

**Date:** Wednesday 24 October 2018  
**Time:** 4:00pm  
**Meeting Room:** Albert Eden Local Board Office  
**Venue:** 135 Dominion Road  
Mt Eden

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## Albert-Eden Local Board

# OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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# Albert-Eden Local Board feedback

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## *Draft Facility Partnerships Policy*

### **Local Board feedback on the draft facility partnerships document**

The Albert-Eden Local Board:

- Supports the use of facility partnerships and agrees with the outlined purpose and benefits of such an arrangement;
- Supports the use of local board plan outcomes and priorities to inform investment;
- Supports the acknowledgment of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the unique role marae and kaupapa-based Māori organisations play in partnering with Auckland Council.

#### ***Model***

- Supports the acknowledgement that partnerships will take a variety of different tracks and be different types and scales.
- Supports that the policy allows for flexibility to be able to respond to different situations.
- Supports the proportionality principle, which is particularly relevant for allowing smaller, local scale partnerships to be supported but not required to undergo unnecessary scrutiny and hurdles.
- Supports the lifecycle process which is outlined in the policy. This allows for transparency and fairness across the Auckland region, and allows partnerships to be considered and strategic rather than *ad hoc*.
- Notes the importance of staff support throughout the lifecycle, for expert advice, progressing possible partnerships and developing and maintaining relationships with partners.

#### ***Investment***

- Supports the investment principles, particularly Principle 1: Investing strategically, and more particularly, building capacity and capability in the community where this is addressing an inequity or a local need.
- Supports the eligibility criteria for investment.
- Supports the proposal to allow facility partnerships to generate revenue through appropriate commercial activities.
- **Notes concern that no budget has been identified to support the implementation of the Facility Partnerships Policy. The effective**

implementation of this policy requires substantial budgetary and staff resources. It is crucial for community development and empowerment, positive community relationships with Auckland Council and a more cost effective way of resourcing facilities. The adoption of this policy may raise the expectations of community groups and organisations, which will subsequently put further strain on committed local board capital budgets. Additional budget needs to be identified through the 2019/2020 Annual Budget process.

- Notes that Investment Principle 4: Investing Sustainably point 19 in the draft policy states that Auckland Council will not invest in facilities that have joint ownership. While the Board acknowledge the legal and relationship challenges of joint ownership, the Board request that flexibility is retained on this topic. Given the added pressure on space and funding there may be situations where development or re-development of existing buildings result in joint ownership and this shouldn't be precluded by the policy.

#### ***Relationship***

- Supports the partnering principles, in particular Principle 2 concerning partnering within the organisation.
- Supports the concept of a lead relationship broker for every facility partnership.

#### ***Agreement***

- Notes the importance of the detail contained within the legal arrangements and each parties understanding of their roles, responsibilities and the ongoing work required to honour those agreements.

#### ***Facility***

- Overall the Board agrees with public feedback that the way in which the policy is implemented and funding available for partnerships to occur is crucial and the key to the success of facility partnerships in the future.

### **Key Points**

#### ***Partnership scheme essential in Albert-Eden***

A scheme for facilitating and promoting partnerships with community organisations to provide access for residents to recreational and leisure facilities is vital to prevent the provision of access to such facilities in the Albert-Eden area from falling further behind the levels enjoyed elsewhere in Auckland and New Zealand.

#### ***Albert-Eden relatively deprived now and in the future***

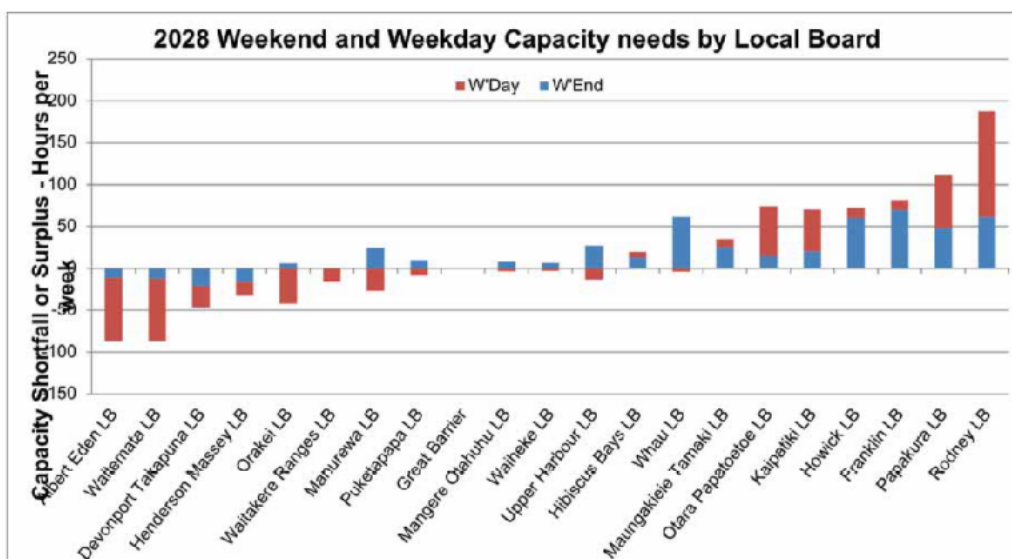
The Albert-Eden area endures, along with neighbouring Waitemata, notably poor provision of a number of Council-owned community facilities relative to its population. These include sportsfield capacity (especially during weekdays and weekends, as illustrated below), indoor stadium capacity, and community halls (as evidenced by the relatively high usage rates). Population growth has been moderately strong in recent years, and continues to be strong, at least in part due to the area's proximity to central city amenities and employment.

