

TE MAHERE Ā-ROHE O WAITEMATĀ  
TE WHAKATAUIRA 2017

# Waitematā Local Board Plan

Draft 2017







# Te Rohe ā-Poari o Waitematā

## Waitematā Local Board area



The Waitematā Local Board area is bounded by Westmere in the west and Parnell to the east. Arch Hill, Eden Terrace and Newmarket mark our southern boundary and to our north is the iconic and beautiful Waitematā Harbour. Waitematā is made up of many distinctive communities including Westmere, Grey Lynn, Herne Bay, Ponsonby, Arch Hill, St Marys Bay, Freemans Bay, Newton, Eden Terrace, Grafton, Newmarket, Parnell and the City Centre.

Waitematā has a long history of settlement, first by Māori and later Europeans. Fifteen mana whenua iwi/hapu have an interest in Waitematā and five marae are located in the local board area. Our area contains many of Auckland's oldest suburbs and buildings. The city centre with its active waterfront, port operation and maritime heritage is a unique and attractive place for residents and visitors alike. In recent years it has become the hub of the growing cruise ship industry.

Our population is growing quickly. At 30 June 2015 we were home to around 94,500 people – about six per cent of Auckland's total population<sup>1</sup>. Almost two thirds of the

<sup>1</sup> Waitematā Local Board Snapshot, RIMU, 6 October 2016

Waitematā population is of European ethnicity. Our large Asian community (28.5 per cent) is concentrated in the city centre, where over half of residents identify with an Asian ethnicity. Māori and Pacific peoples are generally under-represented in Waitematā when compared with the whole of Auckland.

We have a younger median age in Waitematā of 30.4 years, compared with Auckland, and a significantly greater proportion of people aged 20 to 34 than in Auckland as a whole. By contrast the proportions of children in Waitematā are around half of Auckland as a whole. While the number of residents aged 65 and over has increased, the overall proportion of this group remains relatively low.

We are expecting our rapid population growth to continue. Statistics New Zealand predicts the population of Waitematā could reach 130,200 by 2033, which is an increase of 48,900 people on 2013 levels, or 60 per cent growth. This is greater than the growth expected for Auckland overall. This increasing population brings diversity and interest to Waitematā, but also places pressure and demand on resources, infrastructure, community facilities and the environment.

Less than a third of dwellings in Waitematā are separate houses, which is considerably lower than the regional proportion of 74.7 per cent. Home ownership was relatively low in Waitematā at 39.1 per cent, compared with 61.5 per cent for Auckland.

Driven by the city centre, the Waitematā area is the primary hub of employment and commerce in Auckland. One in seven jobs is in the city centre. Employment in Waitematā is mostly concentrated in the city centre, which had about 93,000 employees in 2013 from a total of 188,000 jobs located in the board area. Waitematā has other pockets of concentrated employment, such as Newmarket, Eden Terrace and Newton/Grafton<sup>2</sup>. Around 46,000 of our residents work in Waitematā, while about 100,000 people from around Auckland travel into Waitematā every day to work.

Several universities, numerous other educational facilities and Auckland Hospital are located in the local board area, along with many of Auckland's top retail districts such as Newmarket and Ponsonby.

---

<sup>2</sup> Waitematā Local Board Economic Overview 2016, ATEED  
Page 3 of 35

## Mihi

Titiro ki te Pane-o-Horoiwi,  
ka whakapukepuke, ka whakatiketike ki waho rā.  
He kawau, he kawau, he kawau!  
He kawau tikitiki ka eke ki te tāhuna tōrea.  
He kawau tikitiki ka eke ki te tāhuna ki Waitematā.  
Ko koutou ēna e ngā mataawaka i rite ai te kōrero,  
Ngā waka o Taikehu me he kāhui kātaha kapi-tai, ka eke!  
Kua eke, hui e, tāiki e!  
Te noho nei au i te kūrae i Takaparawhā,  
ka titiro whakawaho ki a koe Aotea  
e tū hihiwa mai rā i te pae o te moana o Hauraki.  
Ka hoki whakaroto ake aku mihi ki a Waiheke,  
ki a Rangitoto te pueanga mutunga a te moana.  
Kia ū mai anō au ki te one i Ōkahu,  
kia takahia e au te rārangi maunga i uta.  
Ki te tonga ko Maungarei, kei raro ko te Kōpua Kai a Hiku.  
Ka rere mā roto ki Puketāpapa,  
kia piki au ki Maungakiekie, Tūpo-o-te-tini.  
Ka whakamau taku haere ma te Ahikāroa a Rakataura  
kia taka atu au ki te Ara Whakapekapeka o Ruarangi.  
I kona ka aro tika atu au ki a koe e Maungawhau  
te tū whakahira tonu mai nā i te pū o te wheke,  
kua werohia nei e te Tūkoi o te Rangi,  
kia pokanoa au ki te pepeha a Tītahi,  
“Koia te pou whakairo ka tū ki Waitematā i ōku wairangitanga”,  
kia whakaotihia noa ai ki te kōrero rā,  
“te pai me te whai rawa o Tāmaki.”

Look to the sandbanks at Achilles Point,  
rising majestically out there.  
It is the visiting cormorant!

