

Annual Budget 2017/2018 consultation feedback report for Manurewa Local Board

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform the Manurewa Local Board of the views of its local community on the annual proposals. This will build on the board's understanding of community priorities and preferences as established in the development of the Manurewa Local Board Plan 2014.

The report provides feedback received through the Annual Budget 2017/2018 consultation on Manurewa Local Board proposals. It also summarises feedback on the regional proposals from people or organisations based in the Manurewa local board area.

The feedback received will inform the Manurewa Local Board decisions on allocation of its local budgets in its local board agreement for 2017/2018. It will also inform the Manurewa Local Board discussions with the Finance and Performance Committee on 9 May on advocacy and local priorities in relation to the regional budgets and proposals.

2. Executive Summary

Out of the 8058 submissions received on the Annual Budget 2017/2018, 182 were submissions from people living in the Manurewa Local Board area or concerning Manurewa Local Board local proposals.

Manurewa Local Board local proposals consulted on for 2017/2018

1. Continuing the town centre revitalisation project
2. Initiating a master plan for War Memorial Park using a community led approach
3. Investing in Te Mahia train station
4. Partnering to build a new playground at Eugenia Rise, Totara Heights
5. Progressing the Totara Park master plan
6. Extending the coastal walkways
7. Improving community safety
8. Developing a greenways plan to provide safe cycling and walking connections
9. Constructing bus shelters

Over 180 feedback points were received. Of these, responses show one third of people fully support the local proposals, while 41% partially support and 22% do not support the above. Further information is provided later in the report.

Regional proposals consulted on for 2017/2018

Issue 1: Rates increases

Feedback shows over half of local people want the charge kept at a 2.5% increase and just over a quarter prefer a lower rates increase.

Issue 2: Rating stability

Feedback shows over half of local people agree that both businesses and residential ratepayers should receive the same rates increase, while just over a quarter disagree.

Issue 3: Paying for tourism promotion

Feedback shows just under two thirds of local people agree with the proposed targeted rate on accommodation providers to fund tourism promotion rather than from general rates.

Issue 4: Paying for housing infrastructure

Feedback shows just under two thirds of local people support changing our funding policy to allow infrastructure for new housing developments to be funded by targeted rates alongside existing growth charges.

Issue 5: Paying council staff a living wage

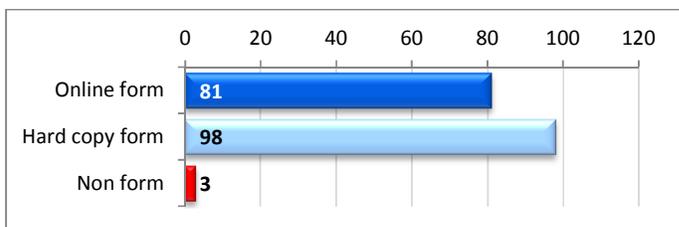
Feedback shows over half of local people support the council implementing a living wage policy over the council term ending October 2019, while one quarter do not support it.

3. Context

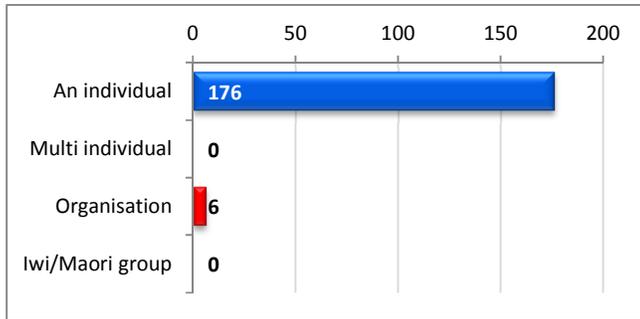
This report is being provided to the Manurewa Local Board summarising the local consultation feedback received on the annual budget. The council received feedback in person at community engagement events, through written forms (including those submitted online) and through social media.

Feedback on Manurewa Local Board local proposals and on regional proposals from the Manurewa Local Board area was received through written feedback and in person at a Have your Say event at War Memorial Park. There was no feedback received via social media.

