

Subject: **QUARTERLY LOCAL BOARD REPORT**
Date: 12 Feb 2017 (Period: November 2016- 30 Jan 2017)
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Introduction

This is the member's first board report. As I am unaware of required format I have decided to set out the report into areas of work and outcomes and not a list of meetings attended. As a note however, this quarter started with a heavy focus on orientation and training sessions, familiarisation of Council process and introduction to the previous board's areas of interest and focus. Due to previous commitments of my work with COMET Auckland I have missed three Local Board workshops. I have however made every effort to ensure I have inputted into discussions wherever possible and kept up to speed with discussions and decisions made.

Portfolios

The portfolios that I have a specific interest in, and of which I am taking a co-lead role are:

- Local economic development and tourism, (with Izzy)
- Infrastructure (with Jeff)
- Education and Skills (With Luke)

Work, Developments and Progress

➤ **Local Economic Development and Tourism**

I have had a series of informal meetings with members of Destination Barrier and ATEED to discuss their strategic direction and to look at ways we can potentially support the development of potential new projects. I have also agreed to regularly attend future Destination Barrier board meetings. The key projects include:

- Dark Sky Sanctuary- securing status
- High end tourist package development
- Ongoing funding of the I Site
- Matariki AR/VR Company and Marketing and Web site development

Moving forward I am keen to further explore the notion of a Buy Local campaign which a number of residents are keen to progress and look at how we can support local procurement positions, to ensure their success.

➤ **Infrastructure**

I have not yet made any real traction in this portfolio area. I am hopeful to spend time with Jeff and key community members with an interest in island infrastructure in the next few weeks. I believe it would be invaluable to hear from our residents what they

consider our priority infrastructure needs are. Two small pieces of work I have been involved in are: the setup of the Shoal Bay user group and I had initial input into the Mulberry Grove Playground, (and I spoke to local parents about their getting involved in the design of the playground).

I will continue to advocate for an independent review of the islands entry points to ensure they are suitably future proofed for our next generation.

➤ **Education and Skills**

This is the area I have invested most of my time in over the last quarter, in conjunction with Luke, Rendt Gorter and a number of local community members.

Achievements/Developments include:

- The compilation and writing of a community submission to the Ministry of Education (MoE) to increase the boarding allowance. (A pre meetings in Wellington to input into the scope of the review and a post meeting to ensure our submission was well received)
- The writing of a draft Life Long Learning Strategy for Great Barrier Island (including nine pre- meetings)
- A series of meetings with Te Kura to discuss low achievement of students and possible strategies to address and improve these results
- A series of meetings with MoE to discuss strategies how vocational pathways could be implemented into a Te Kura Model (Subsequent training of Te Kura staff on vocational pathway models)
- Participation in an interim governance group for the proposed Learning Hub
- The writing of a submission to MoE for funding of a permanent part time learning Hub Coordinator (The writing of a job description for the position)
- Input into the development of the learning Hub implementation plan and budget
- Support of Kathy Cummings with her efforts to establish two on island ECE crèches

Over the next few months I am keen to continue developing the Life Long Learning strategy through planned meetings with all educational/skill building providers. Early feedback on the strategy has been really positive. I am also keen to support Kathy build a skills register, complete the skills gap survey and come up with some possible training of locals and/or attraction of new skilled young people.

In conclusion I'm looking forward to having more committed time on island, within the next two weeks, to make some solid progress with these and other initiatives the community view as being of key importance.

Shirley