

TE MAHERE Ā-ROHE O RODNEY
TE WHAKATAUIRA 2017

Rodney Local Board Plan

Draft 2017



Te Rohe ā-Poari o Rodney

Rodney Local Board area



The Rodney Local Board area makes up 46 per cent of the land mass of Auckland. At 30 June 2015, it was home to an estimated 60,000 people, which is just 3.8 per cent of the total population of Auckland. Rodney's population is projected to grow to 85,900 by 2033.

Rodney has a median age of 42.6 years. Most of the projected population growth is expected to be in the 65 and older age group.

There are 37 towns and villages in Rodney, with the larger towns being Wellsford, Warkworth and Matakana in the east, and Kumeu-Huapai and Helensville in the west. According to Auckland Council research in 2016, the vast majority of residents (89 per cent) agree that Rodney is a great place to live.

Mihi

Tēnā ngā mihi te tukuna atu nei ki a koutou e nga manawhenua
e kapekape tonu nei i nga ahikā roa e horapa mai nā
ki te taha whakararo o te tipua tāone nei o Tāmaki Makaurau.
Kia pāorooro tēnei karere mā runga i ō maunga whakahī.
Kia tīmata ake au i te Kumeū, ka rere whakawaho ki te one tapu o Muriwai.
Kia hoki ake ki uta, ko Tauwhare ki te rāwhiti,
a Tarawera ki te raki,
ko Tuhirangi rāua ko te Atuanui ki te taha whakaroto.
Kia kauhoe ngā mihi mā te moana ki te Araparera
ko koe tēnā e Taranaki, ka kapi ngā pou tauawhi i a te Kaipara
i hua ai te kōrero
“E tupu i wīwī, i wāwā, tūria i te wera,
piri ki te rito o te rengarenga, waiho me whakapakari ki te hua o te kawariki.”
Ināianeī me māwhiti aku kupu ki Kaiwaka, ki Pukekaroro ki te raraunga o te tini i
mate,
te aroha tonutia i muri nei.
Kia tahuri iho rā ia ki Matakana, ko Tamahunga tērā e tū mai rā i te pae.
Ka hīkoi aku mihi mā ngā kāhiwi kia heke iho ki te awa o Pūhoi
kia rere aku mihi ki te tuawhenua i nohoa e te iti me te rahi.
Kia ū mai anō taku haere ki Huapai ā-tangata, ā- whenua.
Nō rātou te whiwhi, nō mātou te whiwhi,
kia kī ake ai tātou katoa, he rohenga tangata, he iwi tōpuni, mōwai tonu te whenua e
takoto nei e.

Our greetings and salutations to mana whenua
who tend the historical fires that encompass this great city of Auckland.
May this message echo across your noble mountains.
Let me begin at Kumeū and turning outwards to the sacred sands of Muriwai.
To the east is Tauwhare,
with Tarawera to the north,
inland stands Tuhirangi and Atuanui.

Let this greeting travel the inland sea to Araparera
where Taranaki completes the guardians of the Kaipara,
who inspired the proclamation
“The people will grow here and there, upright in the heat,
hiding like the shoots of the rengarenga and maturing like the fruit of the kawariki.”
Now let my words cross to Kaiwaka and Pukekaroro, the scene of past losses
that are still mourned today.
Turning then to Matakana, where stands Tamahunga on the horizon.
Let this greeting follow the ridgeline down to the Pūhoi River
where it can return inland to the valleys where the original settlers came.
Our journey ends at Huapai, of people and land.
Their good fortune is our shared providence,
so, the axiom the community are people in communion, and a calm lies over the
land.

Ngā upoko kōrero

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Statement of proposal for the Rodney Local Board Plan 2017

He kōrero mai i te Heamana

From the Chairperson

I am very pleased to present the Rodney Local Board Plan 2017. This draft plan sets out the local board's priorities and will guide our activities for the next three years. We've spent the last few years engaging with residents on the things you think are important for Rodney. We've made a huge effort to reach out as widely as possible whether online, via traditional ratepayers' meetings, public workshops, or at stands outside supermarkets. We've read your feedback and submissions, and we've listened as you've told us what you like now, and what you'd like to see improve, to make Rodney an even better place to live.