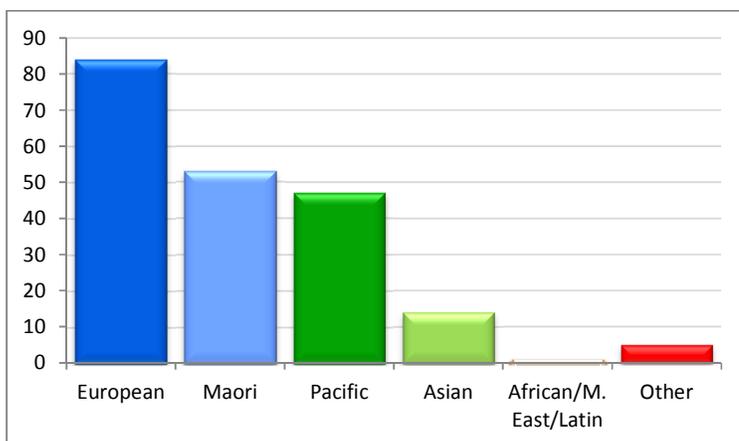
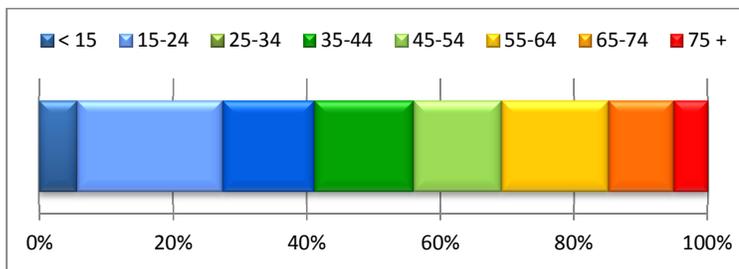
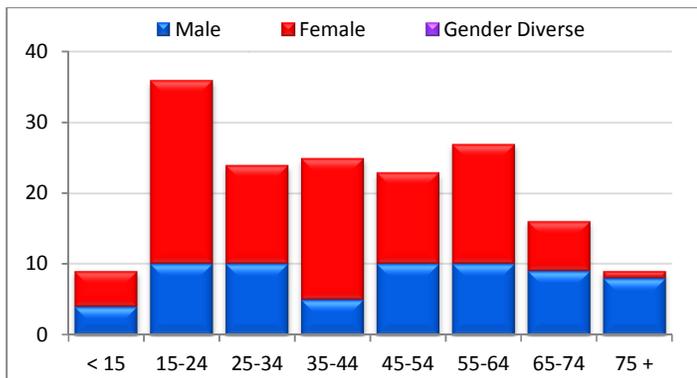
Feedback was received as follows:



Of the feedback received, 97% came from individuals and 3% from organisations:

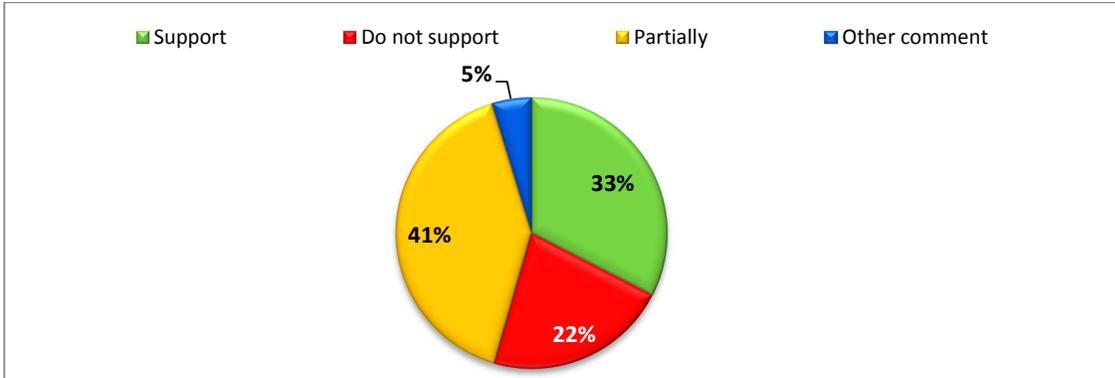


The graphs below give an overview of the gender, age and ethnicity of respondents from the Manurewa Local Board area.

