Attachment B – Auckland Plan Refresh: key themes emerging from local board feedback

- Development Strategy: regional disparities in providing access to employment, and that to support and enable growth there needs to be a focus on the south and northwest. The definition of "rural" was discussed given the "lifestyle" factor is seen to be more of an urban consideration than rural production.

- Access and Connectivity: The importance of "age-friendly" infrastructure was discussed and the real and perceived safety of the transport network. Walking and the quality of the walking infrastructure (e.g. good footpaths) were considered to need greater emphasis within the broader active transport category. A key challenge was thought to be the lack of employment close to where people live, necessitating time consuming travel across the region.

- Protect and Enhance: Views included that resource management processes do not encourage strategic thinking or planning which should be sub-regional and go beyond local board boundaries. Relationships and robust processes across governing body, local boards and CCOs can drive better decision making. Any change of values in the environmental space since 2012 is more intangible and can be harder to predict in the future.

- Homes and Places: The complexity in the role of the financing/banking sector was considered to be a factor in the supply challenge. There was discussion of the New Zealand culture of home ownership which, in contrast to European models for example, reduces investment into other priorities such as education or business. It was noted that there has been huge growth in the number of people living in the city centre.

- Belonging: Determining the role that Auckland Council should play and that of government was highlighted within this theme. Belonging is formed by people's daily experience and there are also cultural differences in what people value about the place they live. There was discussion that this theme should focus on vulnerable populations and the challenge of increasing inequality. It was also suggested that there should be encouragement and support so that everyone can get involved, as under the empowered communities model. Environmental restoration projects were identified as successful examples of bringing diverse groups together and developing a shared sense of belonging.

- Skills and Jobs: There was general discussion on enabling infrastructure and the need to be a council that delivers.