It has alighted onto the beach of the Oyster-catcher.  
A distinguished visitor has come to the Waitematā.  
It is you the descendants of the ancient voyagers, those who embody the axiom,  
Like shoals of herrings on the tide are the canoes of Taikehu, you have arrived!  
The connections are made!  
So here I sit on the headland at Bastion Point,  
and I look out to Great Barrier Island  
shimmering on the Hauraki Gulf.  
Returning my gaze to Waiheke  
and then to Rangitoto, the last gift from the sea.  
Once more I stand on the shore at Ōkahu,  
from where I can traverse the ancient peaks.  
To the south is Maungarei below which lies the Panmure Basin.  
Flying inland I come to Puketāpapa  
from where I scale Maungakiekie, resting place of many who have passed on.  
I follow then the pathway to Mount Albert  
down into Point Chevalier.  
From there I return to Mt Eden,  
shining gem at the heart of the great city,  
lanced by the sky tower  
so that I might appropriate the prophecy of Tītahi who said.  
“It is a tower that will stand in the Waitematā that I saw in my feverish dream”  
and to end it with the maxim,  
“and so flow the goodness and the riches that is Tāmaki”.

# Ngā upoko kōrero

## Contents

Waitematā Local Board area	2
Mihi	4
Contents	6
From the Chair	7
About local boards	9
About local board plans	9
Developing our plan	10
Carrying out our plan	11
Outcomes	
Inclusive communities that are vibrant, healthy and connected	13
Attractive and versatile public places that meet our communities' needs	16
The natural environment is valued, protected and enhanced	19
A high quality built environment that embraces our heritage	22
An accessible, connected and safe transport network with well-designed streets	24
An innovative, productive and resilient local economy	27
Financial information	29
Your Waitematā Local Board members	34

*Statement of proposal for the Waitematā Local Board Plan 2017*

# He kōrero mai i te Heamana

## From the Chair

Waitematā is the heart of Tāmaki Makaurau where more and more people choose to live, work, visit, study and play.

Since the first local board plan in 2011 Auckland has seen unprecedented growth with a new set of challenges. Unaffordability, rough sleeping, congestion, growing inequality and the housing shortage are all issues you have told us need to be resolved. We've also seen exciting transformational change flowing from the priority we are giving to designing the city for people and places. More people now live in the city centre than commute in each day in private motor vehicles.

With this plan we are presenting our vision for the next three years, a series of aspirations, objectives and initiatives that we want to progress to provide local solutions and enhance our area. We are fortunate to have engaged, dynamic communities and organisations that bring ideas, creativity and talent to shape and influence our local board projects. It is intended that the proposals in this draft plan will deliver the expectations and improve the wellbeing of our local communities.

With your support we will work towards creating healthy, vibrant spaces, such as parks, community facilities and recreation centres, which are welcoming and accessible to our diverse communities. We will work with youth to provide a space where they can socialise and connect.

We want everyone to have access to events and arts and culture activities to make the most of what Waitematā has to offer. We will deliver high-quality facilities and community-led programmes to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to lead active and healthy lifestyles, for example by providing more walkways and cycling connections.

We know you highly value our natural environment and want to live more sustainably. Together with mana whenua and our communities we will work to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase energy efficiency, grow our urban forest and enhance our waterways.

We are proud of our history and want to celebrate it with projects that tell the story of Waitematā. Our built environment will be well designed as well as respectful of our heritage and the distinctive character of local areas.

We need an integrated, accessible and safe transport network that provides choice, minimises carbon emissions and prioritises active modes and public transport. Streets will be designed as outstanding public spaces for people to enjoy and businesses to thrive.

Waitematā is the major centre for employment and commerce in Auckland. As a local board we aspire to have a local economy that is resilient, sustainable, innovative and productive. We will focus on initiatives that bring prosperity to our town centres, empower start-ups and social enterprise and underpin the important work done by business associations.



A financially constrained environment, combined with the rapid growth that the whole of Auckland and in particular our local board area is experiencing, generate greater pressure on our resources, infrastructure, facilities and the environment.

We know you are already making positive changes in our areas by building capacity, leadership and skills. We will continue to empower our communities to progress initiatives such as community-led planning and place-making projects.

We are pleased to present this draft plan for feedback. We are committed to listening to our communities to ensure we have a final plan that enables us to continue working with you over the next three years to achieve our aspiration to make Waitematā the best place it can be.



Pippa Coom

Chair, Waitematā 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.

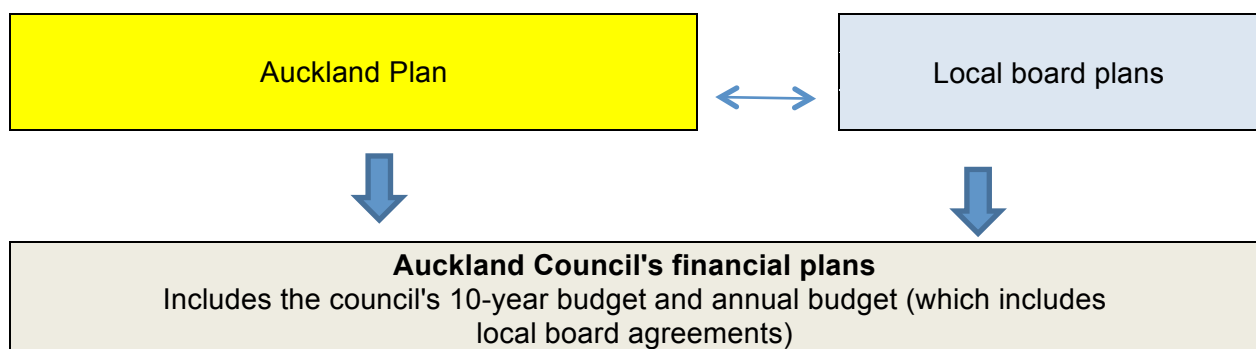
These local issues, activities and services include:

- 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 draft plan**

Our draft plan comprises aspirational outcomes and objectives we want to achieve and some key initiatives to carry out in the next three years. To make these happen will take the efforts of many working together. We are privileged to have an engaged and committed community and this plan must reflect your aspirations for Waitematā.

