

DRAFT Annual Budget 2019/2020 consultation feedback report for Manurewa Local Board

1. Purpose

This report summarises feedback relating to the Manurewa Local Board received through the Annual Budget 2019/2020 consultation. This includes:

- Feedback on the Manurewa Local Board priorities for 2019/2020
- Feedback on regional proposals in the Annual Budget 2019/2020 from people or organisations based in the Manurewa local board area

The feedback received will inform the Manurewa Local Board decisions on allocation of their local budgets in their local board agreement for 2019/2020. It will also inform the Manurewa Local Board input and advocacy on regional budgets and proposals that will be agreed at their business meeting on 18 April and subsequently discussed with the Finance and Performance Committee on 8 May.

2. Executive Summary

This report summarises consultation feedback on the Annual Budget 2019/2020 (including on local board priorities for 2019/2020).

Council received feedback in person at community engagement events, through written forms (including online and hard copy forms, emails and letters) and through social media.

Feedback on Manurewa Local Board priorities for 2019/2020

The local board consulted on the following priorities:

- Priority 1: Revitalising Clendon Town Centre
- Priority 2: Developing Keith Park as a destination site
- Priority 3: Ensuring our playgrounds and play spaces are accessible, disability friendly and cater for older people who are out and about
- Priority 4: Improve safety at Te Mahia station and introduce traffic calming measures in several locations
- Priority 5: Support community-led practical responses to reducing waste, and maintain our collaborative work on the restoration of our streams
- Priority 6: Continue our advocacy to address illegal dumping, including the reintroduction of the traditional inorganic collection, and for South Auckland to be a priority for a community recycling centre

Overall, 48 percent of respondents partially support the local board's priorities, 39 percent support, and 13 percent do not support.

Feedback on regional proposals in the Annual Budget 2019/2020 from the Manurewa local board area

Out of the 2,953 submissions received on the regional proposals in the Annual Budget 2019/2020, 61 submissions were from people living in the Manurewa local board area.

Changes to rates and fees

- **Annual waste management changes**

Feedback shows that the majority of respondents do not approve of the annual waste management changes. Of the 11 responses we received, 6 did not support, 3 support and 2 partially support.

- **Food scraps targeted rate**

Respondents were equally split on their feedback with 4 in support and 4 do not support. Those who do not support, believe it should be opt-in. There were also comments that education was needed: *“why not teach them how to make compost and do away with a targeted rate on food scraps.”*

- **Waitākere rural sewerage targeted rate**

One submission was received regarding the Waitākere rural sewerage targeted rate. The submitter was generally in support however they *“hope those property owners affected are informed in a timely manner and are provided with appropriate information to help them taking on the responsibility.”*

- **Urban boundary rating**

Of the 4 submissions received, all respondents were in support of this change.

- **Religious properties rates**

A slim majority supports the proposal with 13 in support, 11 do not support, 1 partially support.

- **Regulatory fees**

The majority of submitters do not support the proposed changes, 7 do not support, 2 support.

Draft Tūpuna Maunga o Tamaki Makaurau Authority – Operational Plan 2019/2020

One response was received from the Manurewa Local Board area on the draft Tūpuna Maunga o Tamaki Makaurau Authority – Operational Plan 2019/2020.

Feedback on the proposed amendment to the 10-year Budget 2018-2028 regarding property transfers

Out of the 2,422 submissions received on the proposed amendment to the 10-year Budget 2018-2028 regarding property transfers, 60 submissions were from people living in the Manurewa local board area.

3. Context

Auckland Council consulted on its Annual Budget 2019/2020 and a proposed Amendment to the 10-year Budget 2018-2028 regarding property transfers between 17 February and 17 March 2019.

The Annual Budget 2019/2020 must include a Local Board Agreement for the Manurewa Local Board which sets out our priorities and how we're going to pay for them.

Auckland Council also consulted on the Our Water Future discussion document at the same time. The feedback received on this discussion document will be presented at a later date.