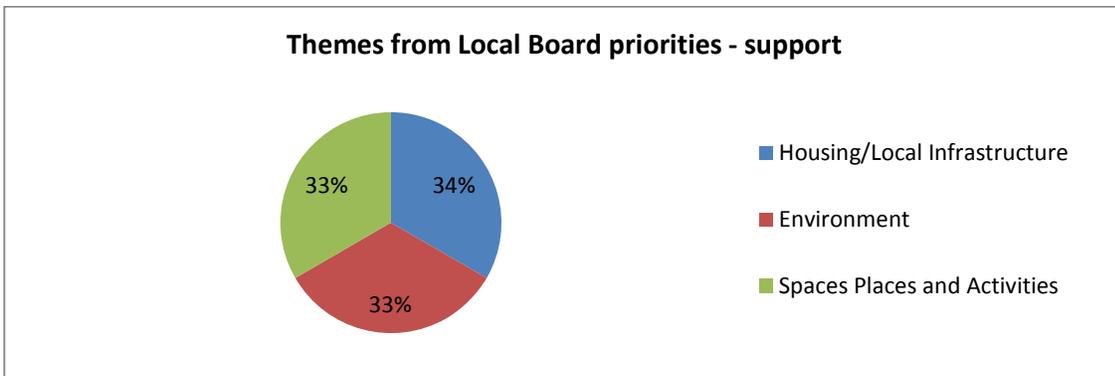


4. Feedback received on the local proposals

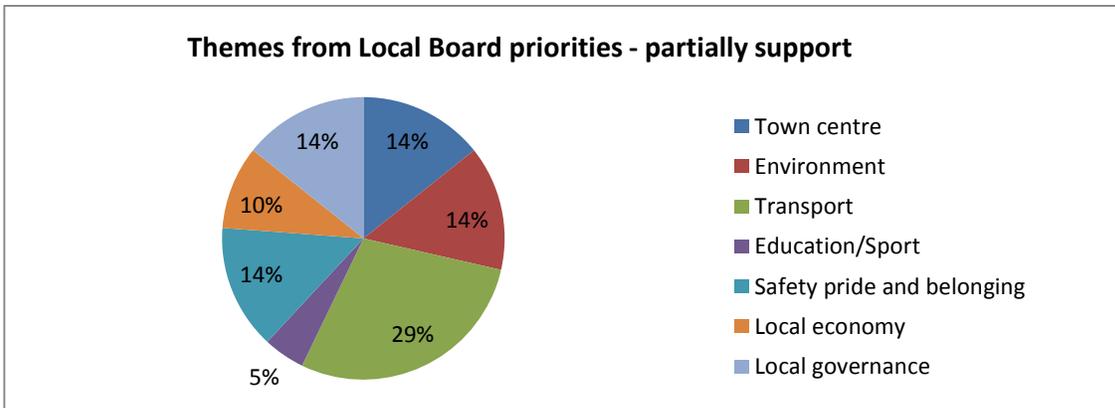
The graph below gives an overview of the responses from the Manurewa Local Board area to the question “Have we got our priorities right?”



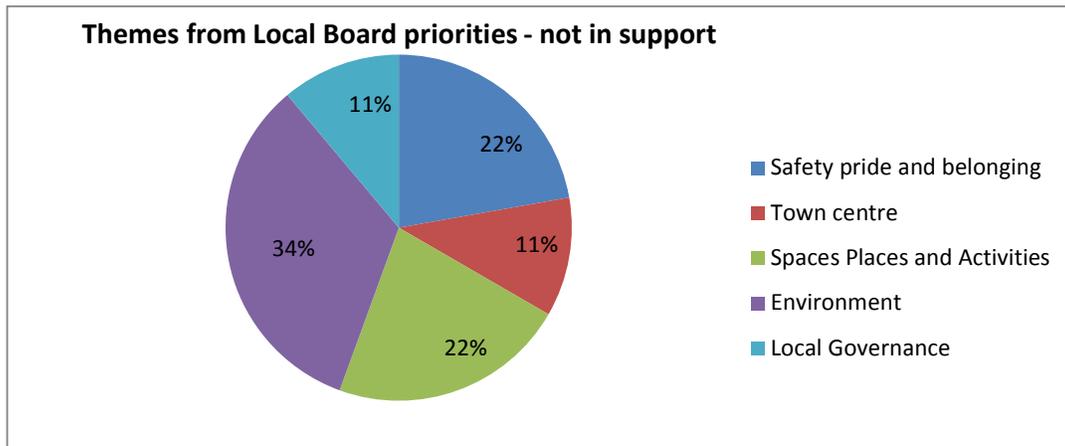
Of the 33% support for local proposed priorities, the following graph shows the primary themes that received comment.



Of the 41% partial support for local proposed priorities, the following graph shows the primary themes that received comment.



Of the 22% no support for local proposed priorities, the following graph shows the primary themes that received comment.



Key themes across all feedback received about the local proposed priorities including verbatim comments were:

- **Transport**

"I see efforts are being made to improve Homai Station¹ but I suspect this is largely due to the Fletcher Residential development"

"Provide better/more park'n'ride parking to encourage greater use of rail services. Te Mahia a good example! Synchronised timetables - bus with train would add greatly to patronage numbers"

"Please renovate Mahia railway station"

"I hope that a plan for better road networks and connections has been put in place, at the moment Manurewa, Manukau City, Mangere and Takanini roads are not coping with the increase in new housing subdivisions. A better road access network, not bottle neck diversions needs to be constructed, it takes 40-45 minutes to get from Great South Road Manukau City to Great South Road, Takanini at the present time on any given week day between the hours from 2:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Very frustrating"

"Traffic through and within Manurewa has become a major obstacle within the area. With additional traffic lights, being added on Great South Rd slowing the flow to motorways and Papakura, along with new housing developments, traffic flow needs a major rethink. Cycle way on Weymouth Rd causes a major traffic jam from 3pm onwards at Russell Rd Corner"

"Cycleways need to be separate from cars"

"Too busy approving high density housing for areas with considerable traffic issues already and doing nothing to solve this problem"

"Where is the roading heading towards Auckland City for all the new houses being built in Takanini and Papakura? Where's the balance?"

