

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board held in the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board Office, 1 The Strand, Takapuna on Tuesday, 7 February 2023 at 10.00am.

TE HUNGA KUA TAE MAI | PRESENT

Chairperson	Toni van Tonder
Deputy Chairperson	Terence Harpur
Members	Peter Allen
	Gavin Busch
	Melissa Powell
	George Wood, CNZM

1 Nau mai | Welcome

The meeting was opened with a karakia.

Whakataka te hau ki te uru	Cease o winds from the west
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga	Cease o winds from the south
Kia mākinakina ki uta	Bring calm breezes over the land
Kia mātaratara ki tai	Bring calm breezes over the sea
E hī ake ana te atakura	And let the red-tipped dawn come
He tio	With a touch of frost
He huka	A sharpened air
He hau hū	And promise of a glorious day.
Thei mauri ora	

2 Ngā Tamōtanga | Apologies

Resolution number DT/2023/1

MOVED by Chairperson T van Tonder, seconded by Member G Wood:

That the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board:

- a) **accept the apology from Member Gavin Busch for lateness.**

CARRIED

3 Te Whakapuaki i te Whai Pānga | Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 Te Whakaū i ngā Āmiki | Confirmation of Minutes

Resolution number DT/2023/2

MOVED by Chairperson T van Tonder, seconded by Member M Powell:

That the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board:

- a) **confirm the ordinary minutes of its meeting, held on Tuesday, 6 December 2022, as true and correct.**

CARRIED

5 He Tamōtanga Motuhake | Leave of Absence

There were no leaves of absence.

6 Te Mihi | Acknowledgements

Member Busch joined the meeting at 10:05am.

6.1 Jeremy Salmond - Devonport Heritage Architect

Resolution number DT/2023/3

MOVED by Chairperson T van Tonder, seconded by Deputy Chairperson T Harpur:

That the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board:

- a) **acknowledge the passing of Jeremy Salmond QSO FNZIA, renowned heritage architect and Devonport local.**

CARRIED

6.2 New Year Honours recipients

Resolution number DT/2023/4

MOVED by Chairperson T van Tonder, seconded by Deputy Chairperson T Harpur:

That the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board:

- a) **congratulates Geoffrey Clews QSM, awarded the Queens Service Medal for services to arts and the community**
- b) **congratulates Tuifa'asisina Lafaele QSM, awarded an Honorary Queens Service Medal for services to Pacific health**

CARRIED

6.3 Auckland Floods - January 2023

Resolution number DT/2023/5

MOVED by Chairperson T van Tonder, seconded by Deputy Chairperson T Harpur:

That the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board:

- a) **acknowledges the severe weather event in Auckland recently which delivered record rainfall and resulted in flash flooding and landslips across the region.**
- b) **recognises the enormous community response to the flooding, who have been on the ground across the region assisting Auckland Emergency Management, emergency services and those hit hard by the impacts of intense rain, and thanks them for their time and efforts.**
- c) **acknowledges the tragic deaths of Daniel Newth, Daniel Mark Miller, Dave Young, and Dave Leonard, who lost their lives in the storm and offers sincere condolences to their families and loved ones.**

CARRIED

7 Ngā Petihana | Petitions

There were no petitions.

8 Ngā Tono Whakaaturanga | Deputations

There were no deputations.

9 Te Matapaki Tūmatanui | Public Forum

9.1 Paul Anderson, Stats NZ - Census 2023

Resolution number DT/2023/6

MOVED by Chairperson T van Tonder, seconded by Member P Allen:

That the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board:

- a) receive the presentation from Paul Anderson and thank him for his attendance.

CARRIED

10 Ngā Pakihi Autaia | Extraordinary Business

There was no extraordinary business.

11 Devonport-Takapuna Local Board Annual Budget 2023/2024 local board consultation content

Documents were tabled. Copies have been placed on the official minutes and are available on the Auckland Council website as a minutes attachment.

