

Date: Tuesday 10 May 2022
Time: 1.00pm
Meeting Room: This meeting proceeded via Microsoft Teams.
Venue: Either a recording or written summary will be uploaded on the Auckland Council website.

Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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11	Local board consultation feedback and input into the Annual Budget 2022/2023	
	A. 10 May 2022 Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board, item 11 - Local board consultation feedback and input into the Annual Budget 2022/2023 report, tabled item 11 - Aotea Annual Budget 2022-2023 LB Regional Input and Advocacy	3

Annual Budget 2022/2023

Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board feedback on regional topics

Topic	Proposal	Support / Do not support	Local Board Input
Climate Action	To introduce a climate action targeted rate	Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auckland has declared a climate emergency and the local board supports immediate action to mitigate climate change impacts. Climate change action is a priority for the local board noted by the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan 2020 having one outcome 'Ko te tino hia hia ki a manawaroa to tatou motu / Our island is resilient'. The local board requests more consideration be given to the climate challenges of remote and island communities within the climate action package initiatives. Freight is one of the highest contributors to carbon emissions for the island and the local board alongside the community are working on several food resilience initiatives to reduce the island's emissions footprint including community gardens, workshops on composting and seed banks. Sea-level rise is of high concern to the island with much of its core roading and transport infrastructure on low-lying coastal areas. The island's fuel prices are the highest in the region at \$3.98 for petrol and \$3.50 for diesel at Claris. The local board is working on a range of initiatives to support our off-the-grid community transitioning to alternate energy transport options, such as EV bike charging stations, a bespoke low-carbon public transport service, and a plan to link up accessways, paper roads and trails. The local board requests a reduction in rates for farmers and businesses who are actively transitioning to climate-friendly work practices

Topic	Proposal	Support / Do not support	Local Board Input
Budget Pressures	To manage on-going budget pressures	Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The local board supports the use of multi-levers to respond to the increasing budget pressures with a preference to operate within means rather than raise debt levels or sell assets.

Topic	Proposal	Support / Do not support	Local Board Input
Operating Spending Prioritisation	On how council will choose which services to reduce, stop or change	Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The local board acknowledges that difficult decisions need to be made due to the ever-increasing budget impacts of covid-19, inflation, and the war in Ukraine. The local board advocates for an increased localism focus within council procurement processes to support regular operational work and capital project delivery. Local procurement contracts and local supply sourcing will strengthen local resilience, mitigate travel carbon emissions, and avoid increased freight/fuel costs.

Item 11

Attachment A

Topic	Proposal	Local Board Input	
Waste	To move from a planned region-wide pay-as-you-throw system to a region-wide rates-funded refuse collection system	Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The local board supports equitable and flexible options for rubbish collection service charges. • Aotea has several sea-access only properties and multiple land ownership blocks. The local board requests consideration of the rural nature of these properties, in regard to practicalities of services such as access, when applying urban standardisation across charges and opt-out rules. • The Claris landfill is due to close in 2022 making initiatives to reduce waste the biggest priority for Aotea. • The local board acknowledges the Auckland Council Waste team for working alongside local community partners for island-based solutions and advocates strongly for this to continue. • The local board supports community-led initiatives such as a community resource recovery shop and free pest plant drop. • In line with the Tikapa Moana Te Moananui-ā-Toi Hauraki Gulf Islands WMMP 2018, the local board requests support for community-led food scrap solutions. • The local board requests single-use plastic bags be removed from all waste system options in line with best practise. • The local board advocates for Auckland Council to leverage its buying power to incentivise commercial businesses to adopt product stewardship practices and move towards more sustainable packaging.
	To standardise the opt-out rules for residential multi-unit developments (10 or more units)		
	To standardise the opt-out rules for residential and lifestyle properties with between two and nine units		
	To standardise the opt-out rules for non-residential properties		
	To apply a minimum base charge to every separately used or inhabited part of a property		

Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board key advocacy initiatives