We have identified our key outcomes and objectives 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. Over the last three years we have consulted you and engaged with you on many occasions and in different ways. This has enabled us to understand the place and community that you want Waitematā to be. We have used what we have heard from you over the last three years and at recent events as a basis for developing this draft plan.

# **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 can't do everything with finite resources. This means making the most of what we already have and acknowledging when we don't have the necessary resources to carry something out.

We believe we can carry out all the proposed key initiatives in our plan within existing resources, or there is provision for them 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's Local Board Transport Capital Fund allocation
- our time and energy to represent your views on matters of local importance.

Some of our proposed key initiatives involve progressing our Newmarket Laneways Plan, developing a multi-purpose facility in Grey Lynn Park, delivering a major upgrade of Pt Erin Pool and realising the vision for open space at 254 Ponsonby Road. It is important to note that this does not mean that funding for physical works is a foregone conclusion. Following investigations or plan development, we will consider our next steps, which could include seeking funding we do not 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, and ensure that they are aware of your views and our support for them to be acted on.

### **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**

Auckland Council is committed to meeting its responsibilities under Te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi and its broader statutory obligations to Māori – both mana whenua and matawaaka. Delivering on the council's commitment to Māori at a local level is a priority for the Waitematā Local Board. Treaty partners must have an effective and respectful relationship.

We acknowledge the long association mana whenua have with the Waitematā area and we undertake to work in a genuine partnership with all iwi and hapu with an interest in Waitematā. Building on the last two terms, we will engage with iwi at the inception of our projects to understand the issues of significance to Māori and empower mana whenua and matawaaka to meaningfully contribute to our initiatives and plans.

We will work with mana whenua on naming local roads, parks and council-owned facilities to reflect our rich cultural history and ensure that iwi have a voice in heritage projects to tell their stories of Waitematā. The board acknowledges the five marae in Waitematā and their important place as a focal point for Māori to maintain and sustain connections and traditions. As well as our active work with mana whenua, we also want to respond to the needs and views of matawaaka. We will encourage initiatives that support the Auckland Plan move to significantly lift Māori social and economic wellbeing and seek to ensure mana whenua and matawaaka aspirations are realised.

The board recognises the cultural and spiritual values of mana whenua and their role as kaitiaki over their ancestral lands and sites of significance. We will partner with mana whenua on projects aimed at reviving the mauri of our waterways, particularly those which impact on biodiversity and water quality in our streams and the Waitematā Harbour.

# **Whakaotinga 1: Hapori arotahi he hihiri, hauora me te tūhonohono**

## **Outcome 1: Inclusive communities that are vibrant, healthy and connected**

**Our diverse communities are connected, safe and engaged in local matters. People are empowered to do things for themselves through community-led initiatives. Our facilities and local events are accessible and welcoming to all, from children to older adults.**

Waitematā is fortunate to have diverse and vibrant communities. We see diversity as an asset; from new migrants to young international students, from rainbow communities to people living with disabilities, we want everyone to feel welcome, valued and engaged in local life.

### **Spaces where people connect**

Our spaces and places enable people to connect with each other and can create a sense of belonging within the community. This is especially important in our area as apartment living can result in isolation and disconnection. Community spaces such as halls, gardens or libraries bring people from different backgrounds together to meet and share ideas. This fosters social cohesion, helps migrants join new communities and encourages connections between generations. We will work to make our facilities welcoming and accessible to all. If our public places are attractive to children and older adults, then they will be suitable for all people.

### **Supporting events, arts and culture**

Participating in events and recreational activities is a major part of community life. Our local areas, each with their own identity, are well represented when it comes to events. Every year, thousands of people flock to events such as Myers Park Medley and the Parnell Festival of Roses. We will continue to support local events through our grants programme and funding partnerships.

We are committed to supporting our creative community and arts organisations through the delivery of arts programmes. We would like to see the creation of an arts precinct in Ponsonby to provide a space for emerging and established artists.

### **Long-term and sustainable housing solutions**

A growing concern in Waitematā is the rising number of rough sleepers, especially in the city centre. Rough sleepers should be supported and encouraged to move into permanent accommodation with the necessary ongoing support and care. In the short term we will support initiatives to provide amenities, such as showers and lockers, which enhance their dignity and wellbeing. In the longer term we want effective housing solutions to ensure everyone has access to warmth and shelter.

## Safe, healthy and active communities

Feeling safe in our neighbourhoods is essential to building communities. Less than half of the Waitematā population<sup>3</sup> feel safe in the city centre after dark. Our youth voice has identified this as a particular issue for students. We will continue to work with key stakeholders to implement safety focused initiatives to provide well-lit, secure and safe public spaces and facilities.

We want people to be able to lead active and healthy lifestyles. Through our own initiatives or in partnership with others we will look to provide informal recreation opportunities like new walking and cycling routes and fitness facilities in parks.

We believe everyone is entitled to a smoke-free environment, so we will maintain our commitment to extend the range of smoke-free public spaces. Additionally we will support the regional smoking lid policy on gambling machines<sup>4</sup> and other initiatives that minimise the harmful impacts of gambling.

## Community-led initiatives

We believe communities thrive when they can participate in making decisions. We are proud to have empowered communities that are already champions for projects showcasing local talents, creating great spaces and caring for our environment. Drawing on experiences such as the project to develop 254 Ponsonby Road as a civic open space, we will support local groups to build the leadership, skills and capacity to drive positive change in their communities.