- **Environment**

"Invest in cleaning Weymouth beach"

"Clean up pollution in Weymouth beach"

¹ This may be intended to be in reference to Te Mahia train station not Homai train station.

“I think improving the water quality at Wattle Downs, Weymouth and Clendon should be a very high priority as it will mean swimmable beaches for our community”

“In times of lack of money wasting it on greenways and parks is not a priority”

- **Safety pride and belonging**

“I think there needs to be more focus on the function and appearance of the residential suburban streets, and basic services”

“Focus on connecting people through the arts - not just running a ethnically focussed event, but genuinely connecting across the ethnic and demographic boundaries. Because I see no change I would like Auckland Council to move faster”

“They should fix the alley ways”

“Manurewa is a village in the city and needs to establish a unique identity of its own and then enhance it to exude attractiveness and lifestyle options for the young people that live there”

“Make the community tidier”

- **Spaces Places and Activities**

“I would like a dedicated space for Samoan community and Pasifika community as a whole”

“Manurewa community facilities including library, pool, train, bus and parks do not get the same as other suburbs”

“Manurewa needs more things for youth - IT Hub/youth club with safe environment”

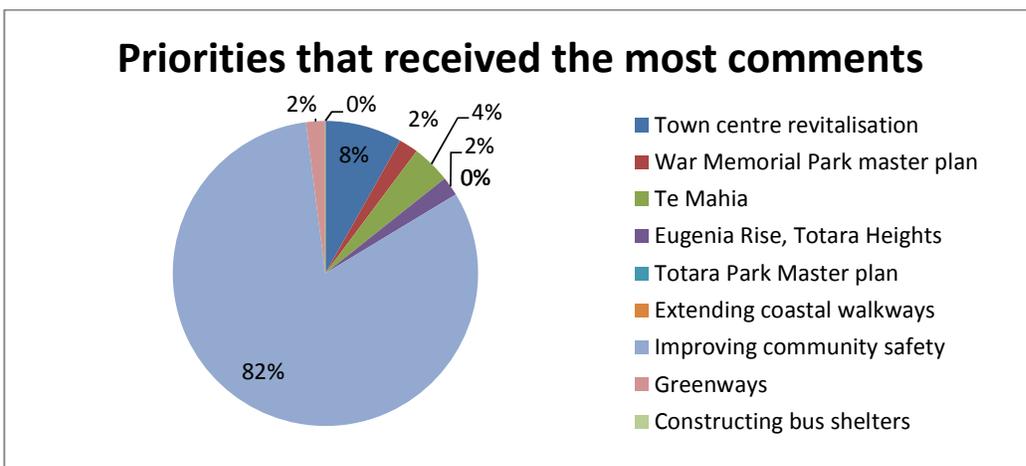
“Not sure what it might replace, but maybe it could be included in the 'Totara Park master plan'. I wasn't able to find what that master plan was, but it would be great if you could increase the number of mountain bike tracks around that area. Rotorua has huge numbers of visitors because of their amazing mountain bike tracks. Imagine what it might do to Manurewa's economy if we could capture some of that sort of tourism!”

“At least another playground in wattle downs. There is a council land on the corner of Melene and Turnberry Drive. Over the last few years there has been little investment into Wattle Downs. More covered in busstops on route 363”

“The arts... music and dance... the arts are a great way to connect people”

“More Intermediate/ High schools catering to the Manukau Heights/ Good Heights/ Totara Heights area”

The following graph shows the local proposed priorities that received the most comments.



Improving community safety received the majority of comments with 58 specific feedback points. These include comments relating to increasing Police presence, community watch

groups, ambassadors, security patrols and Maori Wardens; fixing unsafe pathways and walkways and improving lighting; CCTV; more places, support and activities for young people; support for the homeless, addressing window washers, improving the sense of safety at train stations; community activity that strengthens neighbourhoods; and reducing liquor outlets.

5. Overview of feedback received on regional proposals from Manurewa Local Board area

The consultation on the proposed annual budget focused on five key issues, Issue 1: Rates increases, Issue 2: Rating stability, Issue 3: Paying for tourism promotion, Issue 4: Paying for housing infrastructure and Issue 5: Paying council staff a living wage. The written feedback received from the Manurewa Local Board area on these key consultation topics is summarised below, along with an overview of any other areas of feedback on regional proposals with a local impact.

