

TE MAHERE Ā-ROHE O WAITEMATĀ 2017

Waitematā Local Board Plan 2017



Mihi

Mai i Te Waitematā ki tai,
 nau mai rā e Te Waitematā ki uta.
 Hei taumarumarua koe mō te pū o te wheke
 kua huaina nei, ko te tāone nui o Tāmaki Makaurau.
 Titiro ki te Pourewa Tūkoi ki te rangi e titi mai rā
 i te manawa tonu o Horotiu,
 tipua o te ao kōhatu kua memeha kē,
 kua taupokihia e te ao kua kōhatu.
 Ko Te Wai o Taikehu kei te rāwhiti ōu,
 ko Tuki-tuki-muka te kaihere i tō hope i te uru.
 E rere ki tuawhenua, ka ū atu koe ki Te Wai-orea,
 kei kō tata mai ko te Rae o Kāwharu
 e eke ai koe ki Te Uru Karaka.
 Heke whakatemauī ko Ngā Kauae Whati,
 e piki ake ai koe ki Te Rimu-tahi.
 Titiro whakaiho koe, ko Waiaatarau,
 ko te Waikōkota.
 E tahuri tō haere mā te ara Kārangaranga o Hape
 kia tū anō koe i te kokotinga o te Ara Kuīni.
 E whakamau ō kamo ki te āhuru mōwai
 e hora ake nā i mua i a koe.
 E mīharo ki tā te ringa tangata i hanga ai
 hei kākahu i tā te ringa atua.
 E takahi rā koe mā runga i ngā tapuwae o te tini –
 pō te ao, ao te pō,
 kia tau rawa atu koe ki te huinga mai
 a te mano ki Te Rerenga-ora-itī.
 Kī reira koe whakatau ai i te iwi;
 Nau mai e taku iti, nau mai e taku rahi ki ahau,
 ki Te Waitematā i uta, ki Te Waitematā i tai.

From Waitematā at sea
 to Waitematā on shore, welcome.
 May you be a safe haven at the centre
 of this metropolis called Tāmaki Makaurau.
 Gaze up to the Sky Tower
 that rises out of the heart of Horotiu,
 relic of the age of stone,
 now covered over by a world of stone.
 Te Wai o Taikehu marks your eastern bounds,
 while Tuki-tuki-muka binds your western boundary.
 Flowing inland, you reach Wai-orea
 though closeby is Te Rae o Kāwharu,
 en-route to present-day Newton.
 Glancing to your left lies Grey Lynn,
 and up a rise you come to Ponsonby.
 Looking below, there is Freemans Bay,
 there too, is Waikōkota.
 Your journey takes you now to Karangahape Road
 across to where it intersects with the Queen’s byway.
 Cast your eyes over the sheltered haven
 that lies before you.
 Marvel at what the human hand has created
 to embellish what was created by the hand of God.
 Follow in the footprints of the many now passed –
 dawn till dusk and dusk till dawn,
 until you too arrive amongst the hustle and bustle
 of the throngs, at Britomart.
 There you can bid the people;
 Welcome one and all unto me,
 Waitematā on shore, Waitematā at sea.

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Western Park Playground, Freemans Bay.

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 that brings significant challenges but also new opportunities. Congestion, growing inequality, rough sleeping, pollution and housing affordability 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 great places for people.

With this plan we are presenting our vision for the next three years; a series of aspirations, objectives and initiatives 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 plan will deliver the expectations and improve the wellbeing of our local communities.

With your support we will work towards creating healthy and 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 be able to access events, arts and cultural activities to make the most of what Waitematā has to offer. Delivering high quality facilities and better, more accessible parks, including more walkways and cycling connections, will ensure everyone has an opportunity to lead active and healthy lifestyles.

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, eliminate agrichemical spraying 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 where businesses can thrive.

Waitematā is the major centre for employment and commerce in Auckland.

We want everyone to be able to access events, arts and cultural activities to make the most of what Waitematā has to offer.

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, generates greater pressure on our resources, infrastructure, facilities and the environment.