Types of feedback

Overall Auckland Council received feedback from 5,249 people in the consultation period. This feedback was received through:

- Written feedback – 1,113 hard copy 2,423 online forms and 1,713 non forms
- In person – feedback was received through 14 have your say events and 51 community events.
- Social media – 19 comments were received through Facebook and Twitter.

4. Feedback received on Manurewa Local Board priorities for 2019/2020

The Manurewa Local Board consulted on the following priorities:

- Priority 1: Revitalising Clendon Town Centre
- Priority 2: Developing Keith Park as a destination site
- Priority 3: Ensuring our playgrounds and play spaces are accessible, disability friendly and cater for older people who are out and about
- Priority 4: Improve safety at Te Mahia station and introduce traffic calming measures in several locations
- Priority 5: Support community-led practical responses to reducing waste, and maintain our collaborative work on the restoration of our streams
- Priority 6: Continue our advocacy to address illegal dumping, including the reintroduction of the traditional inorganic collection, and for South Auckland to be a priority for a community recycling centre

Key themes across all feedback received (through written, event and social media channels) were:

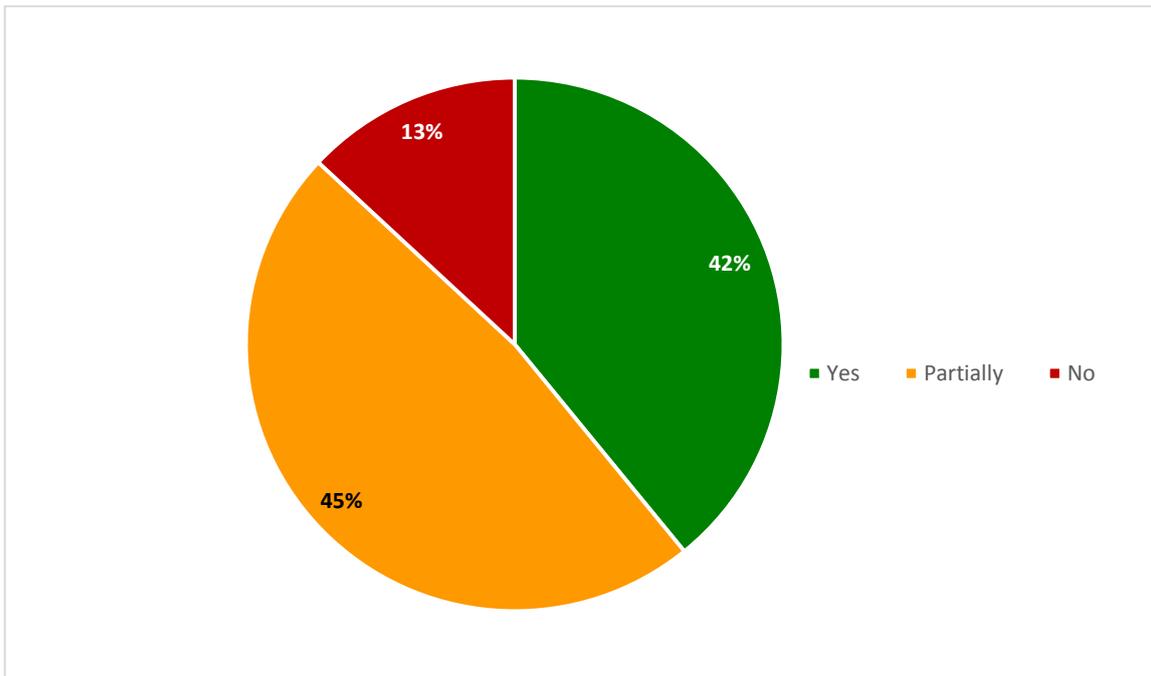
- **Parks, Sport and Recreation:** Respondents generally support for upgrading Keith Park and other parks and playgrounds in the area, including Gallaher Park. Submitters also mentioned they want the parks cleaned up, as well as an increase of activities at parks: *“They need to put more funds towards sporting arenas, that will take a lot of children off the streets and into something they can feel good about themselves doing. Also the current ones need better security measures to stop damage and graffiti.”*
- **Waste Management:** Comments from submitters focused on illegal dumping and the proposal to bring back the traditional inorganic collection. Many submitters stated that their main priority was illegal dumping and supported both the push to put an end to illegal dumping and to find ways to get the community involved in reducing waste in general.
- **Traffic:** Concerns around traffic congestion, specifically traffic that goes through Manurewa and cars using the bus lanes. Respondents were also interested in ways to encourage citizens remaining active, and believed there needs to be more active connections within the area including pedestrian bridges.
- **Safety:** Safety remains a key issue --- Most comments were about ensuring adequate lighting in areas such as parks and train stations. They also believed there needs to be better security to stop vandalism and graffiti.