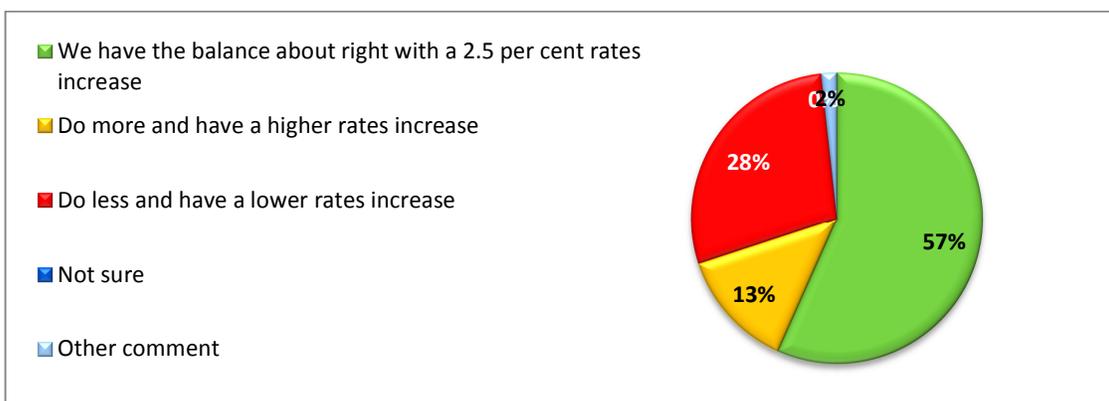
Issue 1: Rates increases

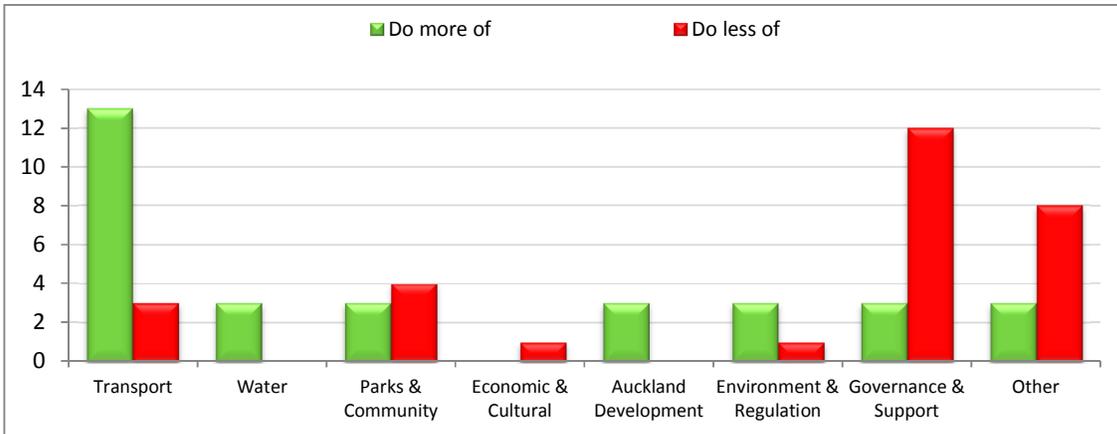
Aucklanders were asked if we have the balance right with a 2.5 per cent average rates increase or should we have a higher rates increase (3.5 per cent) and do more or a lower rates increase (2 per cent) and do less.

Question 1: Delivering our planned investments and services will require an average rates increase of 2.5 per cent for 2017/2018. A higher rates increase would enable us to do more, while a lower rates increase would mean we can do less.

What do you think?

The graphs below give an overview of the responses from the Manurewa Local Board area.



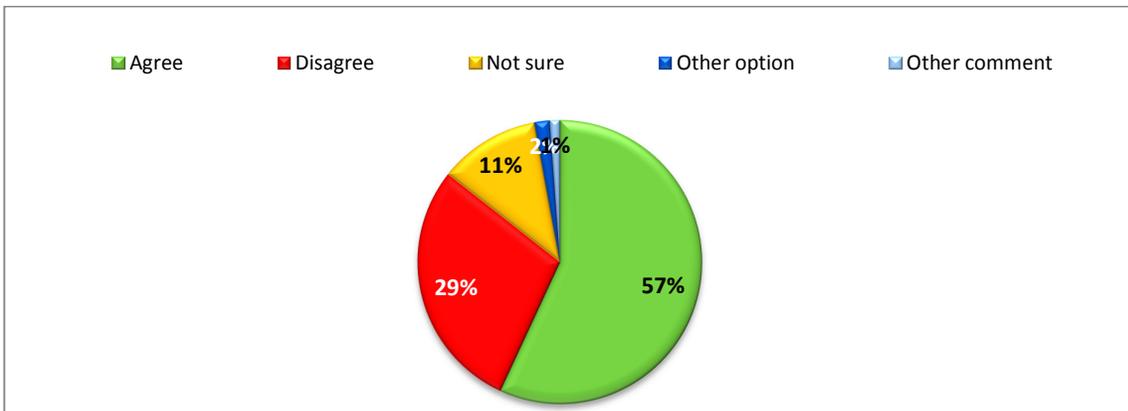


Issue 2: Rating stability

Aucklanders were asked if businesses should receive the same rates increase as residential ratepayers in 2017/2018.