A local board plan outlines a strategic vision for the future. Given the size of Rodney - from Taupaki in the south-west to Te Arai in the north - prioritising what needs to get done is quite a challenge. Additionally, we have to manage ratepayers' funds carefully to achieve the most effective outcomes within our budget. This plan is a high level vision to enable the flexibility required as we move through the coming years, so you may not see a specific project for your area in this plan. Those specific details will be discussed and agreed annually as we prepare budgets and agree deliverables. We hope that the themes in this plan strike a chord with you and reflect what you want to see for the future of Rodney.

Those themes embrace transport infrastructure that enables us to get around easily and safely; communities taking the lead on projects in their areas; parks and sports facilities we all enjoy; clean harbours and waterways; and, spaces in our townships that create a sense of community.

We will continue to advocate for the issues that are important to everyone in Rodney, particularly transport and managing the growth that is changing the face of our townships and countryside. Change is constant and we want it to be well planned and managed to ensure the best outcomes for the community. Growth brings great opportunity, including the potential for greater investment in new facilities and infrastructure to service that growth. Much of the work we will be doing over the next three years is ensuring we're both on top of growth pressures and well prepared for further growth.

We recognise the desire of residents to keep rates at an acceptable level so we have to be innovative about how some of our key initiatives are funded. One of the key initiatives in this plan is looking at a targeted rate to fast-track additional transport infrastructure. We are also looking at potential partnerships to carry out environmental work, build multisport buildings and a swimming pool, and complete town centre upgrades. We're proud of the success we have had in the past working with community groups, businesses, and our mana whenua partners to get projects delivered on the ground and we look forward to building these relationships.

We have an ambitious but clear direction and vision. The local board members and I

look forward to working with you to deliver this vision and to deliver the future for Rodney.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Beth Houlbrooke', with a stylized, cursive script.

Beth Houlbrooke

Chairperson, Rodney Local Board

He kōrero mō ngā poari ā-rohe

About local boards

Auckland Council has a unique model of local government in New Zealand, made up of the governing body (the mayor and 20 ward councillors) and 21 local boards. The governing body focuses on Auckland-wide issues while local boards are responsible for decision-making on local issues, activities and services and provide input into regional strategies, policies and plans.

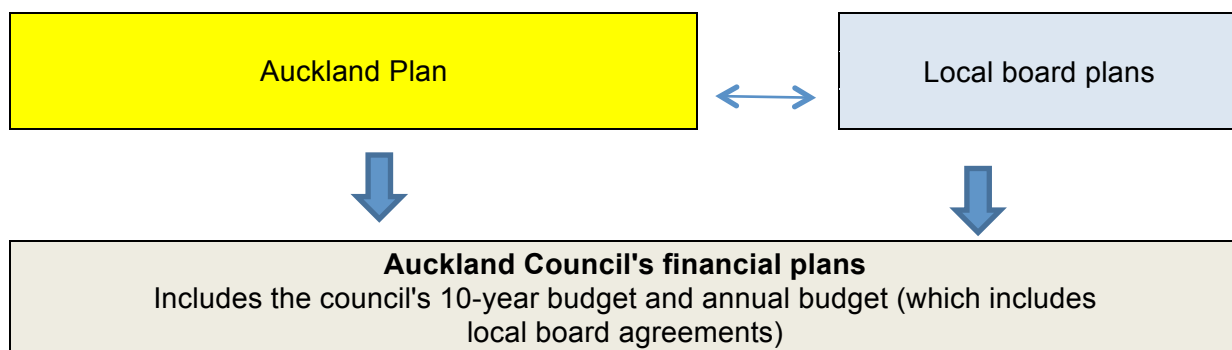
These local issues, activities and services include:

- supporting local arts, culture, events and sport and recreation
- providing grants and partnering with local organisations to deliver community services
- maintaining and upgrading town centres and facilities including parks, libraries and halls
- caring for the environment and preserving heritage.

Local boards also have a role in representing the view of their communities on issues of local importance.

About local board plans

Local board plans are strategic documents that are adopted every three years. Their purpose is to set a direction for the local area that reflects community priorities and preferences. They guide local board activity, funding and investment decisions. They also influence local board input into regional strategies and plans, including the Auckland Plan.