We know you are already making positive changes in our area 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.

Having engaged with and listened to the feedback from our communities while developing the final version, we believe this plan will enable 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 aronga poto i tā mātou mahere

Our plan at a glance

We will focus on six outcomes to guide our work and make Waitemātā a better community for all. Our aspirations are outlined below.

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.



POP is a popular annual event that helps bring art to the community.

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 wellbeing and bring people together to socialise, learn, relax, exercise and have fun.



Waitemātā is dotted with parks that give families the chance to play together.

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.



Weona-Westmere Coastal Walkway.

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.



City spaces get new life while acknowledging the importance of the past.

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.



Teed Street, Newmarket.

Outcome 6: An innovative, productive and resilient local economy

Waitemātā'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.



Quality retail spaces add vibrancy to local communities.

Te Rohe ā-Poari o Waitematā Waitematā Local Board area



Waitematā has a long history of Māori settlement, with 15 mana whenua iwi/hapū having an interest in the area. Later European settlement makes the city and its surrounding suburbs some of Tāmaki Makarua/Auckland's oldest.

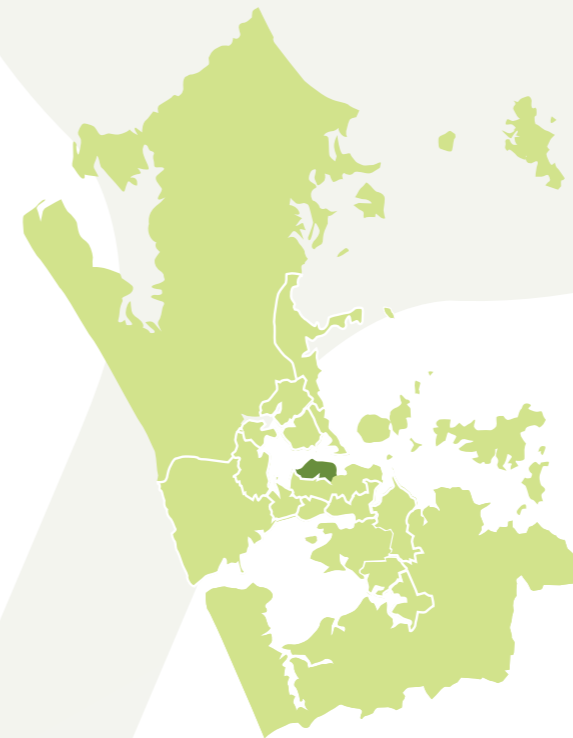
Our waterfront, port, burgeoning cruise ship industry and maritime heritage are key features of the area.

Statistics New Zealand forecasts our 2017 population of 108,500 will hit 130,200 by 2033, a 21 per cent increase. The increasing population brings diversity and interest to Waitematā, but

also places pressure and demand on resources, infrastructure, community facilities and the environment.

Almost two-thirds of us are of European ethnicity, but in the city centre, more than half identify as Asian. We have more 20 to 34-years old than Auckland as a whole, but fewer children. Those over 65 are under-represented now, but are growing quickly in number.

As the city's employment hub, Waitematā provides 186,000 jobs. The city centre alone accounts for one in seven jobs in Auckland.



We have a population of

108,500

or 6% of Auckland's total population.

Up from 70,000 in 2010.

7 Business Associations

Grey Lynn, Heart of the City, K Road, Newmarket, Parnell, Ponsonby, Uptown



100,000 commuters to the city centre

53% of commuters use public transport, cycling or walking



186,000 jobs in the city centre



By the numbers:

104 parks

8 community places

4 libraries

5 pools

Data sources: Statistics New Zealand Population Projections (2013).



Myers Park Medley.

He kōrero mō ngā poari ā-rohe me ā mātou mahere

About local boards and our plans

Auckland Council has a unique model of local government in New Zealand, made up of the Governing Body (the mayor and 20 Governing Body members) 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 providing input into regional strategies, policies and plans.

These local issues, activities and services include:

- supporting local arts, culture, events, 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.

