

Date: Tuesday 9 May 2023
Time: 9.30am
Meeting Room: The Leslie Comrie Board Room,
Venue: Level One Franklin: The Centre,
12 Massey Ave,
Pukekohe

Franklin Local Board

OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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Attachment A:

Franklin Local Board feedback on regional topics Annual Budget 2023-24

Topic	Proposal	Support / Do not support	Local Board Input
Operating spending reductions	Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million	Support with comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The board continue to support the provision of public transport as a mechanism to reduce carbon emissions and suggest that the Governing Body seek assurance from Auckland Transport that reduced services have considered the production of carbon emissions i.e. are in places where there are other low-emissions transport options available to the community.
	Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited to save a further \$27.5 million,	Do not support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note that the Tātaki Auckland Unlimited (TAU) savings proposal anticipated availability of the Accommodation provider targeted rate and that given this is not available to TAU in 2023-24, that the organisation is facing an unreasonable \$44million savings goal. The board are concerned that TAU may be unable to deliver important strategic services in support of the Auckland's developing economy i.e. Drury/Opaheke or support priority local board driven economic development initiatives in this scenario e.g. the Franklin Local Economic Development Broker and programme. Recommend that TAU operations savings target be reduced to \$12.4 million to reflect the unavailability of the \$15.1million APTR generated budget, and that TAU is directed to continue to provide Local Economic Development support where this is endorsed or supported by local boards.

	<p>Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$20 million</p>	<p>Support with comment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the reduction/stopping of regional services including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community and education programmes, unless these can demonstrate regional coverage i.e. are accessible to all areas of Auckland ○ Social services activities, noting that these should be delivered at the local level or via central government agencies on the basis that these services rarely provide truly regional services available to all and therefore should not be regionally funded. • Do not support the reduction/stopping of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Economic development noting that includes focussed investment in the south, to address inequity and to unlock potential of the south, through The Southern Initiative. The board considers that the focused investment in those outcomes should continue, but would suggest refreshed scope and approach, that considers the whole of the south, with a broader and refreshed mandate that considers opportunity beyond the urban south i.e. in Drury and other parts of Franklin be considered. ○ Arts and Culture programmes, however encourage the governing body to direct staff to broaden the delivery of these programmes so they are available more broadly/applied with spatial equity. ○ Funding for youth centres and youth support, however encourage the Governing Body to direct staff to broaden the delivery of these programme so they are available more broadly/applied with spatial equity
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	Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million	Do not support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note that the reduction to local board funding will have a disproportionate negative impact on local community services Note that the application of 5% reduction across all boards is not an equitable approach as some boards have fewer savings options available to them i.e. regional services and facilities are not applied equally across board areas and therefore some boards are already supplementing these with local board budgets and some communities are already receiving minimum service levels. Note that staff advice has been generic and has not addressed this inequity of service. Note that these same boards are also boards who have inequitable baseline funding. Recommend that the Governing Body revisit the application of reduced funding so that boards at minimum services levels, or who are currently identified as being underfunded do not have funding further reduced.
	Reducing regional contestable grants to save \$3 million	Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> note that regional contestable grants are not equitably distributed across the region. Cuts to these grants will not have a substantial impact on Franklin communities.
	No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million	Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> early childhood education should not be a function of Auckland Council as there is adequate and accessible market provision available across the region.
Amending Auckland International Airport Limited Shareholding Policy	To sell Auckland Council's shares in AIAL	Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the board notes that the community in Franklin were split, however the majority agreed that some or all should be sold to offset Council debt. The board notes that the opportunity cost to operational programmes and services in retaining the shares is significant, while the risk to local communities from selling shares is able to be mitigated.
Managing rates and debt	To increase rates by 4.66 percent.	Do not support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend increasing rates up to 5.66% to enable continued provision of community services and facilities through local board budgets
	To increase debt by \$75 million	Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note that some increase in debt is required as a lever toward achieving Auckland Council's budget deficit.

	To reduce Natural Environment and Water Quality Targeted Rates.	Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Franklin Local Board consider that the focus on the Natural Environment and on improving Water Quality via these targeted rates should remain a priority for Auckland, however support the temporary reduction of the rate on the basis that boards have been assured that there will be no substantive reduction in progress in 2023-24 i.e. there is sufficient funding to maintain and continue existing programmes of work. The board wants to signal its expectation that the full targeted rate will be reinstated in from 2024/2025.
Storm response	To increase rates by an additional 1 per cent to fund a storm response fund	Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The board supports this proposal noting that storm events are likely to be more frequently experienced and Auckland Council must progress contingency planning for these events.
Other rates, fees and charges	To introduce a one-off fee for residents wishing to change bin sizes	Support with comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The board supports the one-off fee for those wishing to increase waste bin size, but does not support the application of a fee for those choosing to reduce waste-bin size, on the basis that those reducing waste to landfill should be supported to do so. The board do not support a one-off fee being applied to residents wishing to increase recycling bin size on the basis that those reducing waste to landfill should be supported to do so.
	To extend the food scraps targeted rate to new areas	Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The board supports the continuation of this forecast programme into Pukekohe on the basis that this will support urban communities to reduce food waste to landfill.
	To change which bus service are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate	Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment
	To increase fee for swimming pool/spa pool fencing compliance targeted rate	Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support this proposal on the basis that homeowners have a choice to have a pool and therefore should be liable for costs associated with this choice i.e. should not be subsidised by rate-payers without pools.