<b>Outcome 1: Inclusive communities that are vibrant, healthy and connected</b>	
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Key initiatives</b>
Provide spaces and places that enable our diverse communities to connect and feel welcome.	Continue to invest in community facilities to ensure they are multi-purpose, accessible and attractive to all, from children to older adults.  Obtain UNICEF Child Friendly City accreditation.
Ensure all members of the community have access to shelter and warmth.	Champion best-practice initiatives to provide sustainable solutions for homelessness such as the James Liston Hostel initiative.  Support initiatives that enhance public amenities for the benefit of the rough-sleeping community.
Improve actual and perceived safety in our community.	Work in partnership with residents, businesses, local groups and agencies to reduce harm and create

<sup>3</sup> 2016 Quality of Life survey (RIMU)

<sup>4</sup> Waitematā has a large concentration of gambling machines, with 284 in 21 venues as at December 2016, excluding Sky City.

	<p>safer communities.</p> <p>Identify new sites for safety-focused projects such as Albert Park Safer Routes.</p>
Empower our communities by supporting community-led initiatives.	Fund community groups to lead local initiatives such as area plans, community gardens and place-making.
Encourage access to and participation in local events and arts activities.	<p>Fund new and established local events that are accessible, free, diverse, safe and environmentally responsible.</p> <p>Support signature events through three- year funding partnerships.</p> <p>Support the creative community and arts organisations through the delivery of arts programmes.</p> <p>Advocate to the governing body to create an arts precinct in Ponsonby based around Studio One and including 3 Ponsonby Road.</p>
Ensure our communities have opportunities to lead active and healthy lifestyles.	<p>Extend the range of smoke-free public spaces.</p> <p>Support the regional sinking lid policy on gambling machines and other initiatives that minimise the harmful impacts of gambling.</p> <p>Encourage the provision of healthy food and drink options in our local clubs and community facilities.</p> <p>Fund youth-led initiatives that promote healthy and physically active lifestyles.</p>



## **Whakaotinga 2: He wāhi tūmatanui ataahua, ritenga whānui e ea ai ngā hiahia o ngā hāpori**

### **Outcome 2: Attractive and versatile public places that meet our communities' needs**

**Our parks, plazas, leisure centres and community facilities have adapted to the needs of our growing and changing communities. Our public spaces support community wellbeing and bring people together to socialise, learn, relax, exercise and have fun.**

The Waitematā area is home to many high-quality parks, reserves, sports clubs and recreation facilities that are well used throughout the year. These public spaces remain the heart of our local areas, often defining their character, and are great places for people to come together.

#### **Multi-purpose facilities**

As the area intensifies to accommodate our growing population, we need to make sure our spaces are versatile and can meet the changing needs of current and future residents. Waitematā has a high proportion of people aged 20 to 34 and a growing number of residents older than 65; we need to provide accessible and welcoming facilities to a wide range of community groups and users.

Local boards play a leading role in determining the appropriate provision of facilities based on the needs of each local area, while the governing body decides on funding for major facility upgrades. We will advocate for the right level of funding to maintain our parks, pools and community centres to high standards and for these to be upgraded when needed.

A key priority is securing funding to upgrade Pt Erin Pool into a fit-for-purpose facility while retaining its special character. Our vision is to develop 254 Ponsonby Road as a community-led open civic space. At Grey Lynn Park, we will continue to progress a much-needed, multi-purpose facility including changing rooms and toilets, in partnership with the Richmond Rovers League Club.

In line with our commitment to low carbon practices we will continue to pursue opportunities to install energy-efficient solutions in our facilities, such as solar panels in Parnell Baths and the Grey Lynn Community Centre.

You have told us that youth need a hub where they can socialise and be active. We will engage with children and young people to co-design spaces that are attractive, safe and respond to their needs. We want children and youth to thrive, feel safe and have a voice. We will consult them in every project that affects them, from renewing playgrounds to upgrading open spaces.

## Better and more accessible parks

With the proposed Western Springs Waiorea Park Development Plan we will have completed planning documents for all our major parks<sup>5</sup>. Shaped by mana whenua and our local communities, these plans provide a clear strategic framework to guide the future development of these parks. The board will continue undertaking the actions set out in these documents. We will also advocate for appropriate levels of funding to implement the Auckland Domain Masterplan.

## Spaces to encourage active lifestyles

Adaptable parks and facilities that are well located, multi-purpose and attractive encourage active and healthier lifestyles. We know many residents now use their local park, street or plaza for activities that may have traditionally taken place in the suburban backyard. We will prioritise our Greenways Plan for improving connections between our parks, coastline and recreation facilities to encourage walking and cycling. People should not have to depend on their cars to get to work, access sport and recreation opportunities or take their children to the local playground.

The board will also investigate opportunities to partner with education institutions, such as Western Springs College, to make school facilities more widely available for community sport and recreational use.

Outcome 2: Attractive and versatile public places that meet our communities' needs	
Objectives	Key initiatives
Ensure our parks, open spaces and recreation facilities meet the needs of our current and future residents.	<p>Continue to invest in our parks and facilities to ensure they are multi-purpose and can be accessed by a wide range of community groups and users.</p> <p>Provide places where young people can engage and socialise, such as the Newmarket Playspace and Kari Street Commons in the Auckland Domain.</p> <p>Advocate to Panuku Development Auckland to provide a significant green space in the Wynyard Point area.</p> <p>Develop 254 Ponsonby Road as an open civic space with the community.</p> <p>Prioritise Pt Erin Pool for redevelopment into a fit-for-purpose community facility.</p>

<sup>5</sup> We have already adopted Myers Park Development Plan, Grey Lynn Park Development Plan, Western Park Tuna Mau Development Plan and Point Resolution Taurarua Plan. The development of Meola Reef Development Plan started in March 2017.