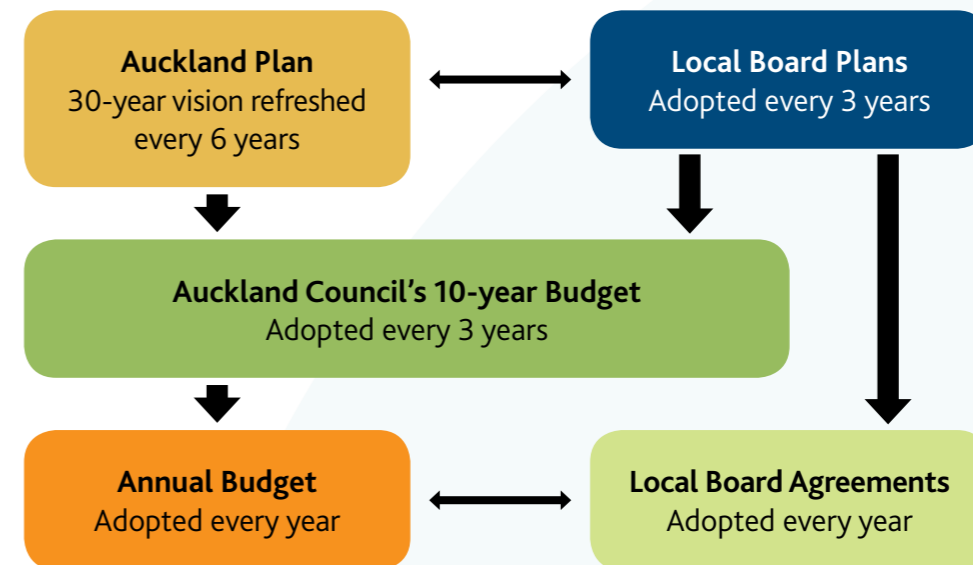
Local boards also have a role in representing the views of their communities on issues of local importance.

About local board plans

Local board plans are strategic documents that are developed every three years to set a direction for local boards. Reflecting community priorities and preferences, the plans guide local board activity, funding and investment decisions. They also influence local board input into regional strategies and plans, including the Auckland Plan (the 30-year vision for Auckland), the council's 10-year Budget (Long-term Plan) and annual budgets.

Local board agreements

A key role of local board plans is to provide a basis for developing annual local board agreements. Agreed between the council's Governing Body and local boards, these are part of Auckland Council's budget setting process and they set out local funding priorities, budgets, levels of service, performance measures and targets by activity for each financial year. Each local board develops annual work programmes alongside adoption of their local board agreement.





Parnell Festival of Roses is a spring celebration held annually at Dove-Myer Robinson Park.

Te whakawhanake i tā mātou mahere **Developing our plan**

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

During May and June 2017 we consulted on a draft of this plan for feedback. The draft was developed by considering what we know about our community, having worked closely with you over the last six years and heard your views on a wide range of things.

We are privileged to have an engaged and committed community. Knowing this plan must reflect the place you want Waitemātā to be, we identified the key outcomes and objectives by considering what you told us was important and where we thought we could make the biggest difference.



Pop Poi was a feature of POP - an annual event that helps bring art to the community.

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. This is especially important in our area as apartment living can result in isolation and disconnection. You have told us that our libraries are vital for learning, socialising, leisure and personal development. Community spaces such as halls, gardens and 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 make our facilities welcoming and accessible to all. If our public places are attractive to children and older adults, they will be suitable for everyone.

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. Local events will continue to be supported through our grants programme and funding partnerships.

We are committed to supporting our creative community, professional artists and arts organisations through the delivery of arts programmes. We would like to see an arts precinct created around Studio One Toi Tū in Ponsonby to provide a space for emerging and established artists.

