

**10 Governance Framework Review: Recommendations of the Political Working Party**

The Governance Framework Review Political Working Party Chair, Cr Bill Cashmore and Deputy Chair, Shale Chambers addressed the meeting regarding the Governance Framework Review.

The motion was taken in parts.

Resolution number GB/2017/117

MOVED by Mayor P Goff, seconded by Cr R Clow: \_

**That the Governing Body:**

- a) **endorse the work of the political working party in considering the recommendations of the Governance Framework Review.**
- b) **thank the members of the political working party for their work.**

**Part 1: Policy issues**

**Regional policy and decision-making processes**

- c) **approve the implementation of new mechanisms that ensure effective local board input to regional policy decisions, via a framework that sets out, at a minimum:**
  - i) **a process for involving local boards in the development of regional work programmes at the beginning of each term and in an annual refresh**
  - ii) **earlier, and more, joint engagement between local boards and the governing body in regional decision-making processes**
  - iii) **requirements for analysis of local impacts and local interest of regional decisions and options, and reporting of this to local boards and the governing body**
  - iv) **specified criteria for categorising the potential local impact and local board interest of regional decisions**
  - v) **processes and methods for tailoring local board engagement so it is consistent with the local impact and local interest of regional decisions**
  - vi) **specified methods for engagement and communication with local boards at all stages of the decision-making process.**
- d) **approve local boards being consulted on the details of these mechanisms prior to implementation.**
- e) **endorse organisational capacity to enable local boards to be provided with policy advice on issues of local significance being considered through the organisational support workstream of the Governance Framework Review.**

**Local decisions that may have regional impacts (development of a 'call-in' right)**

- f) **approve the requirement for the provision of formal regional impact advice to local boards, whenever a local board is to make a decision that has potential impacts beyond the immediate local board area.**

**Allocations and delegations**

- g) **approve the delegation of the following Reserves Act 1977 decision-making functions relating to local reserves from the governing body to local boards:**
  - i) **the decision to declare a reserve under section 14(1)**

- ii) the decision to classify a reserve under section 16(1), which has been delegated by the Minister of Conservation to Auckland Council
  - iii) the decision to classify a reserve under section 16(2A)
  - iv) the decision to reclassify a reserve under section 24(1)
  - v) the decision to propose to the Minister of Conservation that the status of a council-owned reserve should be revoked under section 24(1), but only where the reason for the request to revoke is because the local board wishes to manage the land under the Local Government Act 2002.
- h) approve the Minister of Conservation's delegated supervisory powers remaining sub-delegated to staff.
  - i) agree that, in line with officer advice and the majority of the political working party, the governing body retains decision-making over proposed reserve exchanges under section 15(1) Reserves Act 1977.

**The role of Auckland Transport and local boards in place-shaping**

- j) endorse local boards' critical role in local place-shaping and Auckland Transport's need to be guided by, and responsive to, local boards to enable them to give effect to this role.
- k) direct Auckland Transport to meet all requirements for local board engagement as set out in the Governance Manual for Substantive council-controlled organisations.
- l) request that Auckland Council staff monitor Auckland Transport's compliance with the requirements for local board engagement, as set out in the Governance Manual for Substantive council-controlled organisations, and to report back to the governing body at least annually.
- m) direct Auckland Transport, in working with local boards, to:
  - i) ensure that local boards have a strong governance role in determining the 'look and feel' of town centres and streetscapes, in line with their allocation of non-regulatory decision-making
  - ii) improve co-ordination between local place-shaping projects, such as town centre upgrades, and its renewals programmes
  - iii) provide more opportunities for local board direction on the prioritisation of minor traffic safety projects, with the exception of those which Auckland Transport considers are of critical safety importance
  - iv) be more responsive to local place-shaping initiatives in non-transport parts of the road corridor, including reducing or removing barriers to community place-making initiatives
  - v) take direction from local boards on how and where to implement community-focused programmes
  - vi) provide a local work programme for each local board as soon as practicable each financial year.
- n) direct Auckland Transport to report to the governing body annually on how it is meeting the directions given under recommendation (m).
- o) request that the review of accountability mechanisms for substantive council-controlled organisations, when considering direction under section 92(2) of the Local Government (Auckland Council) Act 2009, should include consideration of whether to direct substantive council-controlled

organisations to act consistently with local board plans.

- p) request that officers report to the relevant governing body committee, through the 2018-2028 Long-term Plan process, on options for significantly increasing the Local Transport Capital Fund and the method of allocation of the fund.
- q) direct Auckland Transport to implement a more systematic work programme approach with respect to the Local Transport Capital Fund to assist local boards to identify potential projects and make decisions.
- r) direct Auckland Transport to actively engage with governing body members (ward councillors) on transport projects and issues within their ward areas.
- s) direct Auckland Transport to provide a formal response on the directives contained within these approved responses to the Governance Framework Review within three months.

#### **Waiheke Local Board pilot**

- t) approve the Waiheke Local Board pilot project as set out in the Waiheke Local Board pilot project plan in Attachment E.
- u) approve the Waiheke Local Board maintaining oversight of local implementation of the pilot and that regular updates of the pilot will be reported to all local boards.

**CARRIED**

Note: Pursuant to Standing Order 1.8.6, Cr C Casey requested that her dissenting vote against clause i), be recorded.

