4    | 3.9    |
| Net interest income/earning assets                                   | 0.1    | 0.1    | 0.1    | 0.1    | 0.1    |
| Net operating income/net interest income and other operating revenue | 60.9   | 57.4   | 21.5   | 48.0   | 52.3   |
| Net operating income/equity and reserves                             | 12.7   | 10.2   | 2.4    | 8.9    | 15.6   |
| Net operating income/total assets                                    | 0.08   | 0.07   | 0.01   | 0.04   | 0.07   |
| <b>Credit portfolio</b>                                              |        |        |        |        |        |
| Growth of total assets                                               | 10.0   | 12.2   | 11.8   | 29.3   | 12.6   |
| Growth of loans                                                      | 10.7   | 16.4   | 16.2   | 26.0   | 10.3   |
| Impaired loans/total loans                                           | 0.0    | 0.0    | 0.0    | 0.0    | 0.0    |
| <b>Debt and liquidity</b>                                            |        |        |        |        |        |
| Long-term debt/equity and reserves                                   | 12,467 | 11,756 | 12,560 | 15,337 | 17,035 |
| Liquid assets/total assets                                           | 2.7    | 1.0    | 1.2    | 2.0    | 1.2    |
| Total debt/total assets                                              | 97.8   | 91.7   | 90.4   | 93.0   | 95.5   |
| Liquid assets/short-term borrowing                                   | 16.7   | 6.1    | 7.2    | 10.5   | 7.2    |
| <b>Capitalization</b>                                                |        |        |        |        |        |
| Equity and reserves/total assets                                     | 0.7    | 0.6    | 0.6    | 0.5    | 0.5    |
| Profit after tax/equity and reserves                                 | 12.7   | 10.2   | 2.4    | 8.9    | 15.6   |
| Loans/equity and reserves                                            | 12,735 | 13,430 | 15,412 | 18,155 | 18,604 |

Source: Fitch Ratings, Fitch Solutions, New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency Limited (LGFA)



## SOLICITATION & PARTICIPATION STATUS

For information on the solicitation status of the ratings included within this report, please refer to the solicitation status shown in the relevant entity's summary page of the Fitch Ratings website.

For information on the participation status in the rating process of an issuer listed in this report, please refer to the most recent rating action commentary for the relevant issuer, available on the Fitch Ratings website.

## DISCLAIMER & DISCLOSURES

All Fitch Ratings (Fitch) credit ratings are subject to certain limitations and disclaimers. Please read these limitations and disclaimers by following this link: <https://www.fitchratings.com/understandingcreditratings>. In addition, the following <https://www.fitchratings.com/rating-definitions-document> details Fitch's rating definitions for each rating scale and rating categories, including definitions relating to default. Published ratings, criteria, and methodologies are available from this site at all times. Fitch's code of conduct, confidentiality, conflicts of interest, affiliate firewall, compliance, and other relevant policies and procedures are also available from the Code of Conduct section of this site. Directors and shareholders' relevant interests are available at <https://www.fitchratings.com/site/regulatory>. Fitch may have provided another permissible or ancillary service to the rated entity or its related third parties. Details of permissible or ancillary service(s) for which the lead analyst is based in an ESMA- or FCA-registered Fitch Ratings company (or branch of such a company) can be found on the entity summary page for this issuer on the Fitch Ratings website.