***Partnership scheme fits Albert-Eden's situation***

The community facilities partnership funding under the former Auckland City Council was a very important means to provide the constantly growing population on the central isthmus with continued access to community facilities, in particular because land for further development of community facilities is in short supply and is relatively expensive. Thus, under the legacy funding scheme that operated during the first two terms of Auckland Council, a number of partnerships were completed that allowed Council to leverage relatively small investments into significant community access, including partnerships for an indoor sports centre at Epsom Girls Grammar School and an artificial sportsfield at Auckland Grammar School.

***Partnership approach supported by community***

Albert-Eden residents and organisations support more efficient use of the area's community facilities through provision of shared facilities. This has been confirmed by consultation with the community and is highlighted in the Local Board's Local Board Plan 2017 (refer to the sections below).



The above graph shows the shortfall in weekend (W'End) and weekday (W'Day) field capacity. Albert Eden and Waitemata are both a high priority for additional field capacity where as Rodney and several southern boards have sufficient capacity. The Southern and Rodney boards have a large number of soil fields so have quality but not quality.

### Albert-Eden Local Board Plan 2017

The Albert-Eden Local Board Plan 2017 highlights the imperative to optimise the use of existing and new community facilities. The extracts below are relevant to the draft facilities partnership policy and underpin the feedback from the Local Board.

#### Outcome 3: Our community spaces are well used by everyone

Our shared facilities underpin our strong community. They provide diverse and inclusive spaces that meet the changing needs of people of all ethnicities and ages. We have spaces that are inviting, flexible and well used by multiple community groups.

We will look for new ways to leverage our facilities so there are community spaces to meet all of our different needs. We will make the most of the space we have by encouraging multi-use and sharing of facilities where possible.

#### Opportunities

- The report we commissioned in 2016, called Ways to improve access to, and effectiveness of Albert-Eden Community Facilities, has provided an understanding of how you are using our facilities now, and will help us make the most of our facilities in the future.
- We have community houses and community leases located near town centres and public transport hubs. These could be developed to provide additional

community spaces near upgraded town centres, and make it easier for people to visit.

#### *Challenges*

- Our population is growing, so our community facilities will face increasing demand.
- Awareness within the community about the types and availability of council and other community facilities needs to be improved.

#### *Initiatives*

- Continue to advocate to the Governing Body through the council's 10-year Budget process for a replacement pool in Mt Albert or another appropriate Albert-Eden site.
- Ensure our community has access to relevant programmes for new migrants, people with mixed abilities, younger and older people.

#### **Outcome 1: Albert-Eden has a strong sense of community**

#### *Initiatives*

- Review programmes at council facilities to support greater integration and inclusiveness of members of our diverse communities, including all ages and abilities.
- Look for opportunities to create community hubs, which bring many different groups and activities together in one place. For example, we will continue advocating to the Governing Body for a seniors' hub that provides a place to meet and access resources or services.
- Assess community needs for a dedicated art space which could be shared by groups and would provide a setting to create, learn, perform and exhibit.

#### **What the Albert-Eden community has told us already**

Albert-Eden Local Board consulted with the public on use of community facilities in response to the ongoing struggle to meet the ever-increasing demand for such facilities in the course of developing its 2017 Local Board Plan. It also received relevant feedback from community groups that were less likely to be engaged in the local board plan consultation process. This feedback is summarised below:

#### **Albert-Eden inclusion and diversity project**

In 2017 the Board commissioned research to identify and survey less visible community groups including (but not exclusively) migrant and refugee groups, identify opportunities for them to connect with each other through current and future



activities in the local board area and make recommendations for activities to support engagement, collaboration and partnership between groups.

A key finding from this research relevant to the draft facilities partnerships policy is that:

*Public spaces are sites of cultural exchange. Community groups identified that public spaces and parks need to be better suited to a range of community needs and activities. In general, community groups want to interact in physical spaces that are close to home. There is a need in the community for more sports and physical activity opportunities.*

*Multi-purpose community hubs were named within surveys and workshops as being absent, or non-accessible within the Albert-Eden locality. Many suggestions were made that community hubs would support community led partnership and collaboration. Multi-purpose community hubs for the groups surveyed meant accessible spaces that diverse groups could utilise for activities for example, sports activities and cooking classes.*

#### **Draft Albert-Eden Local Board Plan 2017 submissions**

The majority of submitters on the draft Albert-Eden Local Board Plan 2017 supported the continuing development and improvement of community facilities, particularly of shared spaces. In relation to sporting and recreational facilities, submitters liked the encouragement to share facilities and for multi-use of the spaces. Organisations such as Sport Auckland, Auckland Regional Migrant Services, Auckland Rugby Union were in support.

*“Make the most of community spaces we have by sharing etc.”*

*“In particular we support outcomes 1, 2 and 3 outlined in the Albert-Eden Local Board Draft Plan 2017. We would value the opportunity (alongside our clubs) to assist, where appropriate with the following initiatives: Look for opportunities to create community hubs, which bring many different groups and activities together in one place.”*

#### **References**

Albert-Eden Local Board Plan 2017

Albert-Eden Local Board Plan feedback and submissions

Locis Ltd 2017. Albert-Eden inclusion and diversity project: Supporting partnership and collaboration within the community.