Initiative	Description
Glenfern Sanctuary ranger	Glenfern Sanctuary became a regional park six years ago and the local board is seeking a review of the management agreement and operating model to ensure successful outcomes for our regional park. As a part of this review, the board is advocating for a NETR-funded on-island ranger to support the daily operations of the park.
Conservation Advisor	Aotea / Great Barrier is an ecologically significant island with a large proportion being a conservation park. The Conservation Advisor role works closely with mana whenua and Department of Conservation providing essential support for community-led conservation and marine biosecurity programmes. This role is currently joint funded by the local board and Environmental Services. The local board is advocating for the role to become fully supported through NETR funding.
Procurement	Auckland is looking at a number of economic, health and climate challenges. The local board plan 2020 focus is to support island resilience in the face of these challenges. The local board is advocating for increased localism within council procurement processes to enable local employment, business development, and practical on-island operational and capital project delivery. Local procurement contracts and local supply sourcing will strengthen local resilience and mitigate travel carbon emissions.
Compliance support	The island has limited compliance monitoring based on-island. COVID-19 has highlighted a resilience gap for the island when staff were unable to travel and review or enforce council policy. The local board is advocating for support to hire and train island-based compliance monitoring staff.
Marine protection	The Tikapa Moana Te Moananui-ā-Toi / Hauraki Gulf is in ecological decline. Mana whenua and the community are calling for urgent action to protect our coastal waters. The local board is advocating for government agencies to support the implementation of Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Pari initiatives, such as Ahu Moana, to protect our Hauraki Gulf.
Marine dumping	Mana whenua and community groups lead a successful court action to prevent marine dumping near our coastal waters. The local board is advocating for a policy change to prohibit marine dumping within the Hauraki Gulf. The board acknowledges that work has been progressed on this topic and seeks an update.
Public transport service for the island	Aotea has no on-island public transport service. Community members have requested a low-carbon public transport service to support the lowering of carbon emissions, provide improved safety, and increased independent connectivity for youth and elderly. Auckland Transport investigated public transport service options for the local board, however the projected costs were prohibitive. The local board is advocating for staff support to assist any investigations into community-led public transport initiatives.
Claris council building low carbon micro-grid	The local board acknowledges and thanks everyone involved for the completion of our 'one local initiative' to establish a renewable energy micro-grid for the Claris council buildings in 2019. The local board is advocating for continued futureproofing of this micro-grid to include the Claris Airport renewable energy system, emergency water supply system and to provide public electric vehicle charging facilities alongside the electric bike charging unit.
Road sealing	Aotea has a number of unsealed roads. Climate change has exacerbated the issue of dust affecting the health and wellbeing of the community and ecology. Auckland Transport has recently sealed Puriri Bay Rd through its new unsealed road framework. The local board acknowledges Auckland Transport for this work and advocates for continued investment on unsealed road renewals with the ultimate goal of sealing these roads.

Initiative	Description
Dark Sky Sanctuary	Aotea / Great Barrier Island was declared an International Dark Sky Sanctuary in 2017. The local board supports the continued efforts of Auckland Transport and Auckland Council to ensure the protection of our International Dark Sky Sanctuary status by ensuring low-level night street and signage lighting across the neighbouring regional areas.
Visitor levy	Aotea / Great Barrier Island has an increased level of local tourism since COVID-19 which may continue for some time. The local board is also closely following Rakiura / Stewart Island with their experience of a visitor levy. With the Destination Management Plan nearing completion and as new information on various visitor levies emerge, the local board is advocating for continued staff support to investigate a potential visitor levy to respond to the impacts of tourism.
Retaining funding for the LB's Transport Capital Funds	Aotea is a small, isolated island with unique transport needs. It has no public transport, no traffic lights, and shared roads. Its uniqueness makes it challenging to align with regional priority matrixes. The Local Board Transport Capital fund is a vital budget allowing for tailored improvements to local transport infrastructure. The board is advocating to retain this funding for the coming years.