

I hereby give notice that an ordinary meeting of the Environment and Community Committee will be held on:

Date: Tuesday, 20 February 2018
Time: 9.30am
Meeting Room: Reception Lounge
Venue: Auckland Town Hall, 301-305 Queen Street
Auckland

Komiti Taiao ā-Hapori Hoki
Environment and Community Committee
OPEN AGENDA

MEMBERSHIP

Chairperson	Cr Penny Hulse	
Deputy Chairperson	Cr Alf Filipaina	
Members	IMSB Member Renata Blair	Cr Daniel Newman, JP
	IMSB Member James Brown	Cr Dick Quax
	Cr Dr Cathy Casey	Cr Greg Sayers
	Deputy Mayor Bill Cashmore	Cr Desley Simpson, JP
	Cr Ross Clow	Cr Sharon Stewart, QSM
	Cr Fa'anana Efeso Collins	Cr Sir John Walker, KNZM, CBE
	Cr Linda Cooper, JP	Cr Wayne Walker
	Cr Chris Darby	Cr John Watson
	Cr Hon Christine Fletcher, QSO	
	Mayor Hon Phil Goff, CNZM, JP	
	Cr Richard Hills	
	Cr Mike Lee	

(Quorum 11 members)

Tam White
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15 February 2018
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Low Carbon Auckland: 2018 Review and Update

File No.: CP2018/00541

Te take mō te pūrongo / Purpose of the report

1. To approve the approach to the 2018 review and update of Low Carbon Auckland: Auckland's Energy Resilience and Low Carbon Action Plan.

Whakarāpopototanga matua / Executive summary

2. In 2014 Auckland Council adopted Low Carbon Auckland: Auckland's Energy Resilience and Low Carbon Action Plan (ENV/2014/16 and REG/2014/72) with a view to a full review and update by 2018.
3. Low Carbon Auckland focuses on meeting the emissions reduction target of the Auckland Plan (40 per cent by 2040) and guides the first stage of transforming to a low carbon, energy resilient future. To date, it has delivered actions across five main areas: transport, energy, the built environment, waste, and agriculture/forestry (<http://tinyurl.com/LowCarbAkl17>).
4. Given the progress made and the focus on emissions reductions, there are only relatively small improvements that can be made under the current Low Carbon Auckland. An updated and refreshed plan will enable Auckland to make genuine progress towards emission reduction and climate resilience.
5. Through our membership of C40 Cities (AUC/2015/197), Auckland Council is committed to developing an adaptation strategy for the region to prepare for the impacts of climate change. It is proposed that this is incorporated into the review and update of Low Carbon Auckland, instead of being approached as a separate task. This will establish a coordinated approach to climate change, in line with international best practice, not just emissions reduction.
6. A full review and update is therefore timely to:
 - incorporate an adaptation strategy for the region and a robust monitoring framework;
 - identify and prioritise current programmes that will deliver the greatest impact in addressing climate change and will ensure value for money for current and future Aucklanders;
 - reflect new commitments made by Auckland since 2014 and incorporate emerging national and international priorities (e.g. the Paris Agreement and New Zealand government's intention to set a target of net zero emissions by 2050);
 - address new evidence to inform decision making, such as the NIWA climate projections report for Auckland and our updated greenhouse gas emissions inventory, both released late last year.
7. The review and update will be facilitated by Auckland Council, working with public, private and voluntary sectors and drawing in expertise as appropriate to enable learning from sectoral experts and developing opportunities for co-financing and resourcing of actions.
8. An Independent Advisory Group is proposed to support the process and development of the updated plan. The panel will consist of nationally recognised climate change leaders and experts to provide insight, check and challenge throughout and ensure that we deliver the best outcomes and value for Aucklanders.

Ngā tūtohunga / Recommendation/s

That the Environment and Community Committee:

- a) approve the approach for the review and update of Low Carbon Auckland, as shown in the table at paragraph 33 of the report, to include both a mitigation and adaptation strategy for the region
- b) agree that the update of Low Carbon Auckland be presented to the Environment and Community Committee for decision by December 2018
- c) agree to the creation of an Independent Advisory Group, to provide on-going guidance, challenge and evaluation of the review and update of Low Carbon Auckland
- d) delegate the decision on the membership of the Independent Advisory Group to the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Environment and Community Committee.