Each local board develops annual work programmes following confirmation of the budget available to them via the annual budget setting process.

Te whakawhanake i tā mātou mahere

Developing our plan

The local board plan sets the direction for the future of Rodney and our communities.

Our plan comprises aspirational outcomes, objectives we want to achieve and some key initiatives to carry out. Making these happen will take the efforts of many working together.

We have identified these parts of the plan by considering what we know about our community, what you have told us is important, and where we think we can make the biggest difference.

Our communities are growing faster than we ever thought possible and many of the objectives and initiatives in the plan are in response to that growth. It is a challenge to address growth-related issues directly, which has largely been the job of the Unitary Plan.

Instead, an emphasis has been placed on objectives which will address the issues created by that growth. We have latched onto the opportunities that accompany a large population, like the economic growth, the additional community capacity and the desire to take the lead on projects so that you can help shape the area you want to live in.

The local board has commissioned various studies, investigations and plans to help inform the direction laid out in this plan, including:

- North Rodney swimming pool survey, a needs assessment, a feasibility study, and a funding study
- multisport needs assessment, feasibility study and business case for Warkworth and a needs assessment for Kumeu-Huapai (with further studies due in 2017/2018)
- a concept plan for the former Atlas site at Warkworth to turn this site into a local park
- greenways plans for Wellsford, Riverhead/Waimauku/Kumeu/Huapai and Puhoi to Pakiri (with plans for other parts of Rodney due in 2017/2018)
- a survey and accompanying report on “Identifying Community Aspirations in Kumeu-Huapai”
- Kumeu Arts needs assessment and a feasibility study on expanding the arts centre
- Rodney Transport Projects Advocacy Plan
- Rodney Economic Development Action Plan
- toolkit for community action planning
- town centre and structure plans, both community and council-led, for various towns in Rodney such as Coatesville, Helensville, Kaukapakapa, Matakana, Puhoi, Snells Beach/Algies Bay and Wellsford.

Engaging with our communities is an important part of developing this plan. In the past you have told us your views on many issues whenever we got the chance to hear from you. If you told us something when we completed a project, or while consulting you during our

local board agreement processes, we took note. We can't provide everything you ask for, but your thoughts and input have provided a solid basis for this plan by identifying the issues, challenges and opportunities that are important to you.

We have also asked subject matter experts within the council and council-controlled organisations to provide feedback on the work they have been doing in our area, as well as their expert opinion on how to build on our previous successes.

The final piece of the puzzle is the experience and ideas that the local board members bring to the table. With all of that input, we have arrived at this draft plan which provides the vision and priorities for Rodney over the next three years.

We sincerely thank everyone who has provided their opinion, input and suggestions on what would make Rodney an even better place to live, work and play.

Te whakatutuki i tā mātou mahere

Carrying out our plan

Resourcing

We want to do what we can to improve our local board area while being realistic that we cannot do everything with finite resources. This means making the most of what we already have, working with others and acknowledging when we do not have the necessary resources to carry something out.

Most of the proposed key initiatives in our plan can be carried out within existing resources, or are provided for in future years of the 2015-2025 10-year budget. By existing resources we mean:

- finances we receive through our revenue sources such as rates and user charges
- our assets such as our community centres and parks
- council staff who are responsible for delivering our annual work programme
- Auckland Transport Local Board Transport Capital Fund allocation
- our time and energy to represent your views on matters of local importance.

One of our proposed key initiatives is to investigate a local targeted rate to pay for transport projects, and progress pending the results of this investigation. Local targeted rates are one of the means available to us to increase our local revenue sources.

Another key initiative involves investigating options for multi-sport facilities in Kumeu-Huapai, Warkworth and Wellsford. It is important to note that this does not mean physical works is a foregone conclusion. Following investigations we will consider our next steps, which could include seeking funding we don't currently have or deciding not to progress further.

In some instances, our role is limited to representing your views on matters of local importance because we do not have the decision-making authority and/or funding to carry it out. When this is the case, we will use our time and energy to influence the relevant decision-maker, ensuring they are aware of your views and our support for them.

Empowering communities

We seek to empower and enable our communities. This means listening to what you want to achieve, directing council resources towards community aspirations and supporting diverse communities to have an input into the things they care about and which matter uniquely to them.