	<p>Progress a multi-purpose facility in Grey Lynn Park.</p> <p>Improve our parks by implementing our existing development plans and developing a plan for Western Springs Lakeside Park.</p>
<p>Deliver high-quality facilities that encourage active and healthy lifestyles.</p>	<p>Provide more walkways and cycling connections to link our local parks, coastline and recreation facilities, prioritising the Waitematā Greenways Plan.</p> <p>Provide greater access to sports facilities by encouraging initiatives such as co-sharing school facilities.</p>

## **Whakaotinga 3: Kei te aronuitia, tiakina me te whakapai tonuhia te taiao taketake**

### **Outcome 3: The natural environment is valued, protected and enhanced**

**The health of our environment is enhanced, our waterways are healthy and the urban forest cover has increased. People have adopted low carbon lifestyles and live sustainably. Caring for our environment is part of who we are.**

Our beautiful natural environments are part of our identity. Waitematā is blessed with many valuable natural resources, including the Waitematā Harbour, significant streams, areas of native bush, parks, beaches and volcanic features like the Auckland Domain and Meola Reef. Through their customary kaitiaki role, mana whenua have a fundamental interest in the health of our environment and natural resources. We remain committed to a partnership to protect and restore our environment.

#### **Clean and healthy water and air**

Urgent measures are needed to improve the quality of our stormwater and the health of our waterways. While we maintain our advocacy for the Central, Waterfront Interceptor and Newmarket Connector projects to be finalised at the earliest opportunity, we will work with Watercare and the council's stormwater team to identify and implement localised solutions to improve stormwater quality. We will partner with iwi and local residents to restore and enhance our local waterways and champion projects that incorporate water sensitive design and reduce wastewater discharges into our waterways and the Harbour.

As Auckland's largest employment centre, Waitematā is at the heart of the region's transport system. Burning fossil fuels, such as diesel, bunker fuel and petrol, is the biggest cause of air pollution in summer. In line with what our city centre residents have told us, we will work to enable access to air quality information and champion quality transport improvements.

#### **A low carbon community**

We are proud to be leaders in the efforts to become a low carbon and sustainable community. We are committed to the ambitious goal of reducing Auckland's emissions by 10-20 per cent by 2020 and 40 per cent by 2040<sup>6</sup>. Since our Low Carbon Community Action Plan was adopted in 2015, we have championed projects like a pilot to reduce domestic energy use and water consumption. We will support businesses and households to reduce their carbon footprint by encouraging them to divert food waste from landfill, grow their own food, for example in community gardens, or source food locally and buy Fairtrade sources. We also acknowledge that council has a role to play, for example by expanding the use of electric vehicles, moving towards a zero emissions public transport, improving energy efficiencies across its properties, promoting sustainable design and implementing a food waste collection service.

---

<sup>6</sup> Auckland Plan, Strategic Direction 8: <http://theplan.theaucklandplan.govt.nz/aucklands-response-to-climate-change/>



As a local board we are also pioneers in delivering initiatives to restore the urban forest, having supported research since 2015 to better understand the extent of changes to the tree cover in Waitematā. Supported by the regional policy being developed, we will undertake local initiatives to plant more trees on public and private land, guided by a local urban tree strategy.

### **Protecting our natural heritage**

Our valued natural ecosystems and biodiversity are under threat from pest plants and animals. To address this challenge we will maintain our ecological restoration programmes and grow community capacity around managing weeds and getting rid of pests. We want the council to embrace its commitment to minimise agrichemical use, as set out in the Weed Management Policy, and to support alternative maintenance techniques, such as mechanical edging in parks. As a local board we support the target to make New Zealand predator free by 2050.

### **Resilience in emergencies**

Due to our location on the coast, Waitematā is at risk from a number of natural hazards. We want to make sure everyone is ready for utility failure, storm events an earthquake or tsunami and resilient to the impacts of climate change and sea-level rise. We can achieve this by supporting training and community-led initiatives to ensure we have a resilient community.

<b>Outcome 3: The natural environment is valued, protected and enhanced</b>	
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Key initiatives</b>
Improve air and water quality and the health of our waterways.	<p>Undertake localised solutions to restore our key waterways, such as Cox's Creek, Waipapa Stream, Newmarket Stream and Motions Creek.</p> <p>Advocate to Watercare, Auckland Transport and the governing body to fund projects which reduce wastewater discharges into waterways and the Waitematā Harbour.</p> <p>Champion projects which incorporate water sensitive design principles.</p> <p>Progress initiatives which provide information about air quality in the city centre.</p>
Support Waitematā being a low carbon community.	<p>Advocate to the governing body and council-controlled organisations to adopt low carbon practices and principles.</p> <p>Develop programmes to support businesses and households to adopt low carbon practices.</p>

<p>Increase the urban forest.</p>	<p>Deliver local initiatives to increase tree planting and pollinator paths on public and private land, in line with an urban tree strategy.</p> <p>Encourage Auckland Transport to provide planting, including canopy trees, in every streetscape improvement.</p>
<p>Empower our communities to enhance their resilience to disasters and the impact of climate change.</p>	<p>Support educational programmes to prepare our communities for disasters and the impact of climate change.</p> <p>Identify key locations in our community as civil defence information centres.</p>
<p>Regenerate our natural areas to enhance biodiversity.</p>	<p>Deliver a local ecological restoration programme.</p> <p>Grow community capacity around weed management and pest eradication.</p> <p>Support initiatives which minimise the use of agrichemicals for weed control.</p>

## **Whakaotinga 4: He taiao piki te āhua hanga whare e rauhi nei i ā tātou taonga tuku iho**

### **Outcome 4: A high-quality built environment that embraces our heritage**

**Our unique heritage buildings and places are protected and valued for the stories they tell. We have embraced ‘density done well’ through well-designed and sustainable developments that respect the character of our distinctive neighbourhoods.**

Waitematā is fortunate to have many of Auckland’s earliest buildings and suburbs. This historic legacy gives our suburbs their unique urban character; one that varies across the local board area and creates distinctive urban villages such as Parnell, Ponsonby and Grey Lynn and clifftop neighbourhoods like St Marys Bay.