Horopaki / Context

9. In 2014, Auckland Council adopted Low Carbon Auckland: Auckland's Energy Resilience and Low Carbon Action Plan. The plan sets out a 10-year action plan and 30-year pathway to meet the emissions reduction target in the Auckland Plan (40 per cent by 2040).
10. Low Carbon Auckland has delivered multiple outcomes and provides a guide to support Auckland's transformation into a successful, energy resilient, low carbon city through actions in five main areas; transport, energy, the built environment, waste and agriculture and forestry.
11. Of the 101 actions identified:
 - 21 per cent are now completed
 - 30 per cent have either stalled or are undeliverable in their current format due to either a lack of ownership or a shift in priorities and understanding
 - the remaining actions (50 per cent) are rated as 'in progress', however many of these are behind schedule (26 per cent).
12. Since 2009, Auckland's population and Gross Domestic Product have increased. CO₂ emissions have also increased but the CO₂ increase per person has slightly declined. This is a small but positive trend and the proposed update will refresh momentum and improve governance, collaboration and the mandate for action.
13. In addition, the Government has stated a commitment to enacting a Zero Carbon Act, with a target of becoming a carbon-neutral economy by 2050 (net zero emissions). This has been further defined within Government's 100-day plan for climate change with a view for a Zero Carbon Bill to be presented to the House of Representatives in October 2018.

Preparing for climate impacts (adaptation)

14. In August 2017 the Environment and Community Committee was presented with an initial summary of activity to prepare for climate change. Many successes were highlighted but it also demonstrated that climate change considerations are not universally integrated into council and wider council family activities and decisions, particularly as they relate to the long-term stresses that climate change will bring.

15. To better address these considerations, Auckland Council, Watercare, Auckland Transport, Panuku and the three Auckland-area District Health Boards jointly commissioned the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) to provide insights into how Auckland’s climate is likely to change¹.
16. The insights will deliver the best available evidence to support decision making and underpin a broader risk and vulnerabilities assessment for the region. The report was launched with a media briefing on 6th December with representation from the Chief Sustainability Office, CDEM, Healthy Waters, Engineering and Technical Services and NIWA’s Chief Scientist.

C40 Cities

17. Auckland’s membership of the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (AUC/2015/197) commits us to global leadership and innovation in climate adaptation and mitigation. It also enables the region to benefit from C40’s research, best practice and resources.
18. International best practice, now integrated into C40 participation standards, recommends combining adaptation and mitigation activities into climate action plans to maximise efficiencies and opportunities for cities and regions.

Tātaritanga me ngā tohutohu / Analysis and advice

19. Staff have identified three options for the review and update of Low Carbon Auckland. The options are:
 - 1) Status quo (i.e. Low Carbon Auckland remains and no adaptation strategy is developed)
 - 2) Review and update Low Carbon Auckland and develop a separate adaptation strategy (current commitment)
 - 3) Integrate an adaptation strategy into the review and update of Low Carbon Auckland

Option	Benefits	Risks
1.) Status quo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No additional resource requirement for plan development. • Onus on all of council and council-controlled organisations to embed climate-related work into business as usual, in order to meet existing requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing climate-associated costs, such as maintenance and repair, through inadequate joined-up decision making. • Given new evidence and progress to date, Low Carbon Auckland will not deliver the required level of emissions reductions. • May leave council open to substantial future costs and risks of litigation through not addressing the implications of climate change despite known impacts. • Failure to meet commitments including C40 and LGNZ Leaders Declaration. • Does not address appetite across stakeholders to improve joint working in this area and missed opportunities to identify potential co-financing across sectors.
2.) Refresh Low Carbon Auckland and develop a separate adaptation strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear delineation between mitigation and adaptation. • Known Low Carbon Auckland brand maintained. • Adaptation strategy addresses identified gaps of Low Carbon Auckland. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased number of ‘climate change’ strategies overall and lack of joined up approach, potentially weakening each and leading to stakeholder fatigue. • High risk of duplication between strategies, leading to confusion. • Reduced opportunities to build a clear business case and prioritisation criteria for actions that demonstrate multiple benefits and value for money. • Greater resource requirement, both financially and with regards to staff time.