We will prioritise activities that are led by the community, encourage and support people from all walks of life to actively participate in their community, and fully use the talents, insights and contributions of our diverse community. We will work with others to enable our communities to achieve their goals.

Working with Māori

Delivering on Auckland Council's commitment to Māori at a local level is a priority for local boards. The council is committed to meeting its responsibilities under Te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi and its broader statutory obligations to Māori.

As part of this commitment, the Rodney Local Board has:

- held hui with local iwi on the concepts discussed in this plan, as well as hui on key projects during the course of carrying out the Rodney Local Board Plan 2014
- made a new relationship agreement with Te Uri o Hau as a successor to the memorandum of understanding signed by the former Rodney District Council
- committed to developing further relationship agreements with iwi
- worked with mana whenua on naming new roads, parks and council-owned facilities like the Wellsford War Memorial Library, Te Whare Pukapuka o Wakapirau He Tohu Whakamaharatanga Ki Nga Pakanga
- supported iwi aspirations to carry out environmental enhancement in Rodney, such as around the Tomarata Lakes area
- supported iwi and the NorthWest District Business Improvement District's plans for developing tourism in the Kumeu-Huapai area
- served with Ngati Whatua on the Kaipara Harbour Joint Political Committee, a co-governance body set up to help deliver outcomes in the Kaipara Moana Framework Agreement signed between the Crown and Ngati Whatua in 2014.

Projects and initiatives of particular interest to iwi have been woven throughout this plan. Rodney Local Board looks forward to the ongoing partnership with iwi in Rodney (Ngati Manuhiri, Te Uri O Hau, Te Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara and Ngati Wai) and the further opportunities to engage rangatira ki te rangatira (chief to chief) to share information and work together.

Whakaotinga: He māmā he haumarū tō tātou hāereere noa

Outcome: We can get around easily and safely

Our transport infrastructure is better at meeting the demands of our growing communities. Our communities have safe and reliable alternatives to driving, with public transport that connects us to the rest of Auckland and via walkways, bridleways and cycleways. Our rural roads are well maintained and more of our unsealed roads are sealed.

Rodney has 37 towns and villages and two state highways travelling the length of each coast, sometimes splitting towns and villages in two. Connecting our communities is a challenge. Our focus will remain on speaking up about the areas that need fixing, like Hill Street intersection and congestion on State Highway 16 at Kumeu-Huapai, and convincing decision-makers like the New Zealand Transport Agency and Auckland Transport to take action. In addition to that, we also need to find our own ways to get things done.

Rodney has over 600km of unsealed roads, no public transport worth speaking of and no park and ride facilities to cater for commuters' needs. We need enough funding for transport projects to recognise Rodney's size and issues, but general rates alone will not provide the amounts needed to make a real difference.

To make an impact and start addressing more of Rodney's issues, we need extra funding, and for that we propose investigating a new targeted rate and progressing this pending the result of the investigation. This additional rate, over and above any regionally based transport levy, will enable us to focus on various priorities. These include public transport trials (such as buses between Warkworth and Silverdale or rail to Huapai), park and ride facilities in Warkworth and Kumeu-Huapai, and sealing Rodney's roads. This would be much faster than waiting for general rates funding to become available.

Over the past three years we have developed greenways plans showing potential walking, cycling and bridleway connections in and between towns and villages. These potential pathways identify the areas where you have told us you want to get out and about in Rodney, safely and without the need for a car. Now the focus shifts to carrying out those plans and building those paths. We have community groups in Rodney who are ready and able to help us with this task. By forming partnerships with our communities we can empower them to help deliver these key links. These paths can become realistic alternatives to driving, helping us to get around easily and safely.

Our commitment

We are committed to carrying out the following key initiatives to achieve our objectives, and will continue to look for other opportunities as they arise.

