



Danielle Grant

Chair's Report - Kaipātiki Local Board

Monthly report for the period 11 October to 6 November 2017

Highlights and Significant Issues

Presentation to the Governing Body of the one local board initiative

On 2 November I had the privilege of presenting to the Governing Body our one key initiative for the Long-term Plan 2018-2028 (LTP). On behalf of the Kaipātiki Local Board we requested investment into the renewal of Birkenhead War Memorial Park to make it fit for purpose for the next 50 years. The grandstand has failed and needs to be demolished. Many of the facilities in the council owned buildings require renewals, such as toilets, changing rooms and meeting spaces. The local board are currently working with the local community on a master plan for the area.



Rawene Carpark land slip

I would like to express my thanks to Auckland Transport and Auckland Council staff for their proactive management of the October 2017 slip at Rawene Carpark.

Over the last month there have been a number of collaborative meetings. I have met with senior officers, who have also attended our Kaipātiki Local Board meeting on 18 October, to answer questions from local board members. At this meeting, a substantial memo from Greg Edmonds - Auckland Transport, outlining the processes they planned to follow over the coming months.

We have also had three joint meetings with the Birkenhead Town Centre Association, Auckland Transport and the Kaipātiki Local Board, to consider a number of on street parking changes for the town centre. Many options were explored and the town centre manager, Kae Condon was able to share these suggested changes with the local businesses. As a result of this, some changes will be made to prioritise retail and service parking for customers.

As a separate initiative, Auckland Transport officers will be working with staff and employers who work in Birkenhead to assist them with personalised trip planning information, which includes the option of a free trial of public transport.

At this month's local board meeting, members will have the opportunity to consider the reallocation of funding from the cancelled economic assessment fund, to provide support for the Birkenhead Town Centre Association to undertake promotional activities over the coming months.

The community have continued to receive regular updates from the senior communications advisor for Auckland Transport, Nahri Salim. In his latest update 1 November, it is reported that engineers have finalised their initial plans for stabilisation work at Rewene Carpark, to establish a new boundary that will allow controlled access to the private car parks behind the Mokia Road shops. This work is planned to commence in mid-November, and is expected to take approximately two weeks, depending on the weather. It will be disruptive, but is necessary to ensure the safety and

usability of the site. Auckland Transport will continue to work with the affected property owners and tenants in the coming weeks to provide further details.

Naming conventions for elected members

The Kaipātiki Local Board were asked for our feedback on the Governance Framework Review in relation to the naming conventions for elected members. Our local board voted in support, at our 16 August board meeting (resolution number KT/2017/106) that we preferred the name 'local councillor'. This was also the position of 18 of the 21 local boards.

The Upper Harbour Local Board at their October 2017 board member tabled a notice of motion to request that the Governing Body be requested to rescind their decision to use the term councillor for Governing Body members only. I have attached the Upper Harbour Local Board Notice of Motion to my report, see Attachment 1.

I would like to put forward to following recommendations for consideration.

That the Kaipātiki Local Board:

- a) Supports the Notice of Motion considered by the Upper Harbour Local Board at its 19 October 2017 business meeting in relation to naming parameters for elected members as considered as part of the Governance Framework Review.
- b) Expresses its deep concern over the recent decision of the Governing Body at its September 2017 meeting to retain the term 'councillor' solely for members of the governing body, and that members of local boards continue to be referred to as 'local board members' (resolution number GB/2017/122), which is counter to the preferences expressed by 18 of 21 local boards as part of the Governance Framework Review.
- c) Restates its position resolved at its 16 August 2017 business meeting in support of the use of the term 'local councillor' as the preferred naming convention for local board members as articulated in resolution number KT/2017/106.
- d) Strongly requests the Governing Body rescind resolution number GB/2017/122 in recognition of the views of the majority of local boards that indicated a preference for the title of 'councillor' be applied to local board members.
- e) Require that, following resolution number GB/2017/122 being rescinded, all elected members be called 'councillor', with a prefix of 'local' or 'ward/regional' as appropriate.
- f) Request the above resolutions are forwarded to the Governing Body for its consideration at its December 2017 meeting.