Question 2: The council has been adjusting the share of general rates between businesses and residential ratepayers over time. This has resulted in businesses having a smaller increase than residential ratepayers. We are proposing that for 2017/2018 both should receive the same rates increase. What do you think?

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

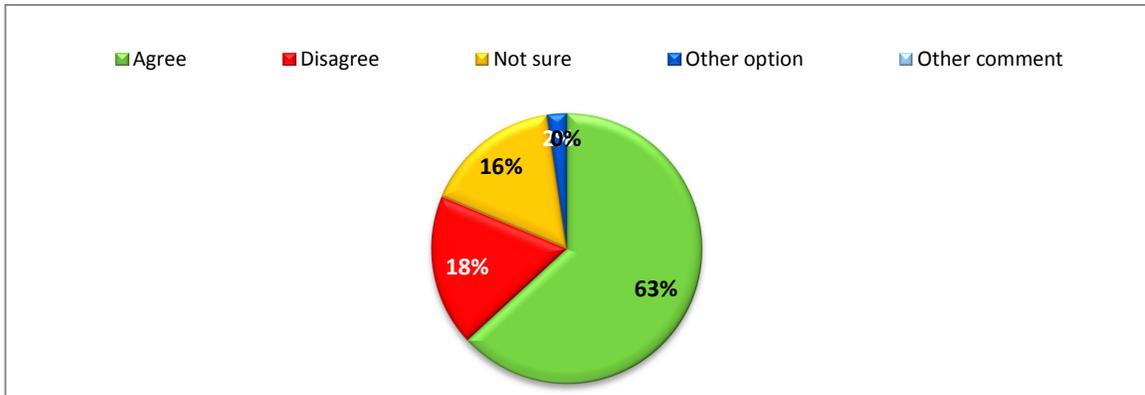


Issue 3: Paying for tourism promotion

Aucklanders were asked if they agree or disagree with the proposed targeted rate on accommodation providers to fund tourism promotion rather than from general rates.

Question 3: The council spends \$20-30 million on tourism promotion and major events each year. We are proposing to fund this from a targeted rate on accommodation providers rather than general rates. What do you think?

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

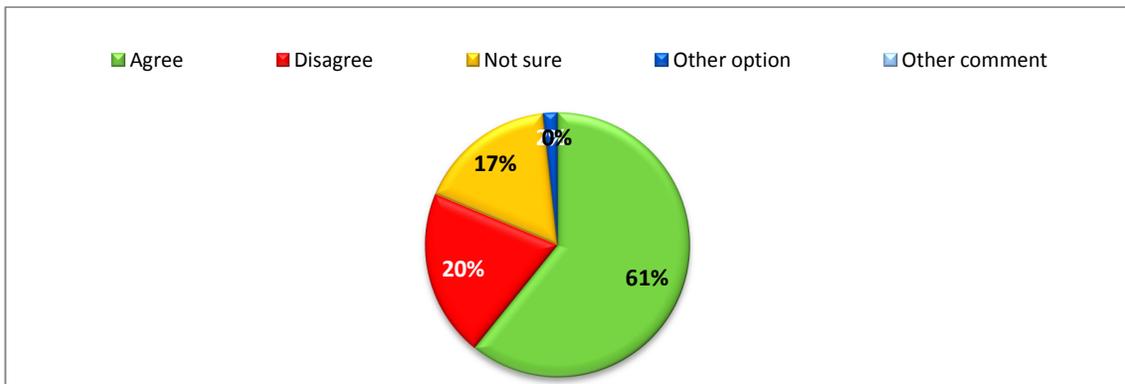


Issue 4: Paying for housing infrastructure

People were asked if they supported changing our funding policy to allow infrastructure for new housing developments to be funded by targeted rates alongside existing growth charges, rather than ratepayers across Auckland.

Question 4: The council is proposing to change our funding policy to allow infrastructure for new housing developments to be funded by targeted rates, rather than ratepayers across Auckland. What do you think?