¹ <http://www.knowledgeauckland.org.nz/publication/?mid=1748&DocumentType=1&>

Option	Benefits	Risks
3.) Integrate an adaptation strategy into the review and update of Low Carbon Auckland Recommended option	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A more collaborative and joined-up approach, enabling clearer communication and opportunities to deliver improved value for money • Coordinated stakeholder engagement to maximise resources and deliver efficiencies. • Enables greater opportunities for innovation and to build capacity to deliver the scale of emissions reduction and resilience needed. • Greater coordination across associated strategies and frameworks (e.g., Coastal Management Framework; Water Strategy; Natural Hazards Management Action Plan; Urban Forest). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential loss of recognised <i>Low Carbon Auckland</i> brand, as adopted by council in 2014, given that the final plan may need a new title to reflect climate change action more broadly. • Will require resourcing for delivery and implementation to ensure a collaborative approach, but through delivering in partnership, duplication is reduced and efficiencies delivered. • Potential confusion if some actions need to be completed prior to adoption of update plan.

20. Option 3 is recommended as it enables:

- prioritisation of actions across multiple outcomes and embeds value for money approach
- greater scope for innovation and collaboration to address challenges and opportunities
- identification of opportunities for co-financing of actions
- streamlining of processes to reduce stakeholder fatigue and save money.

Ngā whakaaweawe ā-rohe me ngā tirohanga a te poari ā-rohe / Local impacts and local board views

21. The update will require local insights and engagement with local boards throughout to reflect the diversity of the Auckland region. In some cases, local solutions will be required and these will be worked through with Local Boards.
22. Working with Local Board Advisors, staff propose that local board views are sought at key stages throughout the process, including through workshops held in June. These workshops will build on and complement broader Local Board engagement such as through the Sustainability Initiatives team, Parks and CDEM.

Tauākī whakaaweawe Māori / Māori impact statement

23. Climate change will affect areas over which Māori have kaitiakitanga; impacting ecosystems, shaping community vulnerability and resilience and linking to economic outcomes. Increasing water scarcity and temperatures will impact Māori communities and businesses, including fisheries and forestry. Cultural sites may also be at risk from rising seas and coastal inundation.
24. Given the diverse climate sensitivities that exist for Māori across Auckland and New Zealand there is a clear need to know more about the implications (and risks) of a variable and changing climate on different iwi/hapū/whānau.
25. The review and update will integrate learning from the Māori Working Group established through Low Carbon Auckland. Māori stakeholders will be engaged throughout the process to increase awareness and promote and integrate mātauranga Māori across the plan from inception through to delivery.

Ngā ritenga ā-pūtea / Financial implications

26. Financial costs for option 2 (separate approaches) are estimated at \$220,000.
27. Financial costs for option 3 will mainly be for stakeholder engagement and workshop facilitation. This is estimated at \$140,000 (excluding staff time).
28. Option 3's coordinated approach represents a saving to council and partners of around \$80,000.
29. Identified cost will cover governance, workshops and facilitation, consultancy for evaluation and modelling work, design and edits. It is anticipated that costs will be met through current operating budgets and partner contributions, including C40 Cities. A similar partnership funding approach was used to co-commission-the NIWA climate projections.
30. Many actions identified through the updated plan will result in implementation costs. These costs may or may not be able to be found within existing budgets and could form part of Annual Plan and prioritisation discussions. To support this:
 - a full review of financing opportunities and models will be undertaken
 - all actions will have an associated cost benefit analysis to assess and demonstrate value in the short to long term
 - all actions will outline associated implementation costs.
31. Costs associated with the Independent Advisory Panel are included in the costs of both options 2 and 3.

Ngā raru tūpono / Risks

32. Risks are discussed as part of options appraisal and so are not repeated here.

Ngā koringa ā-muri / Next steps

33. The indicative key steps in the review and update of Low Carbon Auckland are provided in Table 1 with a view for completion by December 2018:

Key stages	High level action summary
Stage 1: Initiation and Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed approach to committee • Establishment of Steering Group and Informal Advisory Group • Review of Low Carbon Auckland • Climate risk and vulnerability assessment based on projections • Identification of current state, gaps and best practice in relation to mitigation and adaptation • Cross-council strategy and policy review • Stakeholder analysis
Stage 2: Action identification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee workshop on risks and vulnerabilities • Communication strategy for broader public engagement • Local Board workshops • Mana whenua engagement (integrated throughout) • Stakeholder workshops
Stage 3: Prioritisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee workshop on prioritisation criteria and identified actions • Cost benefit and total value analysis • Review all actions against prioritisation criteria • Draft plan
Stage 4: Consultation and approvals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation draft to committee • Consultation (linking to other plans, approach tbc) • Updates to action plan and consultation report • Adoption of updated plan by council and partners

34. In addition, establishing an Independent Advisory Group is proposed, consisting of high level experts in climate change and policy from across New Zealand. This group will provide greater surety in Auckland's approach whilst providing a strong academic and business link regionally and nationally, supporting implementation of the plan.
35. If the recommendations in this report are approved, it is proposed that membership of the group will be agreed by the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Environment and Community Committee.