Meetings and workshops dates:

- Weekly chairs meeting every Monday morning
- Chaired the Kaipātiki Local Board workshops on 4, 11 and 25 October
- Birkenhead War Memorial Park, working party meeting, on 12 October
- Monthly catch-up with Cr Chris Darby and Cr Richard Hills, on 13 October and 3 November
- Rawene Carpark internal meeting with Auckland Transport officers – Greg Edmonds, Duncan Miller, Marilyn Nicholls, Auckland Council officers – Dean Kimpton, Haydn Read, Eric Perry, Paul Edwards, and elected members Chair Danielle Grant, Deputy Chair John Gillon and Cr Richard Hills, with apologies from Cr Chris Darby, on 16 October. Meeting to clarify the position of Auckland Transport and the next steps for Rawene Carpark.
- Sub-regional cluster workshop, Central, on 16 October
- Finance and Planning Committee workshops on the Long Term Plan 2018-2028, on 18 and 26 October and 2 November
- Chaired the Kaipātiki Local Board meeting on 18 October
- Birkenhead parking plan meetings with Auckland Transport, Birkenhead Town Centre Assn and local board members to consider main street parking options in response to the loss of car parks in Rawene Carpark, on 20 and 27 October. A third meeting was also held on 3 November, but I was unable to attend as I was on other Council business.
- Monthly meeting with Jill Nerheny, Kaipātiki Community Facilities Trust, on 19 October
- Meeting with Auckland Tourism, Events and Economic Development officers Jonathan Sudworth and John Norman, on 24 October
- Planning meeting with Auckland Council officers Christine Watson, Pramod Nair and Paul Edwards to prepared the Kaipātiki Local Board presentation for the local board's one advocacy point to the Governing Body, on 25 October
- Pest Free Kaipātiki monthly meeting with Janet Cole, Jo Knight and Pam Templeton, on 27 October
- Planning Committee Auckland Plan Refresh workshops on 30 October
- Chairs briefing from Christine Watson on the local board advocacy presentation to the Governing Body, on 30 October
- Monthly Finance briefing with Pramod Nair, on 1 November
- Communications and Engagement reference group meeting, on 3 November



Events, Site Visits and Functions

- Kaipātiki Local Board briefing for elected members on Rawene Carpark, from Auckland Transport, on 11 October
- Rawene Car park, public meeting, hosted by the Hon Jonathan Coleman MP for Northcote, and Auckland Transport, on 11 October
- Judging of the Birkenhead Town Centre Heritage Awards, on 13 October, with Supreme Award going to the IHC Shop
- Community consultation for Lysander Reserve play space, on 14 October
- Pest Free Kaipātiki community workshop, on 16 October
- Site visits with Auckland Council Strategic Broker Challen Wilson, to various sites of interest in



Birkenhead, Birkdale, Beach Haven and Glenfield, on 17 October

- Press interview with the North Shore Times for the promotion of the Northcote Open Day, with Panuku Development Auckland – Angelika Cutler and Joanne Perry, 17 October
- Birkenhead Town Centre Assn monthly meeting, as their local board liaison, on 17 October
- Site visit to see the construction work at

Te Onewa Pa, Stokes Point,
on 20 October

- Northcote Greenway Open
Day event, hosted by

Panuku
Development
Auckland, with

Cr Richard Hills on 28 October

- Attended training for elected members, Understanding Standing Orders,
on 3 November.



Notice of Motion – Naming parameters for local board members

Submitted on Tuesday 10 October 2017

Attention: Eric Perry – Relationship Manager, Local Board Services

In accordance with Standing Order 3.11.1, I hereby give notice that I intend to move the following motion at the 19 October 2017 meeting of the Upper Harbour Local Board.

Recommendations:

That the Upper Harbour Local Board:

- a) express its deep concern over the recent decision of the Governing Body at its 28 September 2017 meeting to retain the term 'Councillor' solely for members of the governing body, and that members of local boards continue to be referred to as 'local board members' (resolution number GB/2017/122), which is counter to the preferences expressed by 18 of 21 local boards as part of the Governance Framework Review.
- b) restate its position resolved at its 17 August 2017 meeting that the term 'Local Councillor' is the preferred naming convention for local board members as articulated in resolution number UH/2017/121.
- c) strongly request the Governing Body rescind resolution number GB/2017/122 to take account and in recognition of the views of the majority of local boards that indicated a preference for the title of 'Councillor' be applied to local board members.
- d) require that, following the motion being rescinded, all elected members be called Councillor, with a prefix of Local or Ward/Regional, as appropriate.
- e) forward this Notice of Motion and subsequent resolutions to the Governing Body for its consideration at the 11 December 2017 meeting.
- f) forward this Notice of Motion and subsequent resolutions to all local boards for their consideration.

Background:

1. One of the issues identified as part of the recent Governance Framework Review ('the Review') undertaken by Auckland Council is overlap and public confusion about the respective roles of governing body and local board members. In order to try and resolve this confusion, the Review considered the naming conventions applied to members of both arms of governance.
2. The Review sought clarity from elected members to:
 - confirm and reinforce the existing naming conventions, i.e. retaining the reference 'local board member' for local board members and 'councillor' for governing body members; or
 - ensure a consistent approach in the naming conventions applied to all elected members, in that the title of either 'councillor' or 'member' be accorded to all elected members, with the use of the prefix 'local' or 'regional' to signify the focus of the particular role.