Resolution number GB/2017/118

MOVED by Mayor P Goff, seconded by Cr R Clow: \_

**That the Governing Body:**

**Part 2: funding and finance**

#### **Service property optimisation**

- v) approve the current 'optimisation of service assets' policy being strengthened by delegating the final decisions on local asset disposal and reinvestment to local boards, providing all policy criteria have been met.
- w) request that appropriate support be provided to local boards to enable them to utilise the policy.

#### **Renewals funding**

- x) approve renewals funding continuing to be managed at the regional level, but with local boards being given flexibility to reallocate their renewals programme across all local asset categories noting that:
  - i) the process of review and reallocation will be annual, and timed to ensure that the delivery programme is as efficient and effective as possible
  - ii) management of the individual projects within the programme will continue to be delegated to staff
  - iii) management of the overall budget (including overs and unders) will be at a regional level
  - iv) there will be a short term cost associated with this option of approximately \$850,000 per annum for between 12 and 18 months to improve data quality, and that the detailed approval of this be referred to

the next Finance and Performance Committee for approval, as part of the monthly budget update

- v) there may be a need to amend local board delegations to staff to reflect the additional flexibility to move funding between local activity classes.

#### **Operational funding and service levels**

- y) approve, in principle, that local boards will be given more flexibility of decision-making over operational funding and service levels and, that before final decisions on the degree of that flexibility are made, further work (including a more detailed timeframe) be reported back to the governing body on:
  - i) existing service levels
  - ii) options for equalising service levels between local boards
  - iii) options for minimum service levels and to which activities these may apply
  - iv) the impacts on organisational support.
- z) approve the additional work on service levels and organisational support, noting that it will take approximately 12 months and incur additional costs of \$200,000 in the 2018/2019 year (to be considered as part of the 2018-2028 Long-term Plan process).

#### **Local rates consideration**

- aa) approve local activities continuing to be funded through a general rate, and that further work on local rates funding of local activities for which local boards have decision-making responsibility be completed to:
  - i) review possible mitigation options to address any significant increases or decreases in rates at the local board level that might arise from a local rates model, in light of the 2017 revaluations
  - ii) initiate further discussions with local boards explaining the opportunities and impacts of the local rates model.
- bb) note that while a model of local rates for local activities, applied generally, is not supported or recommended by the majority of local boards or the political working party, four local boards requested that they participate in a pilot of the local rates model of decision-making.
- cc) request that officers report back to the governing body with further advice on the merits and implications of running an optional pilot for local rates through the 2018-2028 Long-term Plan process.

**CARRIED UNIMOUSLY**

*Cr D Quax left the meeting at 2.59 pm.*

Resolution number GB/2017/119

MOVED by Mayor P Goff, seconded by Cr R Clow: \_

**That the Governing Body:**

**Part 3: governance and representation**

#### **The optimum number of local boards**

- dd) approve the political working party's recommendation that no further work be undertaken on changing the number of local boards until at least after the

**Governance Framework Review has been completed and implemented, and the outcomes of reorganisation proposals that are underway for North Rodney and Waiheke Island are known.**

**CARRIED**

Note: Pursuant to Standing Order 1.8.6, Cr C Fletcher requested that her dissenting vote be recorded.

Resolution number GB/2017/120

MOVED by Mayor P Goff, seconded by Cr R Clow: \_

**That the Governing Body:**

**Methods of electing governing body members**

**ee) endorse the continuation of the current system of electing governing body members from wards**

**CARRIED**

Note: Pursuant to Standing Order 1.8.6, Cr C Fletcher requested that her dissenting vote be recorded.

Resolution number GB/2017/121

MOVED by Mayor P Goff, seconded by Cr R Clow: \_

**That the Governing Body:**

**ff) approve council continuing to advocate to central government for legislative amendments that would allow changes to the number of governing body members, and simplification of the process for changes to numbers and boundaries of local boards.**

**CARRIED**

Resolution number GB/2017/122

MOVED by Mayor P Goff, seconded by Cr R Clow: \_

**That the Governing Body:**

**gg) agree that the term 'councillor' is used to refer solely to members of the Auckland Council's Governing Body, and that members of local boards are referred to as 'local board members'.**

A division was called for, voting on which was as follows:

**For**

Cr C Casey  
Cr R Clow  
Cr E Collins  
Cr C Darby  
Cr A Filipaina  
Mayor P Goff  
Cr R Hills  
Cr P Hulse  
Cr D Simpson  
Cr S Stewart  
Cr J Walker  
Cr J Watson

**Against**

Deputy Mayor B Cashmore  
Cr C Fletcher  
Cr G Sayers

**Abstained**

Cr M Lee

The motion was declared CARRIED by 12 votes to 3.

CARRIED

Resolution number GB/2017/123

MOVED by Mayor P Goff, seconded by Cr R Clow: \_

**That the Governing Body:**

hh) **require these conventions to be used consistently in Auckland Council communications and publications.**

**Future political working party**

ii) **approve the establishment of a new political working party to consider ongoing joint governing body/local board governance issues.**

jj) **request that officers report back to the Governing Body before the end of 2017 with recommendations on the terms of reference before the end of this year.**

kk) **note that the process to form the political working party is addressed in the paper on the Process to Consider a Review of Representation Arrangements reported separately on this agenda.**

CARRIED