A summary of the feedback received through each channel is provided below.

Feedback received through written submissions

61 submissions were received on Manurewa Local Board priorities for 2019/2020, showing that the majority of people partially support the local board’s priorities as presented in graph 1 below.

Graph 1: General response to all priorities



- Result show that the majority (48%) of submitters partially supported the local board’s priorities
- 42% of respondents supported and a further 13% did not support the local board’s priorities
- Most comments received from the 48% of submitters who partially supported the local board’s priorities referred to more youth initiatives, improving parks, less liquor outlets and addressing traffic congestion
- Parks, Sport and Recreation was the key theme raised from the 39% of submitters who supported the board’s key priorities
- Comments from submitters (13%) who did not support the board’s priorities thought nothing had changed and that more needed to be done to keep youth off the streets.

Feedback received through events

The Manurewa Local Board held 1 Have Your Say event on Saturday 9 March 2019 at Mountfort Park. Feedback was received from 40 people.

Table 1: Response to local board priorities

Response	Count
Yes	24
Partially	6
No	0

- The top three topics that received the most feedback were ‘waste management’ (10 comments), ‘parks, sport and recreation’ (10 comments) and ‘safety’ (3 comments).
- Under the topic ‘waste management’ submitters primarily discussed addressing illegal dumping and environmental solutions to waste management.
- Park and playground upgrades were the primary concern for submissions under ‘parks, sport and recreation’.
- Improving safety features in Clendon, such as increased lightning was the key comment for ‘safety’.

Feedback received through social media channels

Feedback across the region was received from the following social media channels:

- 8 people from Facebook
- 11 people from Twitter

The top 3 topics from both social media channels are ‘waste management’, ‘transport’ and ‘parks, sport and recreation’.

Requests to reinstate the old inorganic system, establish rubbish refuge centres in various locations and provide ratepayers with tip passes were the key comments under waste management. The responses relating to transport raised concerns around traffic congestion, with particular reference to the Southern Corridor project. Other comments opposed the construction of a tunnel under the Harbour Bridge. Feedback under Park Sport and Recreation opposed the allocation of funding towards sporting arenas such as Eden Park, and further responses advocated for more investment in public parks and more dog parks in south Auckland.