Outcome: We can get around easily and safely	
Objective	Key initiatives
Our communities are well connected by safe and healthy walkways, cycleways and bridleways.	Carry out Rodney's greenways plans, including identifying priority areas for construction.
Our roads are safe for drivers, pedestrians and cyclists.	Work with Auckland Transport and other agencies to carry out transport improvements with a focus on public safety and improved maintenance, which may include, for example, carrying out work to fill gaps in our incomplete footpath network.
Essential transport improvements are funded and we can get things done when needed.	Investigate a targeted rate to pay for additional projects such as road sealing, developing public transport (including rail) and developing park and ride facilities, and progress projects, pending the results of the investigation.
	Advocate to Auckland Transport and New Zealand Transport Agency for higher prioritisation of Rodney transport projects, such as fixes to Hill Street in Warkworth and realigning Tapu and Station roads in Kumeu.
Using public transport is a viable option for getting around.	Advocate to Auckland Transport to prioritise the establishment of key public transport links in Rodney, such as buses from Warkworth to Silverdale, buses to Riverhead, and rail from Huapai.
	Support the establishment of park and ride facilities/transport hubs in Rodney, and advocate to Auckland Transport to expand existing facilities in neighbouring local board areas, to drive the uptake of public transport.

Whakaotinga: He whai tikanga, he whai mana hoki te hapori

Outcome: Communities are influential and empowered

Our communities influence local decision-making. They are empowered and enabled to act, and take the lead on community projects and in the planning for their areas. Community groups and residents partner with the council and others to identify and deliver what is best for them.

Rodney is unique, with a population of 60,000 covering an area which makes up 46 per cent of the total land area of Auckland; that's the equivalent of 19 urban local board areas. There are many different communities within Rodney - some grouped around the geography of towns and villages, others sharing common pastimes, interests or backgrounds. Every community has something to contribute. We want to build and maintain relationships with as many as possible so their unique voices and points of view are heard. Undertaking broad community engagement for planning and projects provides a richer tapestry of voices and opinions to help us make decisions.

Communities in our growth areas, particularly Warkworth and Kumeu-Huapai, have asked for their areas to be well planned to accommodate growth and we will continue advocating for completion of the detailed planning needed to do this. We will also continue to support community-led planning, which has been a successful way of developing the Kumeu Town Centre Plan.

Communities want to take the lead by identifying and carrying out place-making and other initiatives in their area, and we will support these activities. Support doesn't just mean granting groups money; there are many ways the local board can provide support.

Some groups are great at getting 'stuck in', but may need help to further develop capacity and skills needed to take the lead on the larger projects that have lasting economic and social benefits, like town centre improvements. Other groups need the council to partner with them to provide expertise that will help make a project successful, like planning or engaging with the wider community. Some just need permission to use a small piece of public land. We can tailor our support for community groups so they can take the lead in funding and carrying out projects. Together, we'll get stuff done.

Our commitment

We are committed to carrying out the following key initiatives to achieve our objectives, and will continue to look for other opportunities as they arise.

Outcome: Our communities are influential and empowered	
Objective	Key initiatives
Communities have a say about what happens in their area.	Assist communities lacking the means to provide input into local decision-making to develop systems and partnerships that enable them to contribute.
Communities take the lead in delivering projects.	Partner with and support community-led projects with funding and other non-financial assistance for projects such as revitalising the Mahurangi riverfront in Warkworth or the development of Riverside Reserve in Helensville.
	Progress the implementation of our town centre plans in partnership with our communities, including community-led planning and place-making.
Communities have the capacity, skills and support they need.	Provide resources and assistance to communities to build the skills necessary to enable them to deliver more community-led initiatives.

Whakaotinga: He papa rēhia, urunga hākinakina e paingia e te iwi

Outcome: Parks and sports facilities that everyone can enjoy

Our local parks and sports facilities cater to a wide range of sporting and recreational interests. They are easily accessible, connecting our towns, villages and growth areas. Our parks are enjoyable places to visit, providing ample opportunities to improve our health and wellbeing.

Rodney is lucky to have over 200 local parks and almost 4000 hectares of regional park land for our enjoyment. As our population continues to grow it's getting harder to ensure these spaces can keep up with our growing recreational needs.

We want our parks and sport facilities to be easy to access and to sustainably cater for growth. That requires enough parks near where we live, as well as adequate access to facilities slightly further away. We want to enable communities to get out and enjoy our open spaces, without forcing people into their cars to get to somewhere to play.

Rodney doesn't have a public swimming pool or multisport facilities, but previous work has shown a clear and growing demand for them. We've been doing work in recent years to identify ways to build these facilities and we will continue to support their development through the most efficient means available. This will require our community's help and partnership to contribute to the costs.