Sustainable solutions for homelessness

You have confirmed that a major 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 ongoing support and care. We will support initiatives to provide amenities, such as showers, toilets and lockers, which enhance dignity and wellbeing. We want effective housing solutions for all forms of homelessness 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 feels safe in the city centre after dark. Our youth voice has identified this as a particular issue for students. We will continue working with key stakeholders to provide well-lit, secure and safe public spaces and facilities. As a major centre for entertainment and hospitality, Waitematā has a high concentration of licensed premises. For our communities to feel safe, it is important to reduce alcohol-related harm and disruption.

We want people to be able to lead active and healthy lifestyles. Through our own initiatives or in partnerships, 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 remain committed to extending the range of smoke-free public spaces. We will also support the regional sinking lid policy on gambling machines 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 of our empowered communities that already champion projects showcasing local talent, creating great spaces and caring for our environment. Drawing on experiences such as the project to develop the Grey Lynn Pump Track, we will support local groups to build leadership, skills and capacity to drive positive change.

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

Objective	Key initiatives
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 everyone, 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 expansion and the Housing First model. Support initiatives that enhance public amenities in the city centre.
Improve actual and perceived safety in our community.	Work in partnership with residents, businesses, local groups and agencies to reduce alcohol-related harm and create safer communities. Identify new sites for safety-focused projects such as Albert Park Safer Routes.
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.	Fund new and established local events that are accessible, free, diverse, safe and environmentally responsible. Support signature events through three-year funding partnerships. Support the creative community and arts organisations through the delivery of arts programmes. Advocate to the Governing Body to create an arts precinct in Ponsonby based around Studio One Toi Tū and including 3 Ponsonby Road.
Ensure our communities have opportunities to lead active and healthy lifestyles.	Extend the range of smoke-free public spaces. Support the regional sinking lid policy on gambling machines and other initiatives that minimise the harmful impacts of gambling. Encourage healthy food and drink options to be provided in our local clubs and community facilities. Fund youth-led initiatives that promote healthy and physically active lifestyles.



Grey Lynn Park Playground.

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

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 wellbeing and bring people together to socialise, learn, relax, exercise and have fun.

Waitematā is home to many high-quality and well-used parks, reserves, sports clubs and recreation facilities. 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 board priority is developing a civic space at Ponsonby Park (254 Ponsonby Road) in line with the community's vision. We will also advocate to the Governing Body for funding to redevelop Pt Erin Pool into a fit for purpose facility while retaining its special character. At Grey Lynn Park, we will continue to progress a much-needed, multi-purpose facility in partnership with Richmond Rovers League Club.

In line with our commitment to low carbon practices we will keep pursuing opportunities to install renewable energy-efficient solutions, such as solar panels and solar lighting, in our facilities and parks.

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 our children and youth to thrive, feel safe and have a voice. We will consult them on projects affecting 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. Shaped by mana whenua and our local communities, these plans provide a clear strategic framework to guide the future development of these parks and set out actions for us to undertake. We will also advocate for appropriate funding to implement the Auckland Domain Masterplan and investigate opportunities to activate and improve our smaller parks, such as Basque Park, Heard Park, Salisbury Reserve and Home Reserve.

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 traditionally done in suburban backyards. People should not have to depend on their cars to get to work, access sport and recreation or take their children to the local playground. We will prioritise our Greenways Plan for improving connections between our parks, coastline and recreation facilities to encourage walking and cycling.

We also want to 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.

A well-connected public waterfront

As a key feature of Waitematā, the waterfront area must be well connected to the city centre and attractive for our residents and visitors. To achieve this we want the creation of three public open spaces to be prioritised as a result of the sale of Queen Elizabeth Square: west of Queens Wharf, around the historic ferry building and the Admiralty Steps. We support improved ferry and cruise ship facilities including transitioning Captain Cook Wharf to a cruise terminal and berth, ensuring Queens Wharf is increasingly available as a public event space.