Ngā tāpirihanga / Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

Ngā kaihaina / Signatories

Author	Sarah Anderson - Principal Specialist Sustainability and Climate Resilience
Authoriser	Dean Kimpton - Chief Operating Officer

Komiti Taiao ā-Hapori Hoki Environment and Community Committee OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Environment and Community Committee held in Meeting Room 1, Level 26, 135 Albert Street, Auckland on Tuesday, 20 February 2018 at 9.35am.

PRESENT

Chairperson	Cr Penny Hulse	
Deputy Chairperson	Cr Alf Filipaina	From 9.42am, part item 5.2
Members	IMSB Member Renata Blair	Until 3.36pm, part item 18
	IMSB Member James Brown	From 9.50am, part item 5.2
	Deputy Mayor Bill Cashmore	
	Cr Cathy Casey	
	Cr Ross Clow	Until 3.16pm, part item 16
	Cr Fa'anana Efeso Collins	From 10.05am, part item 3
		Until 3.53pm, part item 19
	Cr Linda Cooper, JP	
	Cr Chris Darby	Until 12.24pm, part item 9
	Cr Hon Christine Fletcher, QSO	Until 4.08pm, part item 19
	Mayor Hon Phil Goff, CNZM, JP	Until 2.30pm, part item 11
	Cr Richard Hills	
	Cr Mike Lee	
	Cr Daniel Newman, JP	
	Cr Greg Sayers	
	Cr Desley Simpson, JP	
	Cr Sharon Stewart, QSM	
	Cr Sir John Walker, KNZM, CBE	From 10.18am part item 5.4
		Until 1.00pm, item 9
	Cr Wayne Walker	
	Cr John Watson	Until 3.48pm, part item 19

ABSENT

Cr Dick Quax

ALSO PRESENT

Angela Dalton	Chair, Manurewa Local Board
Greg Presland	Chair, Waitakere Ranges Local Board
Saffron Toms	Deputy Chair, Waitakere Ranges Local Board
Sandra Coney	Waitakere Ranges Local Board Member
Julia Parfitt	Chair, Hibiscus and Bays Local Board
Lemauga Lydia Sosene	Chair, Mangere-Otahuhu Local Board

11 Low Carbon Auckland: 2018 Review and Update

*Cr R Hills left the meeting at 2.30pm.
Cr R Clow left the meeting at 2.30pm.
IMSB Member J Brown returned to the meeting at 2.40pm.
Cr R Clow returned to the meeting at 2.50pm.*

A powerpoint presentation was provided in support of the report. A copy has been placed on the official minutes and is available on the Auckland Council website as a minutes attachment.

Resolution number ENV/2018/11

MOVED by Deputy Chairperson A Filipaina, seconded by Cr L Cooper:

That the Environment and Community Committee:

- a) **approve the approach for the review and update of Low Carbon Auckland, as shown in the table at paragraph 33 of the report, to include both a mitigation and adaptation strategy for the region**
- b) **agree that the update of Low Carbon Auckland be presented to the Environment and Community Committee for decision by December 2018**
- c) **agree to the creation of an Independent Advisory Group, to provide on-going guidance, challenge and evaluation of the review and update of Low Carbon Auckland**
- d) **delegate the decision on the membership of the Independent Advisory Group to the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Environment and Community Committee, the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Planning Committee, an IMSB Member and the Mayor's office.**

CARRIED

Attachments

- A 20 February 2018 Environment and Community Committee Item 11: Low Carbon Auckland: 2018 Review and Update

12 A strategy for Auckland's urban ngahere (forest)

A powerpoint presentation was provided in support of the item. A copy has been placed on the official minutes and is available on the Auckland Council website as a minutes attachment.