Resolution number DT/2023/7

MOVED by Chairperson T van Tonder, seconded by Deputy Chairperson T Harpur:

That the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board:

- a) note that the proposed reduction of \$16 million to local board operational funding can be sought from both the local boards Locally Driven Initiatives and the Asset Based Services budgets, both of which directly support our local services such as arts and culture, environment and climate response, library services and opening hours, community programmes, events and youth.
- b) Note that only a small portion of Asset Based Services budget is available to be considered for savings due to existing contractual commitments and the inability to realise savings for FY24. This means that the proposed reduction will more likely represent a cut to approximately 60% of the boards Locally Driven Initiative budget.
- c) Recommend that the planned operating spend 2023/2024 line in the financial tables in the supporting information and the consultation material is split into asset based services and Locally Driven Initiative budgets so that the impacts are made clearer.

- d) Request that the local consultation questions include a method of prioritization and have options for submitters to provide at least five services of importance, rather than three services of importance.
- e) approve local consultation document content (Attachment A) and local supporting information content (Attachment B) for inclusion in the Annual Budget 2023/2024 consultation material, subject to clauses c) and d) above.
- f) delegate authority to the local board Chair to approve any changes required to finalise the local consultation document and supporting information content for the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board for the Annual Budget 2023/2024.
- g) approve the following Have Your Say event in the local board area during the Annual Budget 2023/2024 consultation period:
 - i) Have Your Say 5.00-8.00pm, Tuesday, 21 March 2023, Devonport-Takapuna Local Board Office, 1 The Strand, Takapuna
- h) delegate authority to the local board Chair to approve any changes required to the Have Your Say event.
- i) delegate to the following elected members and staff the power and responsibility to receive feedback and hear from the public through “spoken (or New Zealand sign language) interaction” at the council’s public engagement events during the consultation period for the Annual Budget 2023/2024:
 - i) All local board members and Chair
 - ii) General Manager Local Board Services, Local Area Manager, Local Board Senior Advisor, Local Board Advisor, Local Board Engagement Advisor
 - iii) any additional staff approved by the General Manager Local Board Services or the Group Chief Financial Officer
- j) notes that in light of the recent unprecedented emergency, deferring or reducing funding of climate action can be seen as imprudent.
- k) notes the essential role in the response played by community organisations and questions who will fulfil that role in future emergencies if funding is cut as per the Mayors proposed budget.
- l) note its concern that such a significant reduction in local board funding could undermine Auckland Council’s shared decision-making model as established under the Local Government Auckland Council Act 2009 and could disempower local communities.

CARRIED

Attachments

- A 07 February 2023 - Devonport-Takapuna Local Board Business Meeting - Item 13: Auckland Council's submission on the Inquiry into the 2022 Local Elections - LB consultation document content template
- B 07 February 2023 - Devonport-Takapuna Local Board Business Meeting - Item 13: Auckland Council's submission on the Inquiry into the 2022 Local Elections - Local Board Supporting Information Document

12 Financial support to Sunnynook Community House emergency flood response

Resolution number DT/2023/8

MOVED by Chairperson T van Tonder, seconded by Deputy Chairperson T Harpur:

That the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board:

- a) approve a reallocation of \$5,000 from the local contestable grants budget to be given to Sunnynook Community House Incorporated as a one-off payment to reimburse some of the costs incurred meeting the immediate and short-term needs of local residents and community volunteers affected by, and responding to, flooding in the area served by the Sunnynook Community House.