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

Objective	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 for funding to develop Ponsonby Park (254 Ponsonby Road) as an open civic space.</p> <p>Advocate for funding to redevelop Pt Erin Pool into a fit-for-purpose community facility.</p> <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 Waiorea Park.</p> <p>Activate and enhance our local parks such as Basque Park, Heard Park, Salisbury Reserve and Home Reserve.</p> <p>Advocate for three waterfront public open spaces to be created at Queens Wharf, the ferry building and Admiralty Steps.</p> <p>Advocate to develop Headland Park (Wynyard Point) as a significant public open space.</p>
Deliver high-quality facilities that encourage active and healthy lifestyles.	<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>

Weona-Westmere Coastal Walkway.



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 (guardian) role, mana whenua have a fundamental interest in the health of our environment and natural resources.

We remain committed to a partnership with mana whenua 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 maintaining our advocacy for finalising the Central Interceptor, Waterfront Interceptor and Newmarket Connector projects at the earliest opportunity, we will work with Watercare and the council's Healthy Waters Department 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 one of the main causes of air pollution. In response to what city centre residents have told us, we will work to enable access to air quality information and champion sustainable transport options which reduce fossil fuel emissions.

A low carbon community

In line with our efforts to become a low carbon and sustainable community, we are committed to the goal of setting a target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and Zero Waste by 2040. 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 minimise their carbon footprint by diverting food waste from landfill, growing their own food, including in community gardens, and sourcing food locally.

We also acknowledge the council has a role to play; for example by expanding the use of electric vehicles, moving towards zero emissions public transport, improving energy efficiencies across its properties, promoting sustainable design and implementing a food waste collection service. We will continue to work with Albert-Eden and Puketāpapa local boards to complete the Central Community Recycling Centre in Western Springs.

As a local board we are also pioneers in delivering initiatives to restore the urban forest, having funded research since 2015 to better understand the extent of changes to the tree cover in Waitematā. Guided by the regional strategy, we will develop a local urban forest strategy to undertake and support local initiatives to plant and retain more trees on public and private land.

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 eliminate agrichemical spraying and embrace its commitment to minimise agrichemical use. You have told us to support alternative weed management techniques, such as the use of hot water and 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 coastal location, Waitematā is at risk from a number of natural hazards. We want to make sure everyone is prepared for utility failure, storms, earthquakes or tsunamis, and resilient to climate change impacts and sea-level rise. We can achieve this by supporting training and community-led initiatives to ensure a resilient community.

Our shared facilities underpin our strong community. They provide diverse and inclusive spaces that meet the changing needs of people of all ethnicities and ages. We have spaces that are inviting, flexible and well used by multiple community groups.

Our community facilities include our libraries, recreation centres, halls and other community buildings. These facilities play a crucial role in building a sense of community by supporting people to learn, develop and participate through involvement in groups and activities.

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

Objective	Key initiatives
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>Partner with Albert-Eden and Puketāpapa local boards to develop a protection and restoration strategy for Three Kings-Meola-Western Springs aquifer and creeks.</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 improve air quality in the city centre and provide air quality information for our residents.</p>
Support Waitematā being a low carbon community.	<p>Advocate to the Governing Body and council-controlled organisations (CCOs) to adopt low carbon practices and principles.</p> <p>Develop programmes to support businesses and households to adopt low carbon practices.</p>
Increase the urban forest and enhance biodiversity.	<p>Deliver local initiatives to increase tree planting, such as on St Marys Road, and additional pollinator paths in parks and the road corridor.</p> <p>Develop a local strategy to increase the urban forest in line with a regional urban tree strategy.</p> <p>Encourage Auckland Transport to provide planting, including canopy trees, in every streetscape improvement.</p>
Empower our communities to enhance their resilience to disasters and the impact of climate change.	<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>
Regenerate our natural areas to enhance biodiversity.	<p>Deliver a local ecological restoration programme.</p> <p>Increase community capacity around weed management and pest eradication.</p> <p>Support initiatives which minimise the use of agrichemicals for weed control.</p>



Ellen Melville Centre.

Whakaotinga 4:
He taiao piki te āhua
hanga whare e rauhī 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 features 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 these prized assets. We aim 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 along the Foreshore Heritage Walk and in Symonds Street Cemetery. We can use digital platforms to support this information and 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 Waitemata 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 to preserve the distinctive character of our neighbourhoods 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 using green roofs and walls and other techniques in the Auckland Design Manual.