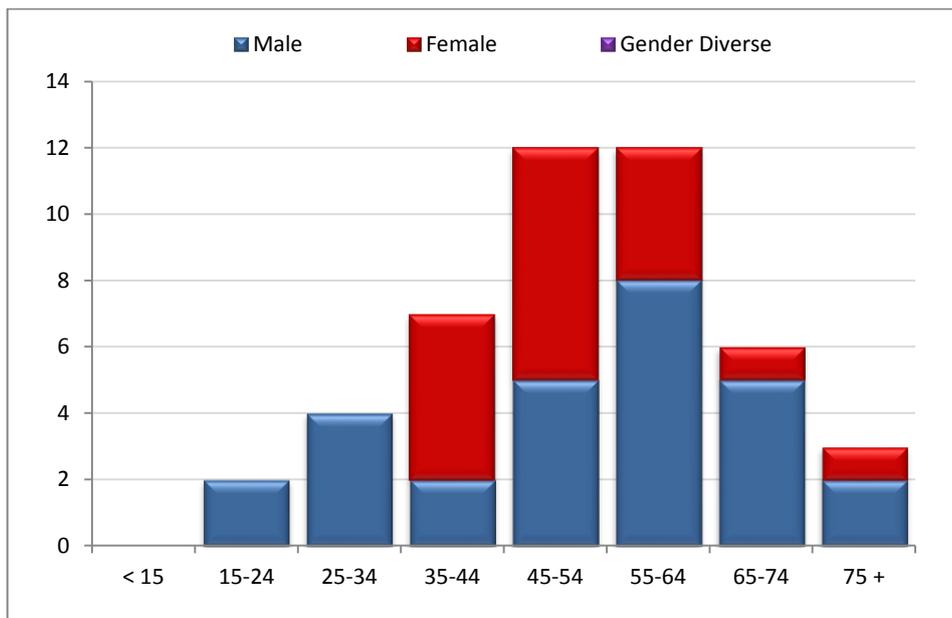
Information on submitters

The tables and graphs below indicate what demographic categories people identified with. This information only relates to those submitters who provided demographic information.

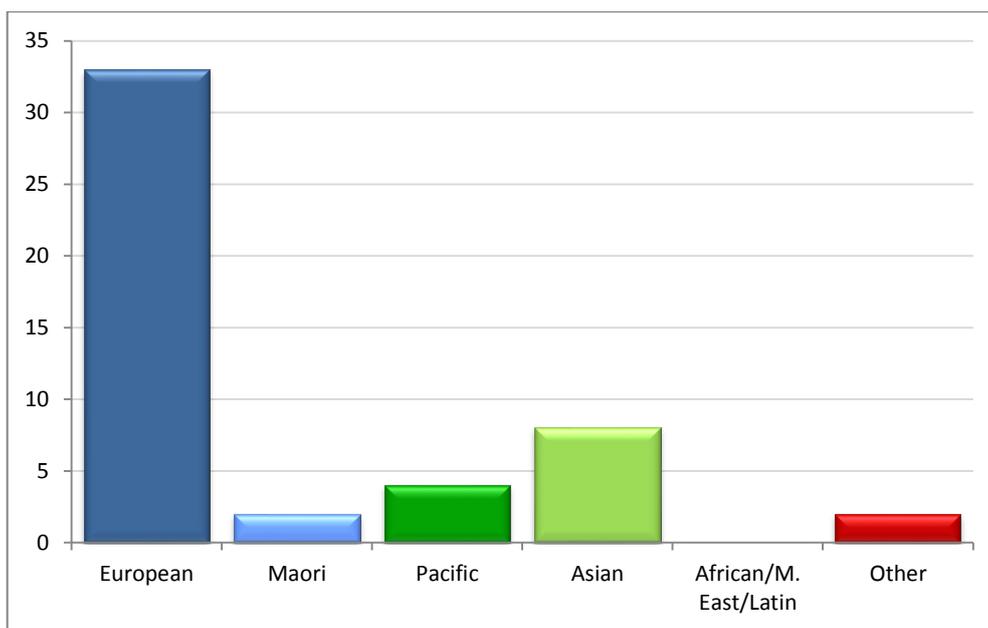
Table 2: Gender demographic of submitters

Gender	Count
Male	28
Female	18
Gender diverse	0

Graph 3: Age demographic of submitters



Graph 4: Ethnic breakdown of submitters



Of the 46 people who provided demographic information, 28 were male, 18 were female and 0 were gender diverse, as shown in table 2. Graph 3 also shows that the age group with the highest submission rates were those between 45-54 and 55-64, both of which had 12 submissions each. Seventy percent of the submissions came from respondents who identify as European, including Pakeha/NZ European, followed by Asian (17%), Pacific (9%), Maori (4%) and other (4%).