We have also done a lot of work in recent years renewing and improving our sports parks and reserves to make them suitable for use all year round, and more is required. By supporting the addition of perimeter paths, sportsfield lighting and understanding the community's sports needs, we will continue to develop our major recreation spaces so the community can make the most of them throughout the year.

Our young people have told us that playgrounds are "so 2014". Our play spaces need to be revamped into more active zones fit for young and old. By revitalising some of the older, tired play equipment into something modern and exciting, we can increase its use and get families out and about, becoming more active, more often.

Our commitment

We are committed to carrying out the following key initiatives to achieve our objectives, and will continue to look for other opportunities as they arise.

Outcome: Parks and sports facilities that everyone can enjoy	
Objective	Key initiatives
Communities can access quality parks, reserves and natural spaces nearby.	Continue to develop, renew and improve sports parks and fields, hardcourts and key open spaces in Rodney, such as the future recreation reserve at Green Road, Dairy Flat, to improve their use and usability all year round.
Our communities have great local options for indoor and outdoor sports and recreation.	Investigate the options for multisport facilities in Kumeu-Huapai, Warkworth and Wellsford. Support and advocate for their construction and funding. Note that the estimated cost in our Local Board Plan 2014 to complete each multisport facility was \$8-\$10 million. Funding has not yet been identified for these facilities.
	Support and advocate for the construction of a swimming pool or aquatic facility in Warkworth and identify other swimming pool needs in Rodney. Note that total cost of the last pool built by Auckland Council was \$28.25 million at Albany. Funding has not yet been identified for a facility in Warkworth.
Our play areas are 'active zones' that cater to the needs of all ages and abilities.	Revitalise existing playgrounds, and build new play-spaces where needed, to create 'active zones' with more challenging or multi-use equipment fit for all age groups.

Whakaotinga: Kei te tiakina, āraitia me te whai ora o tātou ākau, awa me te taiao

Outcome: Our harbours, waterways and environment are cared for, protected and healthy

Our harbours and the rivers and streams that feed them are healthy and thriving natural marine environments. Our stormwater and wastewater services are reliable, well maintained and environmentally friendly, minimising downstream environmental impacts.

From our west coast surf beaches to our gentle east coast bays, the marine environment is the jewel of Rodney. With three harbours (Mahurangi, Kaipara and Whangateau) and over 1000km of coastline, it is no small task to take care of. Healthy waters should be safe to swim in and it should be safe to eat the abundant fish and seafood caught here. Planting stream banks and fencing off waterways to help reduce the sediment going into our harbours has been beneficial in the past and further work is needed.

Our main focus will be on riparian (riverbank) planting and stock exclusion on a larger scale than before. By including water sensitive design and stream restoration and enhancement, we will achieve our goal to keep our waters healthy, clean and safe. This is not only good for the environment but for the economy that depends on our marine areas, like oysters from the Mahurangi River, and recreation, tourism and fishing in the Kaipara Harbour.

Partnering with the community is the key to delivering this vision. We can focus on public land, but will need the support of community groups, volunteers, private landowners and businesses to make a real difference.

Some volunteer groups already have sediment and erosion control programmes and these are a great example of what the community can achieve. By dedicating our efforts and supporting and educating landowners to make better, more sustainable environmental choices, we can create more success stories and see positive flow-on effects for our communities.

As well as focusing on our marine environment, we will continue to support our volunteers who work tirelessly removing weeds and pests to protect and restore Rodney's natural environment.

Many of our rural townships have wastewater and stormwater infrastructure that needs considerable improvement to cope with recent and continuing growth. Solutions must be right for the area. Improving the quality of Rodney's infrastructure in our unserved rural areas is a priority for both community and environmental health.

Our commitment

We are committed to carrying out the following key initiatives to achieve our objectives, and will continue to look for other opportunities as they arise.