We will partner with and support our communities to lead and shape planning initiatives such as a spatial plan for Parnell. 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; we will continue to progress the Newmarket Laneway Project and develop a laneways plan for the Ponsonby Road area. The proliferation of large LED billboards has the capacity to detrimentally impact on the amenity and character of our neighbourhoods. We will advocate to minimise the effects of such visually intrusive signs.

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 Waitemata residents should have access to secure, healthy and affordable homes which meet their present and future needs. We will advocate for the adequate provision of schools in the city centre for our growing population.

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

Objective	Key initiatives
Identify and protect places with heritage and distinctive character.	Invest and partner in preserving and reusing historic places, such as the Myers Park caretaker's cottage. Enhance public access to information on historic buildings and places in Waitemata. Fund projects which celebrate and tell the story of Waitemata's past. Continue to protect and enhance closed historic cemeteries, such as Symonds Street and St Stephen's.
Reinforce neighbourhood character and improve town centres.	Enable and support community-led planning initiatives. Encourage best-practice urban design for significant new developments. Deliver key projects from existing plans such as the Newton and Eden Terrace Plan, Ponsonby Road Plan and Karangahape Road Plan. Develop a laneways plan for the Ponsonby Road business area.
Encourage developments that provide a range of housing types for current and future residents.	Advocate to the Governing Body for the 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 me te māmā

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.

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 Waitemātā. A well-designed transport network that includes walking, cycling and quality public transport can improve health, 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. This movement has a significant impact on the existing transport network, with a third of Auckland's congestion in the city centre.

We will continue working towards a network of safe and pleasant walking and cycling routes for leisure and commuting, championing the Auckland Cycling Network and delivering Waitemātā'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 design which delivers slower traffic speeds, safer intersections and footpaths and cycle lanes built to international best practice. A comprehensive approach to safety should include a target of zero serious injuries or deaths on our roads.



Teed Street, Newmarket.

Outstanding public transport

More people now commute to the city centre by public transport, walking and cycling than driving. Effective public transport should be accessible for all 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, a fully operational, accessible and connected Parnell Station and rapid transit to the airport and along Dominion Road and Sandringham Road. An additional harbour crossing should prioritise rapid transit in its design principles.

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 improvements in other locations such as Ponsonby. We will support pilot projects and quick, low-cost interventions to promote long-term improvements to our streets.

Construction of the City Rail Link will be a major catalyst for regeneration in the city centre and Karangahape Road. It provides placemaking opportunities, such as more seating, artwork and planting, particularly in and around Albert Street. In line with the City Centre Masterplan, we support removing the Hobson Street flyover, creating a green Victoria Street Linear Park and Wellesley Street ‘bus boulevard’, along with making Quay Street a pedestrian-friendly boulevard. We will also advocate for High Street and Queen Street to be pedestrianised.

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 flyover and also the land around Mt Eden Station.

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.

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

Objective	Key initiatives
<p>Improve the accessibility and connectivity of the transport network.</p>	<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 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 (AT) to implement slow traffic speed zones in the city centre and residential areas, and through town centres.</p> <p>Advocate to AT 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 NZ Transport Agency to change the give way rule at side street crossings to favour pedestrians.</p> <p>Support 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 placemaking projects which enhance the amenity of our streets and provide more public spaces that prioritise people.</p> <p>Encourage AT to integrate placemaking in all transport projects.</p> <p>Advocate to AT to redesign Hobson and Nelson streets as two-way urban boulevards and pedestrianise Queen Street and High Street.</p> <p>Support pilot projects and quick interventions to make long-term improvements to public spaces.</p> <p>Work with AT, the council and developers to better integrate new developments with streetscapes.</p> <p>Leverage placemaking opportunities created by development of the City Rail Link.</p> <p>Support redevelopment of the area around the Dominion Road/New North Road intersection and Mt Eden Station.</p>



Quality retailing is a feature of the area.