The city centre continues to follow the pattern of recent years and has become a thriving and vibrant residential centre with a growing population, while remaining New Zealand’s premier commercial and business centre.

#### **Embracing the past**

We know the value our community places on our public and private heritage assets. Good stewardship of heritage buildings, including finding long-term uses, will provide a viable and sustainable future for many of our prized heritage assets. We will look to invest and partner in preserving and reusing historic places such as the Myers Park Caretaker’s Cottage and Albert Park House. We will continue to encourage preservation of significant heritage buildings, such as Carlile House, Highwic House and Ewelme Cottage, as well as protection and restoration of the historic Symonds Street and St Stephen’s cemeteries.

People will be encouraged to understand and value our past through information signs such as those along our historic foreshore trail and in Symonds Street Cemetery. We can use digital platforms to support this information and we will encourage mana whenua to tell their history and stories of Waitematā’s past.

#### **Planning for growth while preserving character**

The Auckland Unitary Plan will change the way Waitematā is planned and developed. Many of our suburbs have been rezoned to allow increased density and greater building heights. As Auckland grows, it is crucial the distinctive character of our neighbourhoods is preserved where possible.

New development should be of a high design standard; the buildings of today are tomorrow’s heritage and will tell the story of our city to future generations. Significant buildings should demonstrate best-practice urban design, including the use of green roofs and walls and other techniques set out in the Auckland Design Manual.

To preserve the distinctive character of Waitematā we will support our communities to lead planning initiatives such as new area plans. We will also continue to deliver key projects from our existing plans, such as the Newton and Eden Terrace Plan and the Karangahape

Road Plan. Improving our town centres is important and we will continue to progress the Newmarket Laneway Project and develop a laneways plan for the Ponsonby Road area.

Growth and demographic change are driving the need for a range of housing types, from papakainga housing to townhouses, apartments, social housing and student accommodation. All Waitematā residents should have access to secure and healthy homes, which are affordable and meet their present and future needs.

<b>Outcome 4: A high-quality built environment that embraces our heritage</b>	
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Key initiatives</b>
Identify and protect places with heritage and distinctive character.	<p>Invest and partner in the preservation and reuse of historic places, such as the Myers Park caretaker's cottage.</p> <p>Enhance public access to information on historic buildings and places in Waitematā.</p> <p>Fund projects which celebrate and tell the story of Waitematā's past.</p> <p>Continue to protect and enhance closed historic cemeteries such as the Symonds Street and St Stephen's cemeteries.</p>
Reinforce neighbourhood character and improve town centres.	<p>Enable and support community-led planning initiatives.</p> <p>Encourage best-practice urban design for significant new developments.</p> <p>Deliver key projects from existing plans such as the Newton and Eden Terrace Plan, Ponsonby Road Plan and Karangahape Road Plan.</p> <p>Develop a laneways plan for the Ponsonby Road business area.</p>
Encourage developments that provide a range of housing types for current and future residents.	Advocate to the governing body for Auckland Council to actively build or enable others to provide affordable, healthy and fully accessible housing.

## **Whakaotinga 5: He kōtuinga kawenga māmā te uru atu, tūhono, āhuru me ōna tiriti tika te hoahoa**

### **Outcome 5: An accessible, connected and safe transport network with well-designed streets**

**Our transport network is integrated and gives people options for moving about, with accessible, sustainable and reliable public transport and safe, pleasant walking and cycling routes. Our pedestrian-friendly streets are great public spaces for people.**

A great transport network is critical to an effective and functioning Auckland. An accessible, connected and safe network will give people options for moving into, through and around Waitematā. A transport network which includes walking, cycling and quality public transport can improve health outcomes, air quality and safety while reducing congestion and carbon emissions. We see great streets as more than just transport routes; they help shape our neighbourhoods and town centres.

#### **More walking and cycling options**

Nearly 80,000 commuters, students, shoppers and visitors travel to the city centre every weekday morning between 7am and 9am<sup>7</sup>. This movement has a significant impact on the existing transport network, with a third of Auckland's congestion in the city centre<sup>8</sup>.

We will continue to work towards a network of safe and pleasant walking and cycling routes, for leisure and commuting, and continue to champion the Auckland Cycling Network and delivery of Waitematā's Greenways routes. A priority is to open the Greenways route from Newmarket to The Strand through the old Parnell rail tunnel.

We will advocate for street designs which deliver slower traffic speeds, better intersections, footpaths and cycle lanes designed and built to worldwide best practice. A comprehensive approach to safety should include a target of zero serious injuries or deaths on our roads.

#### **Outstanding public transport**

More people are now commuting to the city centre by public transport than driving. Effective public transport should be accessible for all members of our community. The network should be integrated and frequent, with excellent infrastructure that attracts new users. Young people have told us they want more options to travel late at night. We support improved city centre bus services and rapid transit to the airport and along Dominion Road and Sandringham Road. An additional harbour crossing should prioritise public transport as part of its design principles.

