

Proposed Aotea/Great Barrier International Dark Sky Sanctuary Advisory Group Terms of Reference

The Great Barrier Local Board has established the Aotea/Great Barrier International Dark Sky Sanctuary Advisory Group with the following purpose and functions:

1. The purpose of the Advisory Group is to provide a vehicle to consider and discuss matters associated with the Aotea Great Barrier Dark Skies Sanctuary noting that the Group has no regulatory authority in relation to the functioning of the Sanctuary.
2. Membership of the Advisory Group will include:
 - 2 x Great Barrier Local Board members one of whom will be the board chair
 - 1 x Ngati Rehua Ngatiwai ki Aotea representative
 - 1 x Destination Great Barrier Island representative
 - 1 x Department of Conservation representative
 - 1 x Astronomical Society representative
 - 2 x Great Barrier Island Community representatives with skills and/or interest in the Sanctuary appointed by the Great Barrier Local Board.

Membership except for the local board representation can be altered if agreed by a majority by Advisory Group members.

Persons with a commercial interest in the Sanctuary are not eligible for membership.

3. The Advisory Group will hold regular meetings, chaired by the Great Barrier Local Board chair, no less than six monthly, open to the public and with an agenda pre-circulated to members.
4. Advisory Group meetings will be informal and decision-making will be by agreement and consensus, with outcomes publicised as needed by the chair.
5. The Great Barrier Local Board Services team will provide administrative support for the Advisory Group. Auckland Council officers will provide additional support as the need arises and resources permit.
6. The Advisory Group may require budget for such things as monitoring and the Great Barrier Local Board agrees to consider funding requests on their merits.
7. The functions of the Advisory Group are to:
 - receive and consider views and information from interested parties on the operation of the Sanctuary
 - consult with the local community and such other groups, interested parties, and individuals as it sees fit to assist in its functions
 - provide responses to and take action as it sees fit in relation to matters brought to its attention, including reporting and making recommendations to the Great Barrier Local Board as considered necessary
 - receive six-monthly reports on the island's compliance with Sanctuary lighting provisions, submit these to the Dark Skies Association and make recommendations to regulatory authorities as necessary in response.