5. Overview of feedback received on the Annual Budget from Manurewa Local Board area

The Annual Budget 2019/2020 sets out our priorities and how we're going to pay for them. The regional consultation on the proposed Annual Budget focused on changes to rates and fees:

- Changes to rates and fees
 - Annual waste management changes
 - Food scraps targeted rate
 - Waitākere rural sewerage targeted rate
 - Urban boundary rating
 - Religious properties rates
 - Regulatory fees

The submissions received from the Manurewa Local Board area on these key issues is summarised below, along with an overview of any other areas of feedback on regional proposals with a local impact.

Changes to rates and fees

Aucklanders were asked about a proposed small number of rating and fee changes.

Question 1: We are proposing a small number of rating and fee changes for 2019/2020

These changes include:

- *a \$20.67 increase to the annual waste management charge to cover increased costs*
- *extending the food scraps targeted rate to 2000 properties in the North Shore former trial area to whom the service is available*
- *phasing out the Waitākere rural sewerage service and targeted rate over a two-year period (2019/2020-2020/2021)*
- *adjusting the urban rating boundary to apply urban rates to 400 properties in recently urbanised areas (that receive the same services as their adjacent urban neighbours)*
- *not charging rates on some parts of the land owned by religious organisations, and*
- *an increase to some regulatory fees (such as resource consent, building control and mooring fees) to cover increased costs.*

Please tell us what you think about some or all of these changes

The table below gives an overview of the responses from the Manurewa Local Board area through written submissions and event feedback.

Table 3: Number of comments received against each proposal

Rating and fee change	Support	Do not support	Partially	Number of comments received
Waste management	7	6	1	14
Food scraps targeted rate	6	3	0	9
Waitākere rural sewerage targeted rate	1	0	1	2

Urban boundary rating	3	0	0	3
Religious properties rates	14	10	1	25
Regulatory fees	4	5	0	9

Waste management

The majority of comments opposing the increase to the annual waste management charge raised concerns around unaffordability and financial pressure for lower income residents as household income remains the same. In addition, some also highlighted the need for a resource recovery facility in the south and more education around waste management.

Respondents who supported the charge did so providing the additional revenue raised is used to fund other waste minimisations programmes such as a free tip permits for households and establishing recycling centres.

Food scraps targeted rate

Most respondents who did not support the food scraps targeted were not concerned as this predominantly affects north shore residents. Health and safety concerns were also raised for senior residents having to carry an additional bin.

Feedback from those who supported the food scraps targeted thought it was a great idea and that all properties should be rated the same if they receive the food scraps collection service.

Waitākere rural sewerage targeted rate

Respondents felt the rural sewerage targeted rate did not affect them directly, though, recommending that property owners affected are provided with appropriate information to help them with the responsibilities.

Urban boundary rating

Comments in favour of adjusting the urban rating boundary strongly agreed while also noting that the properties should receive the same levels of service.

Religious properties rates

The majority of the respondents who did not support the proposal felt religious organisations needed to be charged rates accordingly regardless of their status as they use council services such as storm water and waste management, with further comments stating that churches usually earn more than their parishioners.

Slightly more responses were received from those in support of the proposal not to charge rates on some parts of the land owned by religious organisations, stressing the important role churches have in the community by providing spiritual, social, educational and physical needs of not only parishioners but all members of society. Supplementary to this was the concern that changing the rating status will put unnecessary strain on churches financially and also weaken the Manurewa community.

Regulatory fees

The most common reason sighted from submitters who opposed the increase to regulatory fees was the current exorbitant costs, and given the housing shortage and cost of living in Auckland, thought Council needed to work more efficiently to contain the costs.

Those who generally agreed supported an increase to cover the cost of providing services and if it resulted in accelerating the consenting process.