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

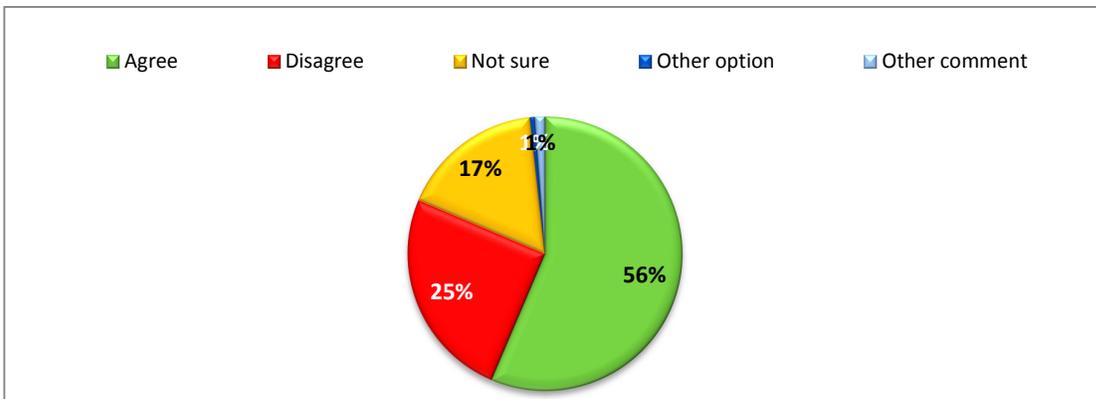


Issue 5: Paying council staff a living wage

People were asked if they support the council to implement a living wage policy over the council term ending October 2019 to ensure all council staff can afford typical living costs. This would be funded from savings within the existing budgets.

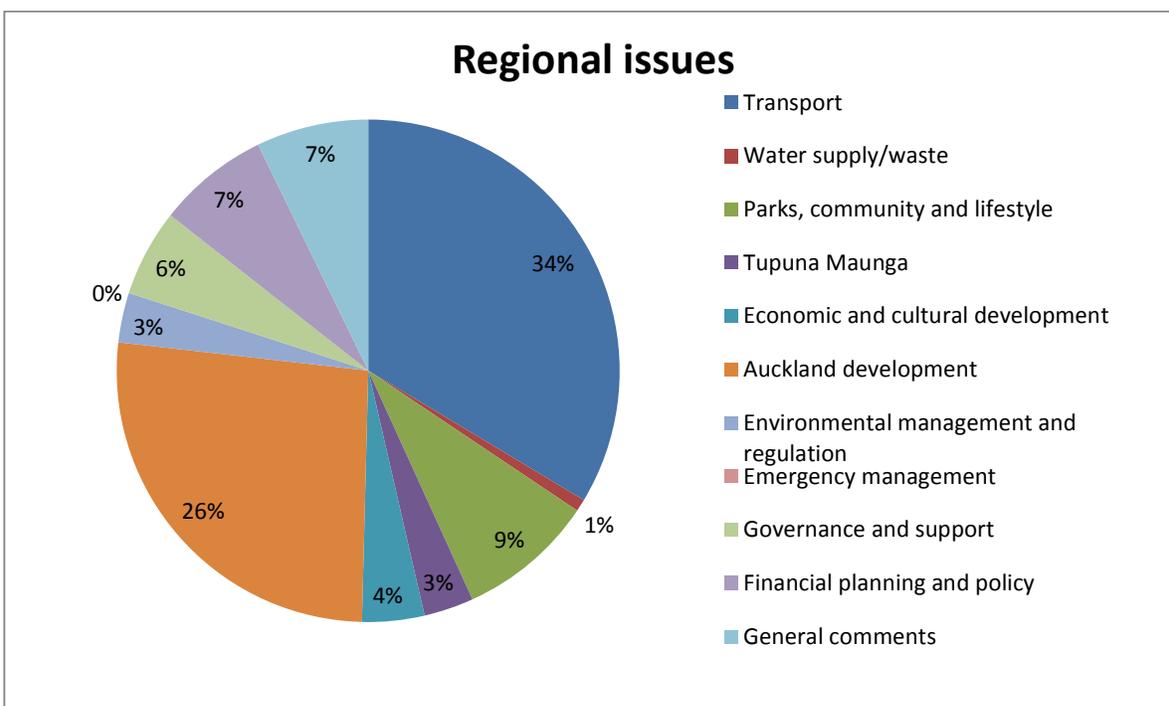
Question 5: The council is proposing to implement a living wage policy over the council term ending October 2019 to ensure all council staff can afford typical living costs. This would be funded from savings within the existing budgets. What do you think?

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



Feedback on other regional proposals with a local impact

Feedback was received on other regional proposals with a local impact. The graph below shows the areas covered by this feedback.



