Date: Wednesday 26 August 2020  
Time: 10.01am  
Meeting Room: This meeting will proceed via Skype for Business. Either a recording or written summary will be uploaded on the Auckland Council website  
Venue: 

Kaipātiki Local Board

OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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Note: The attachments contained within this document are for consideration and should not be construed as Council policy unless and until adopted. Should Councillors require further information relating to any reports, please contact the relevant manager, Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson.
Kaipātiki Local Board Submission on the 
Independent Panel Review of Auckland 
Council’s Council Controlled Organisations 

26 August 2020

Nga mihi nui,

The Kaipātiki Local Board would like to commend Auckland Council for initiating the CCO review and express its thanks to the Independent Panel Members for undertaking this complex but timely task.

Broadly, the board believes that the 64 recommendations made by the panel address legitimate concerns and are heading right direction, but need to go further.

The Kaipātiki Local Board:

1. Feels that the review does not adequately address the failure of CCOs and Auckland Council to uphold the co-governance model through which local boards should exercise responsibility for local decision making rather than being consulted on (at best) or advised (as noted in paragraph 11 of the Overview) or simply being left to find out about CCO activities in their area through the community and the media.

2. Notes that the role of local boards as publicly elected officials is to oversee and hold to account the management of public resources on behalf of the public whereas, in our experience, the activities and communications of Auckland Council and CCOs tends to emphasize the role as primarily about the representation of both the elected and executive functions of council. We see this as part of the organisational mindset of CCOs and Auckland Council that has contributed to the problems identified here and suggest clearer articulation is required in policy arising from this review.

3. Supports the proposed merger of ATEED and RFA but, noting that the public mandate for ATEED activities is unclear and the duplication of many of ATEED’s operations within council, instead recommends:
   
   1. the dissolution of ATEED entirely;
   2. the transfer of the ATEED facility portfolio to RFA;
   3. the transfer of ATEED’s economic development operations to an economic development unit within council (that could also include Business Improvement District responsibilities that currently lie within council);
   4. the transfer of ATEED’s events operations to the existing events team within council.

4. Proposes that refined policy and expectations for CCOs should emphasize a shared decision-making kaupapa in which CCOs, local boards and the community approach each other as stakeholders to jointly raise, inform and decide on outcomes and that this approach needs to be articulated through processes arising from recommendations 6 and 34.
5. Proposes that positions are created for governing body members on the boards of all CCOs, noting that positions were recently re-established on the board of Auckland Transport and that Council advocate to Government for this to happen if positions are not currently allowed for under legislation.

6. Endorses the recommendation for a single local board engagement plan to be used by all CCOs.

7. Recognises that the CCO model was conceived in order to create aligned Auckland-wide outcomes such as the Regional Land Transport Plan, but that this creates a direct tension in responding to local desires and concerns.

8. Proposes that a better balance can be struck between local and regional priorities which could in particular realize efficiencies by incorporating Local Boards in CCO decision-making. Such efficiencies could be realized through better prioritisation of local CCO initiatives and through better use of local knowledge to inform how solutions are implemented.

9. Recommends that this review be adapted as a template to define defining key performance assessment criteria by which CCOs can be held accountable to the Auckland public via the Governing Body and Local Boards.

10. Request that CCOs work with Local Boards to align their forward work programmes with Local Board Plans, noting that currently Local Boards do not often see CCO forward work programmes for their area.

11. Strongly endorse recommendation 6, with the expectation that this will result in the delegation of local decision-making to local boards where they affect roads or assets in the local street network, as allowed for under section 54 “Delegations” of the Local Government (Auckland Council) Act 2009, in particular clauses (1) and (8). This will enable Local Boards to fulfil their purpose as specified in section 30 “Local Boards” of the Local Government (Auckland Council) Act 2009, namely to enable decision-making by and on behalf of local communities.

6. Auckland Transport urgently reviews how it designs, consults on, funds and implements minor capital works, including how it involves local boards in the design of its annual work programme.

12. Strongly endorse recommendation 34, with the expectation of regular workshops with CCOs, including a minimum of monthly workshops with Auckland Transport and six-monthly workshops with the other CCOs, plus monthly electronic updates on planned activity by CCOs in the Local Board area, for example, such as supplied by the Community Facilities department of Council.

34. CCOs and local boards reset how they engage with one another, by means of:

- a workshop to develop a more meaningful way for CCOs and local boards to work together
- the preparation of joint CCO engagement plans for each local board
- more initiative by local boards in integrating their own planning with CCO planning
- liaison between CCOs and local boards at a more senior level so CCOs can quickly remedy local board concerns
- the preparation of joint CCO six-monthly reports for each local board
- the communication of clear, up-to-date information from CCOs to local boards on projects in their area.
13. Regarding recommendations 10 and 14, Local Boards should retain decision-making authority over all service assets in their area. There need to be clear criteria defining ‘service’ and ‘non-service’ assets. Local boards should have decision-making power on whether any asset is transferred from service to non-service.

14. Notes that the scope of this review is limited to CCOs and believes that a similar review of Council would be beneficial and would ensure a holistic approach and consistency across the entire organisation.

15. Request that dates/timeframes be set for achieving the changes recommended by the review panel.

Kia ora koutou.

Nau te rourou, naku te rourou, ka ora te manuhiri

With your food basket and my food basket, the people will thrive