Resolution number ENV/2018/12

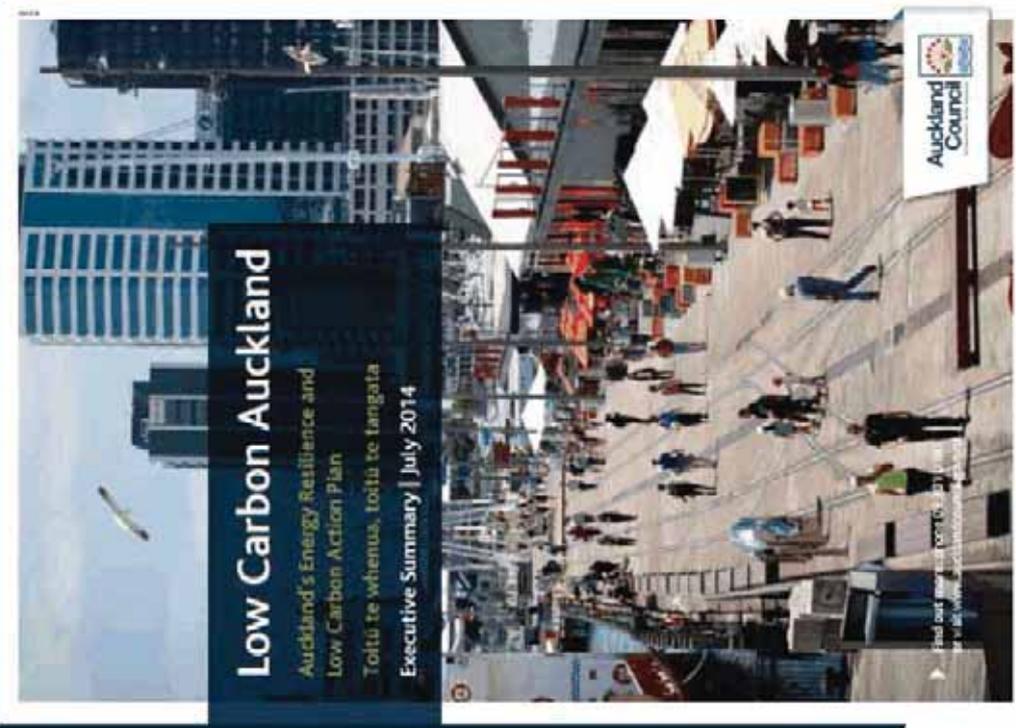
MOVED by Chairperson P Hulse, seconded by Deputy Mayor BC Cashmore:

That the Environment and Community Committee:

- a) **approve the strategy "Together growing Auckland's urban ngahere for a flourishing future", as per Attachment A of the agenda report, incorporating any final changes resolved by the Committee**
- b) **authorise the Chair, Deputy Chair and an IMSB Member to review, make minor revisions and approve the finalised strategy for public release**
- c) **request staff to report back to the Committee on the results of the LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) survey and an implementation plan for the strategy, which will include the additional work on costs and benefits and funding sources, in August 2018, or earlier if possible subject to availability of LIDAR data.**

CARRIED

Low Carbon Auckland: Review and update 2018



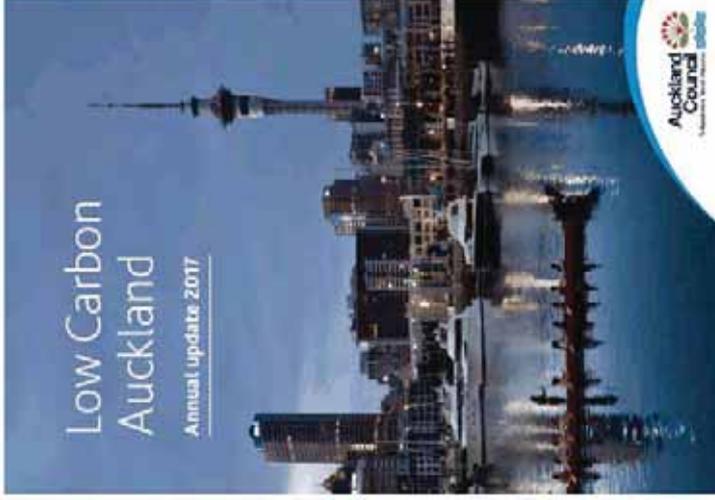
Low Carbon Auckland
Auckland's Energy Resilience and Low Carbon Action Plan
Toitū te whenua, toitū te tangata
Executive Summary | July 2014