CARRIED

13 Auckland Council's submission on the Inquiry into the 2022 Local Elections

Resolution number DT/2023/9

MOVED by Chairperson T van Tonder, seconded by Member M Powell:

That the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board:

- a) Considers the provision of ballot papers through postal service only to be insufficient to improve participation in local elections. Locally many complaints were received regarding the failure of voting papers to arrive, the degradation of papers through weather impacts, or ruined by snails.
- b) Notes special voting stations were not in good proximity to constituents, the only North Shore based special voting station was Warkworth.
- c) Recommend that local elections in New Zealand move to the system used in New South Wales, Australia with;
 - a. Polling booths being again established as the prime point of voting, in the suburbs and towns, for local body and other local elections on the election day Saturday;
 - b. People can still drop in to elections offices in the weeks prior to the elections and cast their votes, as happens currently with central government elections;
 - c. Postal voting is still available for people living long distances from the polling booth or those out of NZ at the time of the election or working elsewhere in New Zealand or house bound with accessibility issues making it impossible to attend the polling station;
 - d. People living out of New Zealand can cast their vote on a special document and then scan it for return to the election office;
- d) Recommends a new review into digital technologies be made to support online voting using REALME authentication. Digital voting will ensure a better demographic spread of voting as younger voters are more inclined to participate using technology.
- e) Recommends that all voters be sent short message/messaging service (SMS) texts and/or emails notifying voters that the papers have been sent out with a link to ways to cast votes.
- f) Support raising the deposit required for the mayoralty nomination to \$500;

- g) Recommend to the Justice select committee New Zealand establishes an electoral commission to conduct the local elections in a similar way to what occurs in New South Wales.**

CARRIED

Resolution number DT/2023/10

MOVED by Chairperson T van Tonder, seconded by Member M Powell:

That the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board:

- h) Supports the lowering of the voting age to 16 coupled with a nation-wide programme of civics education, to create early voting habits and build a mentality of voting as a civic duty, much like jury service.**

CARRIED

Note: Pursuant to Standing Order 1.8.6, Member G Wood and Member G Busch requested that their dissenting vote against clause h) be recorded.

Resolution number DT/2023/11

MOVED by Chairperson T van Tonder, seconded by Member M Powell:

That the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board:

- i) Does not support point 25 in Auckland Council's Draft Submission to the Justice Committee Enquiry that "if local government elections were more party-based then voters might have a better sense of what they are voting for" and that "Party politics might also engender a competitive spirit between parties, leading to better engagement." There should be no requirement for candidates to align with central political parties and nor should it necessarily be encouraged. It is our view that candidates should be standing for their local area and residents, rather than for a political party.**

CARRIED

Note: Pursuant to Standing Order 1.8.6, Member G Wood requested that their dissenting vote against clause i) be recorded.

Resolution number DT/2023/12

MOVED by Chairperson T van Tonder, seconded by Member M Powell:

That the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board:

- j) Recommends that candidates are required to indicate in the candidate booklet if they are members of, or backed by, a political party.**

CARRIED

Note: Pursuant to Standing Order 1.8.6, Member G Wood requested that their dissenting vote against clause j) be recorded.

Resolution number DT/2023/13

MOVED by Chairperson T van Tonder, seconded by Member M Powell:

That the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board:

- k) Expresses concern that the true cost of a successful campaign is financially prohibitive for many people, thus resulting in a lack of diversity in Local**

Government. We consider a means-tested campaign grant be made available for people to fairly compete.

CARRIED

Note: Pursuant to Standing Order 1.8.6, Member G Wood and Member G Busch requested that their dissenting vote against clause k) be recorded.

14 Elected Members' Reports

Resolution number DT/2023/14

MOVED by Chairperson T van Tonder, seconded by Member G Busch:

That the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board:

- a) receive and thank member Terence Harpur for his written report.**
- b) receive and thank member George Wood for his written report.**

CARRIED

15 Te Whakaaro ki ngā Take Pūtea e Autaia ana | Consideration of Extraordinary Items

There was no consideration of extraordinary items.

11.59 am

The Chairperson thanked Members for their attendance and attention to business and declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD
AT A MEETING OF THE DEVONPORT-TAKAPUNA
LOCAL BOARD HELD ON

DATE:.....

CHAIRPERSON:.....