Feedback on the draft Tūpuna Maunga o Tamaki Makaurau Authority – Operational Plan 2019/2020

One response was received from the Manurewa Local Board area on the draft Tūpuna Maunga o Tamaki Makaurau Authority – Operational Plan 2019/2020.

The respondent commented on the need to protect wildlife on Rangitoto Island.

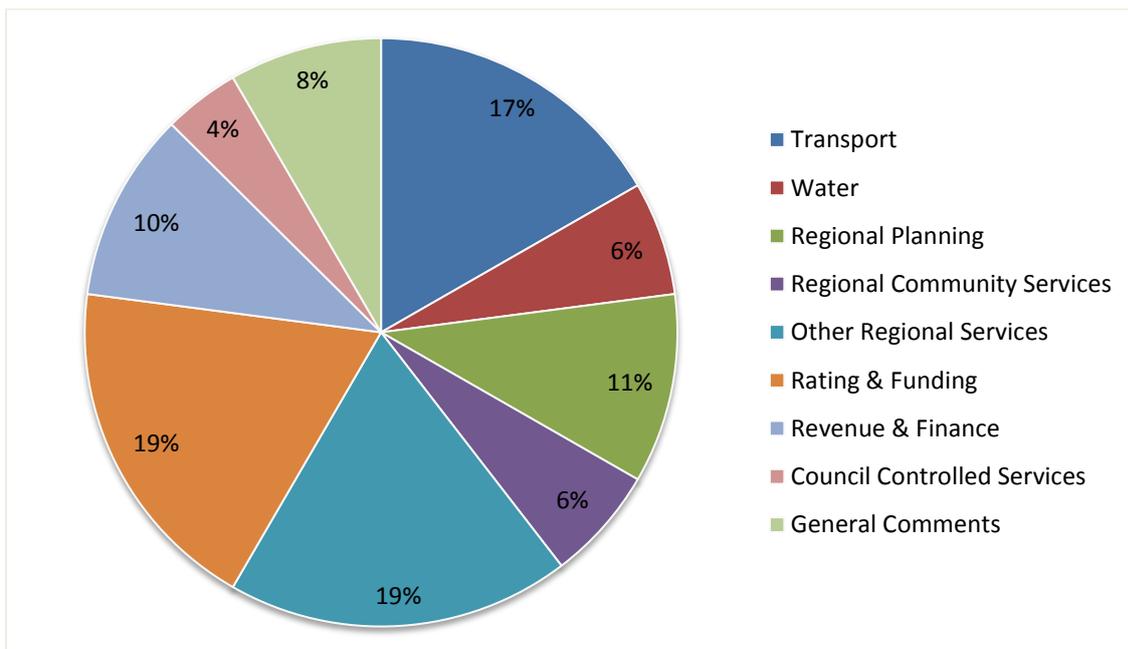
“... Rangitoto is the most pristine volcano we have and the last thing that is needed is screaming adrenaline seekers disturbing bird life”

Feedback on other regional proposals with a local impact

Feedback was received from the Manurewa Local Board area on other regional proposals

The graph below shows the number of responses received on other regional themes.

Graph 6: Number of responses on regional themes



Transport

Submitters commented on the need to reduce traffic congestion, improve active transport connections and the lack of shelters at public transport spots around Manurewa.

Water

Other responses for water included a view that all homes should have water tanks as a back-up, access to clean drinking water and a concern for rising water charges.

Regional planning

Respondents noted their concerns around homelessness, preserving Auckland's history and limited funding to south Auckland suburbs, in particular, Manurewa.

Regional community services

Submitters felt more investment was needed to upgrade leisure centres, not just playgrounds, to help address obesity rates and build a healthier and happier community. Other feedback urged Auckland Council not to close Western Springs Speedway.

Other regional services

Key comments received sighted concerns for the environment, specifically, cleaning rubbish in streams, estuaries and Manukau Harbour. Other comments related to the protection of trees and using enforcement penalties.