---

<sup>7</sup>

<http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/EN/PLANSPOLICIESPROJECTS/COUNCILPROJECTS/CITYCENTRETRANSFORMATION/Pages/centrecitystatistics.aspx>

<sup>8</sup> Ibid

## Streets as great public spaces

Well-designed streets can be great public spaces and contribute to a sense of place – streetscapes where residents and visitors alike feel comfortable to sit, socialise and spend time.

We will continue to implement the streetscape recommendations of our Newmarket Laneways Project and Karangahape Road Plan, and investigate similar streetscape improvements in other locations such as Ponsonby. We will support pilot projects and quick and low-cost interventions to promote long-term improvements to our streets.

Construction of the City Rail Link will be a major catalyst for renewal and regeneration in the city centre and Karangahape Road. It provides place-making opportunities, such as more seating, artwork or planting, particularly in and around Albert Street. We support removing the Hobson Street flyover and creating the Victoria Street Linear Park, along with making Quay Street a pedestrian-friendly boulevard.

As provided in the Newton and Eden Terrace Plan, we want to see the redevelopment of the area surrounding the Dominion Road/New North Road intersection after the removal of the interchange.

## Effective parking management

Due to our inner city location, many of our suburbs experience significant pressure from commuter parking in residential streets close to main transport networks. We will continue to support Auckland Transport's roll out of residential and town centre parking zones that effectively manage parking to provide access to parking for residents, businesses and short term visitors.

<b>Outcome 5: An accessible, connected and safe transport network with well-designed streets</b>	
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Key initiatives</b>
Improve the accessibility and connectivity of the transport network.	<p>Implement measures to make public transport and active transport options more attractive to new users.</p> <p>Support initiatives which make public transport more accessible and easier for people to move around.</p> <p>Champion the development of rapid transit options as a priority.</p> <p>Support effective parking management to improve access for residents and short-term visitors to town centres.</p> <p>Improve public transport infrastructure including bus stops and interchanges.</p>

	<p>Prioritise the delivery of Waitematā's Greenways routes and the Auckland Cycle Network.</p> <p>Deliver a fit-for-purpose, safe and connected pedestrian network.</p>
<p>Improve safety for all road users.</p>	<p>Work with Auckland Transport to implement slow traffic speed zones in the city centre and residential areas, and through town centres.</p> <p>Advocate to Auckland Transport to adopt a target of zero serious injuries or deaths on our roads as part of a comprehensive approach to road safety.</p> <p>Advocate to the New Zealand Transport Agency to change the give way rule at side street crossings to favour pedestrians.</p> <p>Support the installation of a sound barrier on State Highway 16 next to Newton Primary School.</p>
<p>Streets are designed as active public spaces.</p>	<p>Carry out place-making projects which enhance the amenity of our streets and provide more public spaces that prioritise people.</p> <p>Advocate to Auckland Transport to redesign Hobson and Nelson streets as two-way urban boulevards.</p> <p>Support pilot projects and quick interventions to make long-term improvements to public spaces.</p> <p>Encourage Auckland Transport to integrate place-making in all streetscape enhancement projects.</p> <p>Work with Auckland Transport, the council and developers to better integrate new developments with streetscapes.</p> <p>Leverage place-making opportunities created by development of the City Rail Link.</p> <p>Support redevelopment of the area surrounding the Dominion Road/New North Road intersection after removal of the interchange.</p>



## **Whakaotinga 6: He ōhanga ā-rohe auaha, whai hua, manahau**

### **Outcome 6: An innovative, productive and resilient local economy**

**Waitematā's local economy is thriving and benefits from growth and change. Empowered local businesses, social enterprises and start-ups drive growth and local economic development.**

Waitematā is Auckland's largest employment area and New Zealand's premier business centre. A strong local economy is important to Auckland's overall economy. It means more jobs and opportunities, supports improvements to infrastructure and services and makes Auckland attractive to more businesses and investment.

The main sector strengths of the economy in Waitematā are financial and insurance services, professional, scientific and technical services and information media and telecommunications. Knowledge-intensive jobs, such as information technology, higher education, hospitals, management advice and other consulting services, comprise 56 per cent of employment in Waitematā, above the Auckland average of 36 per cent.

#### **Growing our local economy**

We are committed to partnering with our seven business associations to lead innovative programmes and initiatives which strengthen the local economy. We will continue to implement the Waitematā City Fringe Economic Development Action Plan and work with Auckland Tourism, Events and Economic Development (ATEED) to help our local businesses maximise the opportunities created by major events. Promoting Waitematā as an exciting destination for tourism, conferences, events and trade fairs, as well as a great place for cruise ship passengers to spend time, will be a focus for the board.

#### **Great town centres**

We will continue to enhance our town centres through initiatives such as the Newmarket Laneways Project and Ponsonby Road Plan to attract businesses and create places where residents and visitors want to spend time. To ensure our local business areas thrive, we will continue to work actively with our Business Improvement Districts (BIDs). We will also support extending BID boundaries and establishing new business associations if appropriate and viable.

#### **An innovative economy**

We remain committed to an innovative business culture which attracts talented, entrepreneurial people through initiatives such as the Uptown Innovation Precinct. While it is relatively easy to establish a firm in Auckland, the failure rate of start-ups is high. Using vacant office space provides opportunities for start-up businesses and social enterprises to find a place in Waitematā, as does a social procurement policy to underpin their viability. We will support the Youth Enterprise Scheme to reach the students from all secondary schools in the area.

## International students

Waitematā is fortunate to have a number of secondary and tertiary educational institutions. International students are vital to the success of many of these institutions. In order to enjoy a great experience in Auckland, it is critical economically and socially that these students have access to the facilities and services they require to be happy, safe and feel they belong.