3. Consistency in naming convention would serve to reinforce and clarify the complementary and specific nature of the two roles, thus making it easier for staff and the public to understand the difference between the two spheres of decision-making at Auckland Council.
4. The titles currently in use at Auckland Council are conventions only, and are not formal legal titles that are required to be used under any statute, and nor are they legally protected in a way that restricts their use.
5. The governing body holds decision-making on naming conventions for elected members, as no decision-making responsibility on these matters have been allocated to local boards. This decision making falls under the catch-all 'All other non-regulatory activities of Auckland Council' that is allocated to the governing body. In making such a decision the governing body is **required** to consider the views of local boards under section 15(2)(c) of the Local Government (Auckland Council) Act 2009 (LGACA).
6. Eighteen local boards indicated a preference for the title of councillor, with fifteen of those proposing the use of 'local councillor'. The other three boards stated no preference. A key aspect of the use of the title Councillor is its meaning to the members of the community.
7. Following the consideration of feedback from local boards on this issue, there was division in the views of the political working party with members of the governing body preferring to retain status quo against the preferences of members of the local boards on the PWP which resulted in a split recommendation.
8. The governing body then, at its meeting on 28 September 2017, resolved to retain the existing naming conventions, despite the overwhelming feedback provided by local boards in a report and attachments to this item of the agenda.
9. At its meeting on 17 August 2017, the Upper Harbour Local Board provided a range of feedback on the recommendations put forward as part of the Review. In particular, the board resolved the following in relation to naming conventions for elected members resolution number UH/2017/121):

'That the Upper Harbour Local Board:

 - c) support use of the term 'local councillor' as the preferred naming convention for local board members, as our community does not currently understand the roles and responsibilities of the different arms of governance, and believes that it is the responsibility of the governing body to develop a naming convention that makes sense and provides clarity of their role to the community.'
10. It is understood from the report presented to the Governing Body on 28 September, that 18 of 21 local boards indicated a preference for the title of 'councillor' for local board members, with 15 of those boards preferring the convention 'local councillor.' Therefore, it is deeply concerning that the Governing Body chose to ignore the views and preferences of the vast majority of local boards by resolving to retain the existing naming conventions, despite the overwhelming feedback provided by local boards.
11. We feel that in not taking into consideration the preferences of a vast majority of local board members the Governing Body missed an opportunity to show their commitment to the spirit of the Shared Governance model on this issue.

12. This decision did not threaten the Governing Body's regional decision making delegation, and it would have provided the opportunity to acknowledge that Local Boards should have the right to determine what name best suited the role performed as indeed the Governing Body members have for their own role in resolving to be called Councillors.
13. This decision would have been acknowledgement that Local Boards should know best, what title our communities would relate to best, costs nothing to implement, but it was refused anyway to maintain a status quo where their own naming convention of Councillor was not set down by statute, but by convention by the Auckland Transition Authority
14. If the Governing Body is concerned with legislative correctness then there are no Councillors, just Governing Body Members, and Local Body members. The decision is inconsistent with legislation and unsympathetic to Shared Governance principles.
15. The lack of respect shown for the stated position of the overwhelming number of Local Board Members requesting to be called Councillor or Local Councillor was extremely disappointing during the debate. Valid concerns were dismissed as silly – this is not in keeping with the principles of mutual respect embedded in our Standing Orders.
16. All 169 of us were elected to Auckland Council to represent our Wards and Local Board Areas. In recognition of this fact and the shared governance model, we reiterate that our preference is to be called Local Councillors, in order to clarify our role to the people of Auckland who elected us to serve them in their best interests.

Signed:



LISA WHYTE
UPPER HARBOUR LOCAL BOARD
CHAIRPERSON



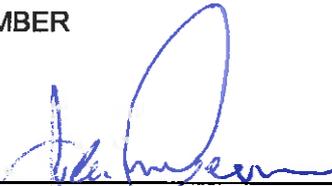
MARGARET MILES
UPPER HARBOUR LOCAL BOARD
DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON



UZRA CASURI BALOUC
UPPER HARBOUR LOCAL BOARD
MEMBER



NICHOLAS MAYNE
UPPER HARBOUR LOCAL BOARD
MEMBER



JOHN MCLEAN
UPPER HARBOUR LOCAL BOARD
MEMBER



BRIAN NEESON
UPPER HARBOUR LOCAL BOARD
MEMBER