Key themes across feedback received on other regional proposals with a local impact (including verbatim comments) are:

- **Transport**

“Better access roads in and out of the Manukau City, Mangere, Manurewa and Takanini areas. Currently access to any of these areas is limited ie, Great South Road, Southern Motorway, South Western Motorway, Massey Road, George Bolt Memorial Drive, hence why traffic is bottle-necking”

“Better use and access to train stations and improvements. You need to stop either kiwi rail or the council from closing stations that will be necessary as the area develops willy nilly with no thought to how people will get to work”

- **Auckland development**

“Would there be a future opportunity for families or couples wanting to purchase a home where they can be temporarily accommodated in a Housing NZ home until such time that they are able to move into their new home”

“Housing seems to be allowed to go ahead without sufficient attention to infrastructure”

- **Parks, community and lifestyle**

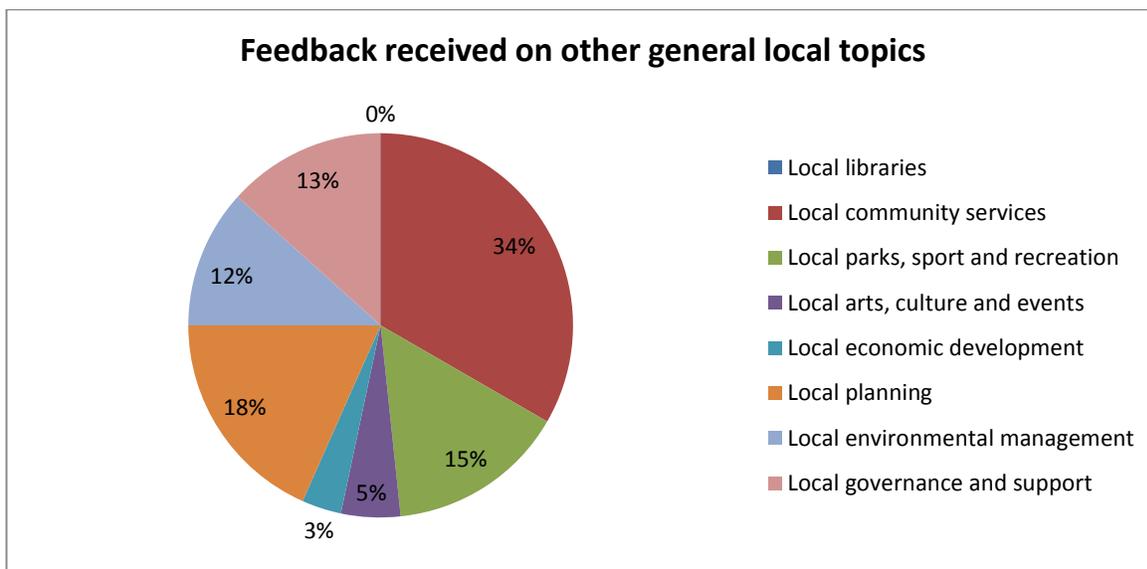
“More youth initiative programmes or working with youth providers who are successful”

“Upgrade library services and introduce more digital technology to cater for our youth”

“Bring back the inorganic collection then maybe our streets won’t be littered by illegal dumping. Give the residents bigger wheelie bins for rubbish collection for free and more bins otherwise we will have rubbish dumping too”

6. Feedback on other local topics

Feedback was received from the Manurewa Local Board area on other general local topics. The graph below shows the areas covered by this feedback.



Key themes across feedback received on other general local topics include:

- **Local community services**

“Community watch groups in each street police patrolling on foot around the streets to meet the community”

“Safety, regeneration of the area to make it a nicer place to live, dealing with issues of petty crime, reducing the high number of liquor stores and poor quality fast food places, encouraging higher quality businesses into the area, better social and cultural events that don't just entail loud music, bouncy castles and fast food”

- **Local planning**

“I would like to be notified of developments in the area under the RMA so that I can provide input into the effects of the development on the environment. The Pacific Gardens development was not notified the public and so I was unable to comment on indigenous tree removal and other RMA matters of environment impact”

“Many residential suburbs do not have a proper shopping centre resulting in people driving to nearby shopping centres even for little things”

- **Local parks, sport and recreation**

“The Manurewa community has a population of nearly 85,000 with one of the highest proportions of the population being under 25 years of age. Sports play a big part in the community... the use of sportsfields and playing surfaces should remain free to the users”

“Council will need to make provision for capital for maintenance of playing surfaces, associated carparking, rubbish, toilets, and renewals”

Finally, the consultation material also provided an opportunity for people to provide feedback on the following question:

- We are keen to work in partnership with the local community to deliver and support any shared objectives. Please tell us how you want to be more involved in the delivery of our initiatives.

Feedback points included increasing communication through a local magazine, online media and using Neighbourly; being involved in community planning days and community events; offers of support to provide specialist expertise such as disability issues and safety; and a desire to see local community facilities and schools (after hours) used more effectively to support young people to achieve and thrive.