In issuing and maintaining its ratings and in making other reports (including forecast information), Fitch relies on factual information it receives from issuers and underwriters and from other sources Fitch believes to be credible. Fitch conducts a reasonable investigation of the factual information relied upon by it in accordance with its ratings methodology, and obtains reasonable verification of that information from independent sources, to the extent such sources are available for a given security or in a given jurisdiction. The manner of Fitch's factual investigation and the scope of the third-party verification it obtains will vary depending on the nature of the rated security and its issuer, the requirements and practices in the jurisdiction in which the rated security is offered and sold and/or the issuer is located, the availability and nature of relevant public information, access to the management of the issuer and its advisers, the availability of pre-existing third-party verifications such as audit reports, agreed-upon procedures letters, appraisals, actuarial reports, engineering reports, legal opinions and other reports provided by third parties, the availability of independent and competent third-party verification sources with respect to the particular security or in the particular jurisdiction of the issuer, and a variety of other factors. Users of Fitch's ratings and reports should understand that neither an enhanced factual investigation nor any third-party verification can ensure that all of the information Fitch relies on in connection with a rating or a report will be accurate and complete. Ultimately, the issuer and its advisers are responsible for the accuracy of the information they provide to Fitch and to the market in offering documents and other reports. In issuing its ratings and its reports, Fitch must rely on the work of experts, including independent auditors with respect to financial statements and attorneys with respect to legal and tax matters. Further, ratings and forecasts of financial and other information are inherently forward-looking and embody assumptions and predictions about future events that by their nature cannot be verified as facts. As a result, despite any verification of current facts, ratings and forecasts can be affected by future events or conditions that were not anticipated at the time a rating or forecast was issued or affirmed. Fitch Ratings makes routine, commonly-accepted adjustments to reported financial data in accordance with the relevant criteria and/or industry standards to provide financial metric consistency for entities in the same sector or asset class.

The information in this report is provided "as is" without any representation or warranty of any kind, and Fitch does not represent or warrant that the report or any of its contents will meet any of the requirements of a recipient of the report. A Fitch rating is an opinion as to the creditworthiness of a security. This opinion and reports made by Fitch are based on established criteria and methodologies that Fitch is continuously evaluating and updating. Therefore, ratings and reports are the collective work product of Fitch and no individual, or group of individuals, is solely responsible for a rating or a report. The rating does not address the risk of loss due to risks other than credit risk, unless such risk is specifically mentioned. Fitch is not engaged in the offer or sale of any security. All Fitch reports have shared authorship. Individuals identified in a Fitch report were involved in, but are not solely responsible for, the opinions stated therein. The individuals are named for contact purposes only. A report providing a Fitch rating is neither a prospectus nor a substitute for the information assembled, verified and presented to investors by the issuer and its agents in connection with the sale of the securities. Ratings may be changed or withdrawn at any time for any reason in the sole discretion of Fitch. Fitch does not provide investment advice of any sort. Ratings are not a recommendation to buy, sell, or hold any security. Ratings do not comment on the adequacy of market price, the suitability of any security for a particular investor, or the tax-exempt nature or taxability of payments made in respect to any security. Fitch receives fees from issuers, insurers, guarantors, other obligors, and underwriters for rating securities. Such fees generally vary from US\$1,000 to US\$750,000 (or the applicable currency equivalent) per issue. In certain cases, Fitch will rate all or a number of issues issued by a particular issuer, or insured or guaranteed by a particular insurer or guarantor, for a single annual fee. Such fees are expected to vary from US\$10,000 to US\$1,500,000 (or the applicable currency equivalent). The assignment, publication, or dissemination of a rating by Fitch shall not constitute a consent by Fitch to use its name as an expert in connection with any registration statement filed under the United States securities laws, the Financial Services and Markets Act of 2000 of the United Kingdom, or the securities laws of any particular jurisdiction. Due to the relative efficiency of electronic publishing and distribution, Fitch research may be available to electronic subscribers up to three days earlier than to print subscribers.

For Australia, New Zealand, Taiwan and South Korea only: Fitch Australia Pty Ltd holds an Australian financial services license (AFS license no. 337123) which authorizes it to provide credit ratings to wholesale clients only. Credit ratings information published by Fitch is not intended to be used by persons who are retail clients within the meaning of the Corporations Act 2001.

Fitch Ratings, Inc. is registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission as a Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization (the "NRSRO"). While certain of the NRSRO's credit rating subsidiaries are listed on Item 3 of Form NRSRO and as such are authorized to issue credit ratings on behalf of the NRSRO (see <https://www.fitchratings.com/site/regulatory>), other credit rating subsidiaries are not listed on Form NRSRO (the "non-NRSROs") and therefore credit ratings issued by those subsidiaries are not issued on behalf of the NRSRO. However, non-NRSRO personnel may participate in determining credit ratings issued by or on behalf of the NRSRO.

Copyright © 2025 by Fitch Ratings, Inc., Fitch Ratings Ltd. and its subsidiaries. 33 Whitehall Street, NY, NY 10004. Telephone: 1-800-753-4824, (212) 908-0500. Reproduction or retransmission in whole or in part is prohibited except by permission. All rights reserved.