Outcome: Our harbours, waterways and environment are cared for, protected and healthy	
Objective	Key initiatives
Our coastline and unique environment is well managed and thrives.	Support community efforts to improve our environment, such as funding and support for our environmental volunteers. This will enable community-led initiatives for pest-free areas and streamside restoration, weeding and planting.
	Advocate to the governing body for Coastal Compartment Management Plans to be prepared for the ongoing management of our coastline, and provide support for carrying out of these plans.
The water quality of our harbours and waterways is understood and improving.	Promote riparian planting workshops and education, and environmental planting networks within our communities.
	Promote and support efforts to improve the water quality in our harbours and waterways over time.
	Work with landowners, businesses and key stakeholders to promote sustainable and environmentally friendly work practices.
Stormwater and wastewater is well managed.	Advocate to the governing body and Watercare for improvements to stormwater and wastewater infrastructure in our unserved areas to support growth and address negative environmental impacts.

Whakaotinga: Ko ngā mahi toi me ngā tikanga ā-iwi e hihiri e mārohirohi tonu

Outcome: Arts and culture is vibrant and strong

Local facilities are the heart of our communities. They are well used and cared for by communities that manage them. The diverse range of activities run by our communities creates a rich and accessible arts and culture scene.

Rodney residents are rightly proud of their arts and culture and their community spaces. Our numerous halls, five libraries, four volunteer libraries and two arts centres are well loved. They enable important social interaction in widely dispersed communities, the exchange of ideas and knowledge, and artistic and cultural pursuits.

We will continue to support these community facilities, the dedicated locals who run them, and the people and groups that use them and make them special. They help foster the vibrant cultural base that showcases what it means to live in Rodney.

Rural halls have long been the centre of local life. We want to support more communities to develop the skills and capacity needed to manage their hall's day-to-day operation, from setting fees realistic for the area to being responsible for cleaning and basic upkeep. When communities have control of their hall, it reinforces a sense of pride and ownership and lets communities determine what's best for them.

Communities don't expect to have new buildings to cater for every group, but sometimes groups can struggle to find a home while some facilities sit empty several days a week. We need to work more efficiently and improve the use of current facilities. This will help ensure that groups and their community assets are more self-sufficient.

We will work with communities to turn single-purpose spaces into multi-purpose 'community hubs' that are well used and supported, and can cater for more diverse groups. This will ensure everybody wins, and it's faster and cheaper than waiting for a new building.

The best way to keep our arts and culture vibrant and strong is encouraging groups to control their own cultural assets and empowering them to deliver the grassroots artistic and cultural activities that make Rodney what it is.

Our commitment

We are committed to carrying out the following key initiatives to achieve our objectives, and will continue to look for other opportunities as they arise.

Outcome: Arts and culture is vibrant and strong	
Objective	Key initiatives
Our community spaces are well used by a wide range of people and groups.	Provide funding and other non-financial support for communities to develop their local spaces into multi-use community spaces or hubs.
	Support communities to identify more efficient ways of using our facilities, such as bringing groups together and working with collectives so one facility can serve many groups.
Communities take the lead in managing our local halls, arts centres and volunteer libraries.	Support communities to develop the skills and capacity needed to run their local halls, arts centres and volunteer libraries in sustainable ways.
Arts and culture is part of community life.	Support the delivery of artistic and cultural activities in Rodney, such as providing operational grants for arts centres in Helensville and Kumeu, or supporting community events.

He kōrero take pūtea

Financial information

This purpose of this section is to provide a financial overview of the Rodney Local Board.

Based on our existing budgets, we believe we can deliver the key initiatives in our draft plan without reducing our existing levels of service. We do have one key initiative that involves investigating a local targeted rate for additional transport projects, and progressing this pending the result of that investigation. This may result in increasing our local revenue sources, but it is too early in the investigation process to say when and by how much.

The governing body will be adopting council's 2018 - 2028 10 year budget in June 2018. It is important to note that this could change the funding for local boards, including projects that are currently provided for in the 2015-2025 10 year budget.

Local activities and levels of service

Local board responsibilities, provided for directly in legislation or allocated to boards, are summarised into local activities. These are described in the table below, along with levels of service statements.

More information regarding of levels of services, including performance measures and performance targets, can be found in the Rodney Local Board Agreement 2016/2017. This is available on the Auckland Council website.

