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## **Work Focus**

The three broad outputs for the Local Government Centre are research, teaching, and consultancy.

### **Research**

Research is a major focus of the Centre's activity. The programme currently concentrates on the implementation of the new Local Government Act, with a particular emphasis on community outcomes and the long term council community plan process.

The objective of this research programme is to highlight:

- How local government, and other key stakeholders (including central government) are managing the implementation of the legislation, with a particular emphasis on developing an understanding of "best practice" – of what works, what doesn't and why.
- The potential of the Act to change the way in which New Zealand's communities are governed, including who takes part in the governing process.

The research programmes of the LGC place a strong emphasis on learning from the experience of other jurisdictions, taking a comparative institutional approach. One component of this approach is the building of strategic alliances with a network of centres internationally.