Auckland Council

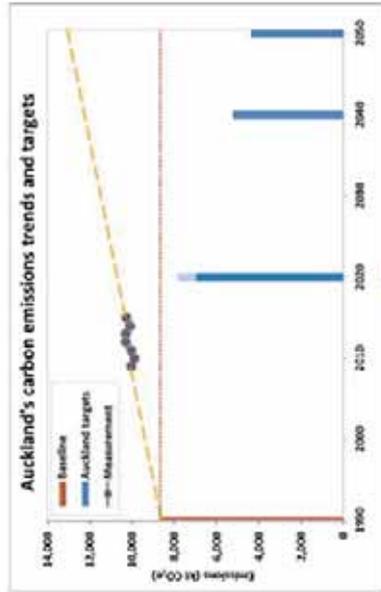
Low Carbon Auckland

- Launched June 2014
- 30 year path & 10 year action plan
- 40% emissions reduction by 2040
- Five Transformation Areas:
 1. Transport
 2. Energy generation/use
 3. Built environment
 4. Waste
 5. Natural carbon assets

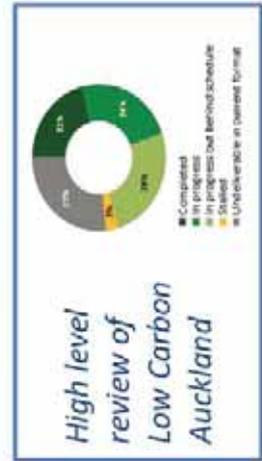
www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/lowcarbon



A need for change in approach



Net Zero by 2050:
Paris Commitment
Zero Carbon Bill
Deadline 2020



TEMPERATURE
Auckland's temperature is rising faster than the global average. The city's temperature has risen by 1.5°C since 1980, compared to a global average of 1.0°C. This is due to a combination of factors, including the city's location in a coastal area and its high density of buildings and infrastructure.

SEA LEVEL RISE
Sea level rise is a major threat to Auckland's coastal infrastructure. The city's coastline is rising at a rate of 3mm per year, which is significantly higher than the global average of 1.7mm per year. This is due to a combination of factors, including the city's location in a coastal area and its high density of buildings and infrastructure.

CLIMATE CHANGE
Climate change is a major threat to Auckland's environment and economy. The city's climate is warming, and this is leading to a range of impacts, including more frequent and severe weather events, rising sea levels, and the loss of biodiversity. These impacts are likely to become even more severe if we do not take action to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.

Risk of droughts and rising sea levels as Auckland temperatures set to rise over next 100 years - report

A report published by the University of Waikato and Auckland University of Education (AUE) has warned that temperatures in the Auckland region will rise by 1.5°C over the next 100 years.

The report, titled 'Auckland's Climate Future: A Report for Auckland Council', was published in 2017. It is the first of a series of reports that will explore the potential impacts of climate change on Auckland's environment, economy, and society.

The report highlights that the city's temperature is rising faster than the global average. The city's temperature has risen by 1.5°C since 1980, compared to a global average of 1.0°C. This is due to a combination of factors, including the city's location in a coastal area and its high density of buildings and infrastructure.

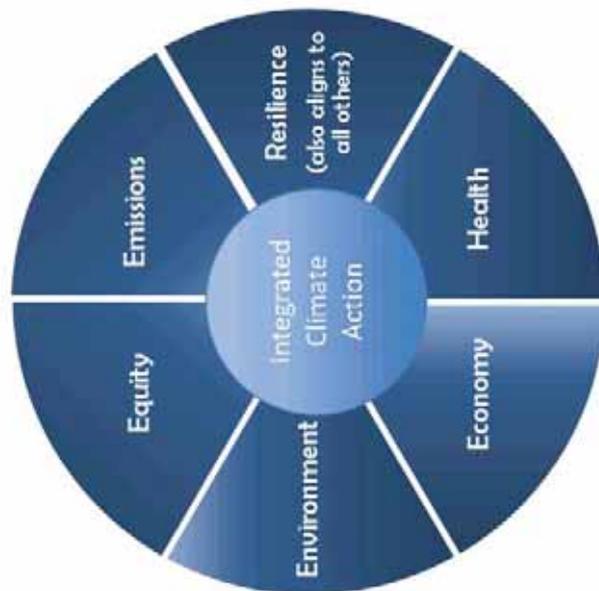
The report also warns that sea level rise is a major threat to Auckland's coastal infrastructure. The city's coastline is rising at a rate of 3mm per year, which is significantly higher than the global average of 1.7mm per year. This is due to a combination of factors, including the city's location in a coastal area and its high density of buildings and infrastructure.