Local activities	Levels of service statements
Local parks, sport and recreation. This group of activities covers the management and provision of local parks and open space and recreation activities for both passive and active recreation. It includes swimming pools and leisure centres servicing communities in the local area.	Provide a range of recreational opportunities catering for community needs on local parks, reserves and beaches. Provide sports fields that are fit for purpose and cater for community needs. Provide programmes and facilities that ensure more Aucklanders are more active more often.
Local community services. This group of activities contribute to improved community outcomes by providing places and spaces for community to learn and recreate, and by integrating arts and culture into the everyday lives of Aucklanders. Key activities include locally delivered	Provide safe, accessible, welcoming library facilities that support the delivery of quality learning programmes and services relevant to local communities. Enable Aucklanders and communities to express themselves and improve their wellbeing through customer centric advice, funding, facilitation and permitting.

Libraries and Information (Libraries) and Arts, Culture and Events.	<p>Deliver a variety of events, programmes and projects that improve safety, connect Aucklanders and engage them in their city and communities.</p> <p>Provide safe, reliable and accessible social infrastructure for Aucklanders that contributes to placemaking and thriving communities.</p>
<p>Local planning and development</p> <p>This group of activities covers local business area planning, local street environment and town centres and local environment and heritage protection. These activities include economic, environmental, heritage and spatial projects, and enable, plan for and deliver great local places.</p>	Develop local business precincts and town centres as great places to do business.
<p>Local environmental management</p> <p>This group of activities covers working in partnership with locally based communities and iwi to deliver enhanced environmental outcomes (with a focus in indigenous biodiversity, healthy waterways and sustainable living) that contribute to Māori, community wellbeing and economy.</p>	Provide leadership and support to protect and conserve the region's natural environment, historic heritage and Māori cultural heritage.
<p>Local governance</p> <p>This group of activities covers support to local boards such as strategic advice, preparation of local board plans, development of local board agreements, community engagement including relationships with mana whenua and Māori communities, democracy and administration support, and professional development for elected members.</p>	<p>The measures for this group of activities are covered under the Regional Governance group of activities in the Long-term Plan 2015-2025 where the survey measures determine participation with Auckland Council decision-making in general. This includes local decision-making. There are no significant changes to the measures or targets for 2016/2017.</p>

Financial overview

Income, expenditure and capital investment by local activities for the period 2015 to 2018

Annual Plan Financials	2015/16 (\$000s)	2016/17 (\$000s)	2017/18 (\$000s)
Operating revenue			
Local community services	195	195	196
Local parks, sport and recreation			
Local planning and development			
Local environment services			
Total operating revenue	195	195	196
Operating expenditure			
Local community services	3,503	3,841	3,880
Local governance	1,084	1,081	1,124
Local parks, sport and recreation	8,496	8,196	8,632
Local planning and development	279	205	417
Local environment services	188	160	108
Total operating expenditure	13,550	13,482	14,161
Net operating expenditure	13,355	13,288	13,965
Capital expenditure			
Local community services	1,868	460	402
Local governance			
Local parks, sport and recreation	7,381	7,000	8,969
Local planning and development			
Local environment services			
Total capital expenditure	9,248	7,460	9,371






Funding Impact Statement





Financial year ending 30 June	2016/17 (\$000s)
Sources of operating funding	
General rates, UAGCs, rates penalties	15,091
Targeted rates	180
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	12
Fees and charges	158
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees and other receipts	25
Total operating funding	15,466
Applications of operating funding	
Payment to staff and suppliers	11,823
Finance costs	1,632
Internal charges and overheads applied	2,152
Other operating funding applications	-
Total applications of operating funding	15,607
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding	-141
Sources of capital funding	
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-
Development and financial contributions	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	7,601
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-
Lump sum contributions	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-

Total sources of capital funding	7,601
Application of capital funding	
Capital expenditure	
- to meet additional demand	2,609
- to improve the level of service	950
- to replace existing assets	3,901
Increase (decrease) in reserves	-
Increase (decrease) in investments	-
Total applications of capital funding	7,460
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding	141
Funding balance	0

Ngā Mema o tō Poari ā-Rohe o Rodney

Your Rodney Local Board members

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	<p>Beth Houlbrooke - Chairperson</p> <p>Phone: 021 839 413</p> <p>beth.houlbrooke@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz</p>
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On the cover: An early morning surfer catches a wave at Anchor Bay in Tāwharanui Regional Park.

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