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 Auckland's 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. A focus for us will be promoting Waitematā, including the City Fringe, as an exciting destination for tourism, conferences, events and trade fairs, as well as a great place for cruise ship passengers to spend time.

Major projects such as the City Rail Link will impact much of Waitematā. We will support initiatives to assist businesses to remain economically viable during the construction of transformational transport projects.

Auckland's seaport brings substantial economic benefit to the region. Consideration of the Port's operation needs to be part of an integrated approach when planning the wider waterfront, in collaboration with Ports of Auckland. We support maximising connectivity to the waterfront for the public, with the Port remaining within its existing footprint and Captain Cook Wharf opening up to use as a cruise terminal.

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 also support extending BID boundaries and establishing new BIDs and business associations if appropriate and viable.

An innovative economy

We remain committed to an innovative business culture which attracts talented and entrepreneurial people. While it is relatively easy to establish a business 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 support Auckland's role as a fair trade city. We will assist the Young Enterprise Scheme to reach students from all secondary schools in the area.

International students

Waitematā is fortunate to have a number of important 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 vital economically and socially that these students get involved in local activities, make connections with local people and have access to the facilities and services they require to be happy, safe and feel they belong.

Outcome 6: An innovative, productive and resilient local economy

Objective	Key initiatives
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 businesses and social enterprises.	<p>Contribute funding to support the use of empty offices, vacant land and council facilities for start-up businesses and social enterprises.</p> <p>Advocate to the Governing Body and council-controlled organisations (CCOs) for a procurement policy which furthers social and environmental outcomes, including supporting Fairtrade, a living wage, sustainability, local businesses and social enterprises.</p>
Increase the prosperity of our town centres.	<p>Implement Auckland's City Fringe Economic Development Action Plan.</p> <p>Develop great streets as destinations where people want to spend time.</p> <p>Assist our local business centres to leverage major events which attract people to Waitematā.</p> <p>Support initiatives which assist local businesses during the construction of major transport projects.</p> <p>Advocate to ATEED to promote Waitematā as an exciting destination for tourism, events, conferences, exhibitions and trade fairs.</p> <p>Advocate to ATEED to build capacity and provide adequate facilities to enhance the experience of visitors, particularly cruise ship passengers.</p>
A strong and healthy international education sector.	Work with the education sector to ensure international students feel safe, welcome and included.

Te whakatutuki i tā mātou mahere

Carrying out our plan

To deliver against the outcomes of our plan we will:

- prioritise our budget to focus on the initiatives in the plan
- make the best use of our assets such as our community centres and parks
- set direction for council staff who are responsible for delivering our annual work programme
- work with others, including community organisations and partners, to deliver projects and services
- represent your views on matters of local importance.

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. We do this by advocating on your behalf or making formal submissions, ensuring decision-makers are aware of your views and our support for them.

Funding information can be found in Appendix 1 on page 42.

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 their diverse talents, insights and contributions. 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.

Delivering on the council's commitment to Māori at a local level is a priority for the Waitemātā Local Board. Treaty partners must have an effective and respectful relationship.

We acknowledge the long association mana whenua have with the Waitemātā area and we undertake to work in a genuine partnership with all iwi and hapū with an interest in Waitemātā. 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 mataawaka 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 iwi have a voice in heritage projects to tell their stories of Waitemātā. We will take every opportunity to increase the use of te reo Māori in our signage.

We acknowledge the five marae in Waitemātā and their importance 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 mataawaka. 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 mataawaka aspirations are realised.

We recognise the cultural and spiritual values of mana whenua and their role as kaitiaki (guardian) over their ancestral lands and sites of significance. We will partner with mana whenua on projects aimed at reviving the mauri (life force) of our waterways, particularly those which impact biodiversity and water quality of our streams and the Waitemātā Harbour.

He kōrero pūtea tahua

Funding information

The purpose of this section is to provide information on local board funding.