<b>Outcome 6: An innovative, productive and resilient local economy</b>	
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Key initiatives</b>
Support our business associations to drive local growth and innovation.	Partner with our business associations to enhance their capacity to drive innovative economic development in our local areas.
Empower and support start-up business and social enterprises.	Contribute funding to support the use of empty offices, vacant land and council facilities for start-up businesses and social enterprises.  Advocate to the governing body and CCOs for a procurement policy which furthers social and environmental outcomes, including supporting Fairtrade, a living wage, sustainability, local businesses and social enterprises.
Increase the prosperity of our town centres.	Implement the Waitematā City Fringe Economic Development Action Plan.  Develop streets as destinations where people want to spend time.  Assist our local business centres to leverage major events which attract people to Waitematā.  Advocate to ATEED to promote Waitematā as an exciting destination for tourism, events, conferences, exhibitions and trade fairs.  Advocate to ATEED to build capacity and provide adequate facilities to enhance the experience of visitors, in particular cruise ship passengers.
A strong and healthy international education sector.	Work with the education sector to ensure international students feel safe, welcome and included.

# He kōrero take pūtea

## Financial information

This purpose of this section is to provide a financial overview of the Waitematā 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 or increasing our local revenue sources (such as local targeted rates and fees and charges).

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 Waitematā 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 Libraries and Information (Libraries)	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.  Deliver a variety of events, programmes and

Local activities	Levels of service statements
and Arts, Culture and Events.	<p>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>	<p>Develop local business precincts and town centres as great places to do business.</p>
<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>	<p>Provide leadership &amp; support to protect and conserve the region's natural environment, historic heritage and Māori cultural heritage.</p>
<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.

<b>Annual Plan Financials</b>	<b>2015/16 (\$000s)</b>	<b>2016/17 (\$000s)</b>	<b>2017/18 (\$000s)</b>
<b>Operating revenue</b>			
Local community services	2,040	2,004	2,051
Local parks, sport and recreation	2,014	2,262	2,510
Local planning and development			
Local environment services			
<b>Total operating revenue</b>	<b>4,054</b>	<b>4,266</b>	<b>4,561</b>
<b>Operating expenditure</b>			
Local community services	8,094	8,403	8,670
Local governance	1,040	1,033	1,077
Local parks, sport and recreation	15,048	13,372	13,766
Local planning and development	7,592	7,726	8,632
Local environment services	116	118	158
<b>Total operating expenditure</b>	<b>31,890</b>	<b>30,653</b>	<b>32,303</b>
<b>Net operating expenditure</b>	<b>27,836</b>	<b>26,387</b>	<b>27,742</b>
<b>Capital expenditure</b>			
Local community services	2,248	248	2,256
Local governance			
Local parks, sport and recreation	7,856	7,559	5,636
Local planning and development	3,651	4,774	1,959
Local environment services			
<b>Total capital expenditure</b>	<b>13,754</b>	<b>12,581</b>	<b>9,850</b>

## Funding Impact Statement





<b>Financial year ending 30 June</b>	<b>2016/17 (\$000s)</b>
<b>Sources of operating funding</b>	
General rates, UAGCs, rates penalties	22,960
Targeted rates	7,432
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	15
Fees and charges	2,791
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees and other receipts	1,460
<b>Total operating funding</b>	<b>34,658</b>
<b>Applications of operating funding</b>	
Payment to staff and suppliers	28,523
Finance costs	1,959
Internal charges and overheads applied	4,093
Other operating funding applications	-
<b>Total applications of operating funding</b>	<b>34,575</b>
<b>Surplus (deficit) of operating funding</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>Sources of capital funding</b>	
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	-
Development and financial contributions	-
Increase (decrease) in debt	12,498
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	-
Lump sum contributions	-
Other dedicated capital funding	-

<b>Total sources of capital funding</b>	<b>12,498</b>
<b>Application of capital funding</b>	
Capital expenditure	
- to meet additional demand	133
- to improve the level of service	6,833
- to replace existing assets	5,615
Increase (decrease) in reserves	-
Increase (decrease) in investments	-
<b>Total applications of capital funding</b>	<b>12,581</b>
<b>Surplus (deficit) of capital funding</b>	<b>(83)</b>
<b>Funding balance</b>	<b>0</b>



# Ngā Mema o tō Poari ā-Rohe o Waitematā

## Your Waitematā Local Board members

	Members' details
	<p><b>Pippa Coom – Chairperson</b></p> <p>Phone: 021 926 618</p> <p><a href="mailto:pippa.coom@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz">pippa.coom@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz</a></p>
	<p><b>Shale Chambers - Deputy Chairperson</b></p> <p>Phone: 021 286 7111</p> <p><a href="mailto:shale.chambers@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz">shale.chambers@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz</a></p>
	<p><b>Adriana Christie</b></p> <p>Phone: 021 193 9046</p> <p><a href="mailto:adriana.a.christie@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz">adriana.a.christie@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz</a></p>
	<p><b>Mark Davey</b></p> <p>Phone: 021 242 8024</p> <p><a href="mailto:mark.davey@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz">mark.davey@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz</a></p>



**Richard Northey**

Phone: 021 534 546

[richard.northey@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:richard.northey@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)



**Rob Thomas**

Phone: 021 704 423

[rob.thomas@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:rob.thomas@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)



**Vernon Tava**

Phone: 021 0232 4292

[vernon.tava@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:vernon.tava@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)





On the cover: 10 year old Ruby Corbett enjoys the newly refurbished playground at Western Park.

Auckland Council disclaims any liability whatsoever in connection with any action taken in reliance of this document for any error, deficiency, flaw or omission contained in it. This publication is printed using vegetable based inks on paper from responsible forestry, manufactured under the strict ISO 14001 Environmental Management System.