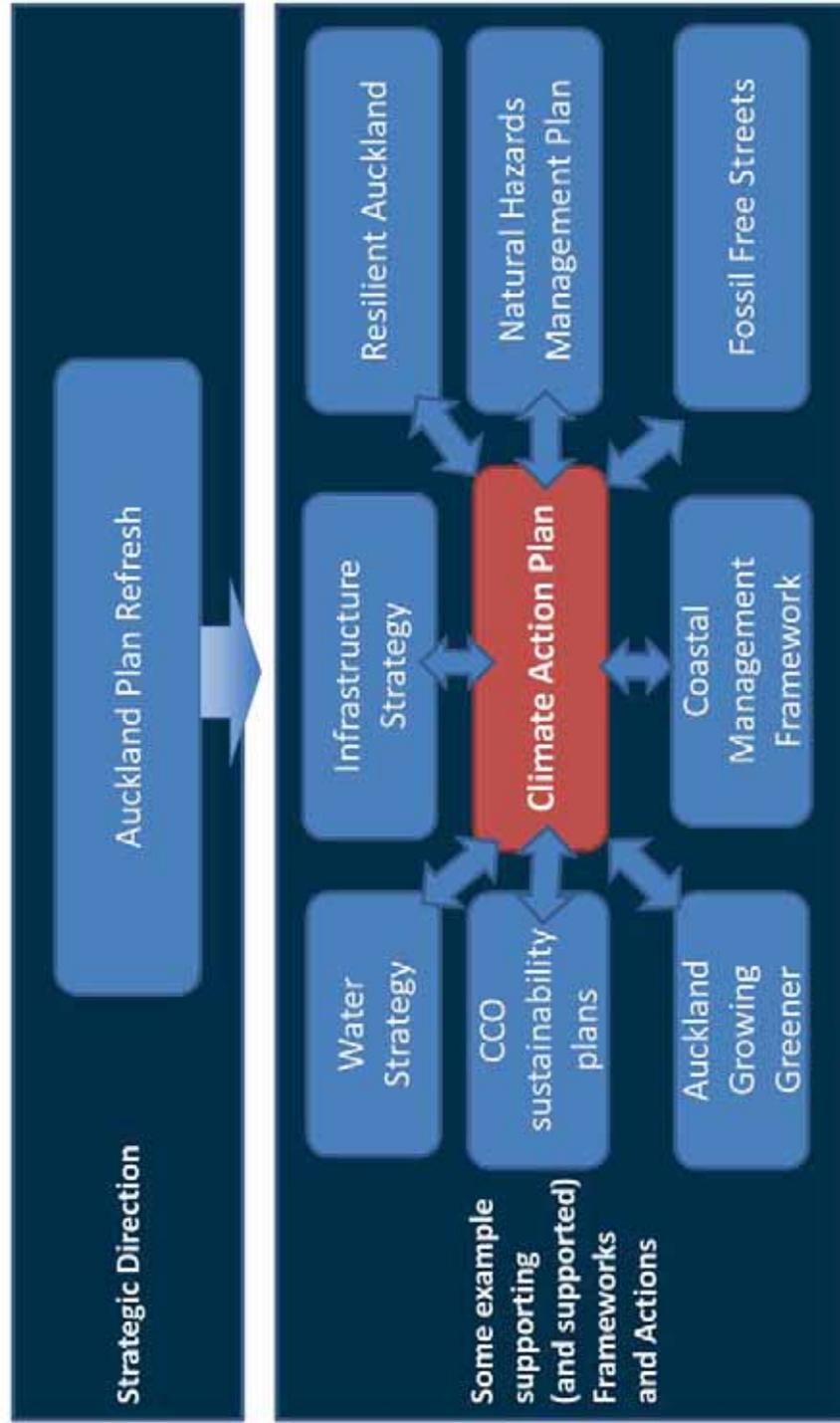
www.knowledgeauckland.org.nz

Options

- Status Quo (i.e. Low Carbon Auckland expires in 2018 and no adaptation strategy is developed)
- Review and update Low Carbon Auckland and develop a separate adaptation strategy
- Integrated climate change adaptation into the review and update of Low Carbon Auckland



Where it fits in.....



Committee Engagement