How local boards are funded

Funding is allocated to local boards through the council's budget setting process. This involves the council's Governing Body adopting a 10-year Budget (Long-term Plan) every three years and an annual budget every year. Local board agreements, briefly described in page 11, make up part of the annual budget.

A financial overview for the Waitemātā Local Board for the 2017/2018 financial year is included in Appendix 1 on page 42.

The council's budget setting process involves allocating funding gathered through revenue sources such as rates and user charges. It also involves setting levels of service for council activities and corresponding performance targets.

Details on levels of service for local activities are included in Appendix 2 on page 44.

Auckland Council's 2018-2028 10-year Budget

In June 2018 the council's Governing Body will adopt the 2018-2028 10-year Budget informed by local board plans. The 10-year Budget will need to consider all funding needs for Auckland and balance these with the need to keep rates and other council charges affordable. This balancing act may impact local boards' ability to carry out all the key initiatives in their local board plans.

Auckland Transport's Local Board Transport Capital Fund

Local boards can also access funding from Auckland Transport's Local Board Transport Capital Fund, which is allocated to deliver small transport-related projects.

The fund allocated to the Waitemātā Local Board in the 2017/2018 financial year is \$508,878.

How local boards spend their budget

Much of the budget available to local boards is required to keep our services going and maintain our local assets including parks, community centres, libraries and halls.

Local boards also have additional, discretionary funding they can spend on local projects or programmes that are important to their communities.

More information about local board budgets can be found in Auckland Council's Local Board Funding Policy on the council website, aucklandcouncil.govt.nz.

The council is currently looking at ways to provide local boards with more flexibility over their budgets.

Āpitihangā 1: Tirohanga take pūtea whānui

Appendix 1: Financial overview

Income, expenditure and capital investment by local activities for Waitemātā Local Board for the period 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018.

Annual Plan Financials	2017/18 (\$000s)
Operating revenue	
Local community services	2,043
Local parks, sport and recreation	2,294
Local planning and development	-
Local environmental management	-
Total operating revenue	4,337
Operating expenditure	
Local community services	7,535
Local governance	1,060
Local parks, sport and recreation	10,891
Local planning and development	8,382
Local environmental management	102
Total operating expenditure	27,970
Net operating expenditure	23,633
Capital expenditure	
Local community services	2,131
Local governance	-
Local parks, sport and recreation	8,855
Local planning and development	1,959
Local environmental management	-
Total capital expenditure	12,945



Grey Lynn Greenway.

Āpitihianga 2: Kaupapa ā-rohe me ngā paerewa ā-mahi

Appendix 2: 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 levels of services, including performance measures and performance targets, can be found in the Waitematā Local Board Agreement 2017/2018. This is available on the council website, aucklandcouncil.govt.nz.

Local activities

Levels of service statements

Local parks, sport and recreation

This group of activities covers management and provision of local parks and open space and recreation activities for both passive and active recreation.

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 contributes to improved community outcomes by providing places and spaces for the 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) and Arts, Community and Events services.

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 projects that improve safety, connect Aucklanders and engage them in their city and communities.

Provide safe, reliable and accessible social infrastructure for Aucklanders that contributes to place-making and thriving communities.

Local planning and development

This group of activities covers local business area planning, local street environment and town centres and local environment and heritage protection.

Develop local business precincts and town centres as great places to do business.

Local activities

Levels of service statements

Local environmental management

Local environmental management activities work in partnership with local communities and iwi to deliver enhanced environmental outcomes with a focus on indigenous biodiversity, healthy waterways and sustainable living.

Provide leadership and support to protect and conserve the region's natural environment, historic heritage and Māori cultural heritage.

Local governance

Activities in this group support our 21 local boards to engage with and represent their communities, and make decisions on local activities. This support includes providing strategic advice, leadership of the preparation of local board plans, support in developing the local board agreements, community engagement including relationships with mana whenua and mataawaka, and democracy and administrative support.

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 2017/2018.



Myers Park Medley.



Grey Lynn Pump Track.
Photo credit: Biascle Photos.

Ngā mema o tō Poari ā-Rohe o Waitematā

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