

# Report Name: Anne-Marie Coury Report

Report covering the period 8<sup>th</sup> August to 11<sup>th</sup> September 2017

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## Auckland Council workshops, meetings and briefing

3 <sup>rd</sup> August	attended Local Board Workshop
10 <sup>th</sup> August	attended Local Board Workshop
17 <sup>th</sup> August	attended Board Business meeting
21 <sup>st</sup> August	attended Local Boards Regional Cluster Workshop
3 <sup>1st</sup> August	attended Local Board Workshop
6 <sup>th</sup> September	attended Puketapapa Local Citizenship Ceremony
6 <sup>th</sup> September	attended Community Cluster working group
6 <sup>th</sup> September	attended Community Forum at Lynfield YMCA
7 <sup>th</sup> September	attended Local Board workshop
8 <sup>th</sup> September	participated in Quarterly Police Local Board meeting
8 <sup>th</sup> September	participated in Communications and Engagement EXPO by Council

## Other Meetings

13 <sup>th</sup> August	Bhartiya Samaj celebrations for India's 70th anniversary Independence
15 <sup>th</sup> August	facilitated Grey Power Committee Meeting discussing "Age Friendly"
16 <sup>th</sup> August	meeting with Living Wage Movement re progress and future direction
18 <sup>th</sup> August	meeting with community workers at Wesley Youth Zone to discuss drop in visit to Roskill Together for catch up on programme planning
18 <sup>th</sup> August	attended celebration of 70th anniversary of India's Independence at Mahatma Ghandi Centre – see photo of Indian dance troupe. →
24 <sup>th</sup> August	attended MP, Michael Wood's Housing meeting at the Fickling Centre
25 <sup>th</sup> August	meeting of Age Friendly advocates discussing issues and communications within senior community
25 <sup>th</sup> August	Roskill Together gathering for Karla Beazley's farewell
28 <sup>th</sup> August	Pah Homestead meeting with new Community Educator
29 <sup>th</sup> August	attended Grey Power Regional meeting presented on Age Friendly
30 <sup>th</sup> August	attended Mental Health Awareness Symposium on quality
30 <sup>th</sup> August	Westpac Business Awards- Villa Maria Vineyard Mangere
31 <sup>st</sup> August	ARMS 5th birthday Celebration of the WISE Collective photo →
4 <sup>th</sup> September	attended the Sir James Wallace Art Awards at the Pah



	Homestead
5 <sup>th</sup> September	attended Warm, Dry, Healthy Housing Seminar at Council Chambers
7 <sup>th</sup> September	attended Cycling Event in Wynyard Quarter
7 <sup>th</sup> September	met with community organisers re event planning & collaboration
8 <sup>th</sup> September	attended women's Ethnic Election Meeting with WISE, ARMS & MAT

## Other Issues and Challenges

A major on-going focus has been the work of assisting senior leaders to get their voices heard over the critical challenge Auckland faces with respect to the city's rapidly growing ageing population. One in four will be over the age of 65 by 2036. This challenge is currently not mentioned in planning and policy documents or in the strategic direction for the future, the Auckland Plan Refresh draft document.

As awareness grows throughout the country, that champions in communities are essential for raising awareness of the issues involved, it becomes more apparent that real progress depends on a strong commitment from the strategic leadership team within Councils. It is exciting to know there are new research studies underway in NZ, which will unpack some of the elements of the change process as Councils and communities work towards going "age-friendly"; and that always means "all age friendly".

Continuing liaison with Dr Stephen Neville, head of the Active Ageing Research Centre at AUT, Diane Turner CE from Office of Seniors, who are leading nationwide change and sponsoring research into the role and impact of Councils on the progress of going age-friendly in various districts. I have attended, and in some cases facilitated, on-going meetings and discussions with senior leaders, including CEOs from Age Concern, Presidents from Grey Power Associations across the region, ethnic senior leaders and those Council staff in departments where elements of the Age Friendly model are relevant, e.g. RIMU, Southern Initiative in terms of healthy housing initiatives.

A major concern this month has been following up reporting requirements from decisions made at the last Local Board Business meeting, especially the issues surrounding the rewording of certain critical elements of the Auckland Council's Local Alcohol Policy, namely the splitting up of packs of RTD's allowing the sale of single bottles and the opening of liquor stores after 3pm near schools.

An important development this month has been the opportunity to engage with and listen to our local community groups and agencies on their desires to cater for seniors needs in Puketapapa and also those who wish to increase inter-generational activities. Our statistics for youth not in education, training or employment are double those of the region as a whole, i.e. 20% cf 10% for youth across the region. Recognising that these statistics can be tackled by collaboration amongst educational providers and agencies supporting families, it is pleasing to note there are signs of new ways of reducing stress on such families, and more targeted assistance becoming available. This can potentially prevent the young students from dropping out early on. Intergenerational activities and dialogue is a proven way to reduce harm, and assist young people at risk. Listening and supporting community agencies to reach out and develop collaborative approaches may require Board members to regularly support by listening and participate in interactive group sessions to assist in the building of higher levels of trust across the diverse range of groups and activities operating within our area.

## Disclosures

Declaration of interest and involvements made at the start of the term continue to be relevant. I continue to advocate for seniors concerns in whatever community forums and gatherings I attend, especially as I continue to find the lack of a clear policy framework to direct Council staff to be responsive to the growing senior population in planning and service delivery, of major concern. I continue to be actively involved in the senior community through my role as President of Auckland Grey Power and the planning and delivery of radio programme on Planet FM, called "Seniorfocus".

## Recommendation

a) That the report be received.

## Signatories

Author	Anne-Marie Coury
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