Rating and funding

Most comments received were opposing further rates increases while highlighting the need for Auckland Council to focus on core services. Other feedback also emphasised equal distribution of council funding evenly across the region, including south Auckland.

Council controlled services

Submitters commented on the need to reduce inefficient and wasteful council spending and focus on establishing proper infrastructure for the future of young people.

General comments

Respondents questioned what the increased cost in regulatory fees and waste management fees would be spent on. Other comments referred to addressing illegal dumping and housing.

6. Overview of feedback received on the proposed amendment to the 10-year Budget 2018-2028 regarding property transfers from Manurewa Local Board area

The question and text below is directly from the feedback form. The feedback from the Manurewa Local Board area is set out under the question.

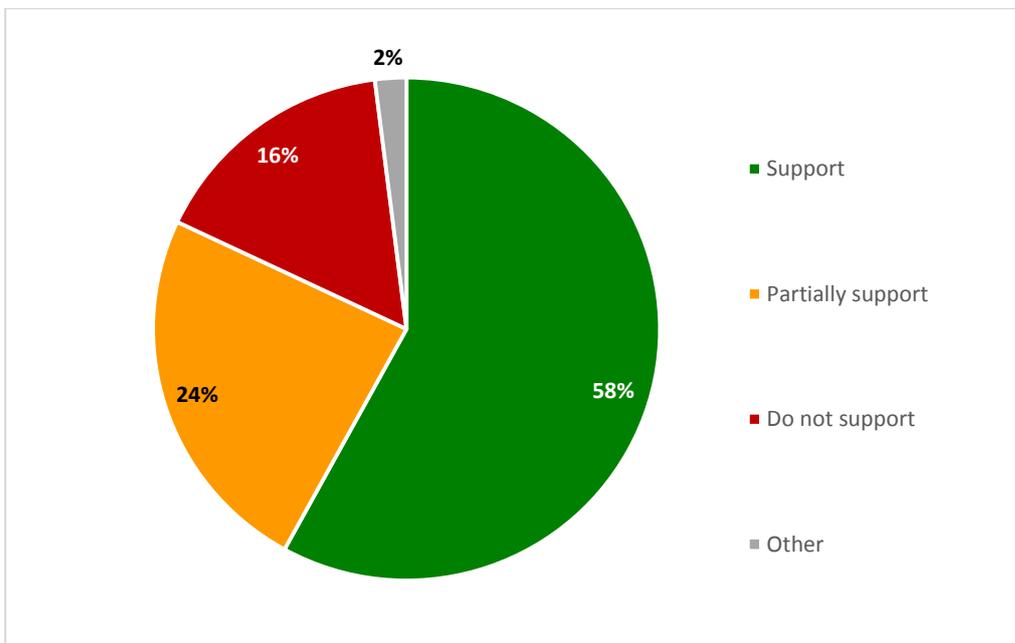
Question 1:

Panuku is Auckland Council's urban development agency and currently owns and manages about \$790 million of city centre waterfront properties. We are proposing to transfer the legal ownership of those properties to Auckland Council. Panuku would continue to manage the properties. The resulting ownership structure would reduce governance duplication, increase consistency with other development areas and maximise future flexibility. The city centre waterfront properties are strategic assets so we want to know what you think of the proposal.

What is your opinion about this proposal?

The graph below gives an overview of the responses from the Manurewa Local Board area.

Graph 7: Response to property transfers from Manurewa Local Board area



Of the 60 submissions received, 29 supported the amendment, 12 partially supported the change, 8 did not support and there was 1 other. Of those who supported the amendment, their key concern is that there is currently too much duplication and as such, they support the amendment if it reduces duplication. They also believed this proposal would increase levels of transparency. Respondents who partially supported the proposal also mentioned duplication and increasing transparency. The main comment of those who do not support the amendment is that council already has enough on its plate and should delegate where possible.