	To amend the Community Occupancy Guidelines	Support with comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the amendment of community occupancy guidelines, however note that matters relating to community spaces should not be matter for the governing body. Local boards are responsible for decision making for community and therefore any direction on policy otr operations pertaining to these facilities should at the direction of the relevant local board. Do not support any blanket application of lease application or renewals fees. Some community leaseholders provide valuable community services that should not be disincentivised by onerous fees i.e. will need to be applied at the direction of the relevant local board who are best placed to reflect local practices and priorities.
	To review fees for bookable spaces in council managed pool and leisure facilities.	Do not support with comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The board do not have council managed pool and leisure facilities, however note that the matter of fees in bookable spaces should not be matter for the governing body. Local boards are responsible for decision making for pools and therefore any direction on pool operations should at the direction of the relevant local board.
	Any other rates, fees and charges	No comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comment
Other Issues	Any other issues, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2023/2024 	The board do not have whenua within the Franklin Local Board rohe that is included in the Tupuna Maunga Authority mandate and therefore do not consider it appropriate to comment.	

Franklin Local Board feedback on related policies

Policy	Proposal	Support / Do not support	Local Board Input
Revenue and Financing Policy	Pause the Long-Term Differential Strategy (LTDS) for one year.	Support	<i>The board note that the LTDS is an important tool in supporting Auckland's economic well-being, however consider that pausing the strategy for one year is justified in the context of Auckland Council's budget challenges budget and alternative impacts on community well-being.</i>
Māori Land Rates Remission and Postponement Policy	Amend the Māori Land Rates Remission and Postponement Policy to provide a partial remission of rates to general title papakāinga, where that land is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> protected from being sold out of Māori ownership for the sole use of hapū/iwi (tribe). 	Support	Support without comment

Franklin Local Board key advocacy initiatives

1. Consider applying local board operational budget cuts in a manner that reflects current funding inequity ie boards who are already underfunded have their budgets cut by less; and/or boards that are experiencing significant current transformational growth have their budgets cut by less.
2. Request clarity on the impact of funding and resource cuts on The Southern Initiative. Investment in the south through TSI was intended to unlock the potential of South Auckland. Local boards across South Auckland are already under-served and under-resourced and loss of dedicated investment will perpetuate and exacerbate inequity and ultimately undermine the potential of Auckland.
3. Retain Local Board Transport Capital Fund. Note that in Franklin this is primarily used to address legacy underfunding or planning failure and is a critical factor in promoting modal shift (reducing climate emissions) and safety deficits. In 2023-24 this will be used to enable children and their families to walk safely to. This investment need is caused by a nationally implemented Special Housing Area and failure in the Auckland Council planning and development approach i.e that doesn't meet regional or national thresholds for alternative intervention.
4. Governing Body to take a leadership role, and be responsible for the health of the Manukau Harbour, as it does the Hauraki Gulf and Kaipara Harbour. The nine local boards adjoining the Manukau Harbour and the Manukau Harbour Forum support the Chief Planning Office led 'Achieving Better Environmental Outcomes for the Manukau Harbour and its catchments ' initiative. It is vital for the improved environmental health of the Manukau harbour and catchments that council continues to give coordinated support and leadership to deliver on the strategic priorities of both Auckland Council and mana whenua.
5. Fund Tātaki Unlimited Auckland at a level that enables them to continue to facilitate economic development outcomes including at the local level, noting the importance to developing areas such as Drury economic development master planning.
6. Retain sufficient resource within Eke Panuku for Unlock Pukekohe to progress in a timely manner, and to support local boards with divestment initiatives. Eke Panuku, Auckland Transport and the Franklin Local Board have invested significant resource and time into Unlock Pukekohe and it will deliver crucial outcomes for a growing community in Pukekohe and the villages it services. Eke Panuku also supports the divestment process, which is a critical tool needed to support boards to plan and deliver fit for purpose facilities and services in their area.
7. Retain current funding for Te Puru Charitable Trust (an Auckland Council CCO) Funding Agreement and Facility Operating Grant process* (\$200,000 in 2022/23; \$160,000 in 2023/2024). The Beachlands/Maraetai area has already met the threshold needed for a council-run facility, but the community continues to rely on the volunteer managed Te Puru Trust to provide the only community service site in the area. Without it, it is likely that the facility will close.
8. Strongly suggest that the governing body continue to fund Coastguard and Surf Lifesaving services and these are truly regional services, and are critical to the well-being of Aucklanders and visitors.

