
Howick Local Board

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Howick Local Board held in the Howick Local Board Meeting Room, Pakuranga Library Complex, 7 Aylesbury Street, Pakuranga on Thursday, 2 May 2024 at 1.32pm.

TE HUNGA KUA TAE MAI | PRESENT

Chairperson	Damian Light	
Deputy Chairperson	Bo Burns	
Members	Katrina Bungard	Via electronic link
	David Collings	Via electronic link
	Bruce Kendall	
	John Spiller	Until 3.53pm
	Mike Turinsky	In-person until 2.23pm, then via electronic link
	Adele White	
	Peter Young, JP	Until 3.05pm

1 Nau mai | Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone present.

2 Ngā Tamōtanga | Apologies

There were no apologies

3 Te Whakapuaki i te Whai Pānga | Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Note: Member M Turinsky left the room at 2.23pm, but remained in attendance via electronic link.

4 Long-Term Plan 2024/2034: Local Board Consultation Feedback and Input

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member A White:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) receive consultation feedback on the proposed Howick Local Board priorities and activities for 2024/2025 and key advocacy initiatives for 2024-2034.
- b) receive consultation feedback on regional topics in the Long-term Plan 2024-2034 from people and organisations based in the Howick local board area.
- c) acknowledge and thank local residents and organisations for their input into this complex but important consultation.
- d) acknowledge the significant challenges faced by residents and businesses with increases due to inflation and cost of living, as well as the financial challenges faced by Auckland Council.
- e) provide the following input on regional topics in the proposed Long-term Plan 2024-2034 and advocacy initiatives to the Governing Body:
 - i) in regard to the overall direction for the Long-term Plan, the Board:
 - A) support Auckland Council's central proposal overall, and:
 - 1) note that 52% of local individual submissions supported 'Do less', and 33% supported the central proposal.
 - 2) note the commentary received through submissions and in person at consultation events indicates that improvements to service delivery is important, especially transport, roading design and maintenance, environmental management, and enforcement services. As these cannot be delivered under 'Do less', the Board supports the central proposal overall.
 - 3) note that there was majority support for the central or 'do more' proposals in five of the seven areas, namely transport (77%), water (85%), environment & regulation (67%), parks & community (64%), and council support (63%). As these cannot be delivered under 'Do less', the Board supports the central proposal overall.
 - B) provide the following input on the seven areas of Council-funded service and activities:

- 1) on transport: note that 38% of local individual submissions supported the central proposal and 39% supported 'Do more'. The Board supports Council's central proposal.
 - 2) on water: note that 52% of local individual submissions supported the central proposal and 33% supported 'Do more'. The Board supports Council's central proposal.
 - 3) on city and local development: note that 45% of local individual submissions supported 'Do less' and 39% supported the central proposal. The Board supports the "pay less and get less" option for the City Centre, but support Council's central proposal for urban regeneration with Ormiston specifically in mind.
 - 4) on the environment and regulation: note that 46% of local individual submissions supported the central proposal. The Board support Council's central proposal and strongly encourage greater focus on compliance and enforcement particularly animal management, freedom camping, and illegal dumping of rubbish.
 - 5) on parks and community: note that 42% of local individual submissions supported the central proposal. The Board support Council's central proposal, with specific feedback on Fairer Funding noted below.
 - 6) on economic and cultural development: note that 47% of local individual submissions supported the 'do less' option and 37% supported the central proposal. The Board supports Council's central proposal but with a focus on regional events that bring proven financial benefits to the city (high positive return on investment). The Board also strongly suggests that the Governing Body consider how to facilitate local economic development in the absence of Tātaki Auckland Unlimited service provision.
 - 7) on Council support: note that 46% of local individual submissions supported the central proposal. The Board supports Council's central proposal especially increasing the scope and speed of group shared services to realise cost savings and improved responsiveness.
- ii) in regard to the Transport Plan, the Board:
- A) note that 66% of local individual submissions supported most or all of the proposal (34% and 32% respectively).
 - B) support investing in rapid transit network actions - such as making it easier to pay, including introducing capped weekly public transport passes – and underscore this support with an emphasis on the importance of completing the Eastern Busway project.
 - C) strongly support network optimisation, reducing temporary traffic management requirements, and introducing dynamic lanes.
 - D) support a needs-based, value-for-money approach for raised pedestrian crossings and cycleways, with an emphasis on commuter cycleways and safety for schoolchildren.
- iii) in regard to the North Harbour Stadium, the Board:
- A) defer consideration on this matter to the Upper Harbour Local Board, and any other Northern Local Boards that have an interest in this matter.
 - B) encourage Governing Body to involve the relevant Local Boards in the decision-making on the future of this asset.

- iv) in regard to the Auckland Future Fund and Auckland Airport Limited Shares, the Board:
 - A) note that this is a complex topic and commentary in the local submissions suggests that the public didn't feel they were sufficiently informed.
 - B) note that 45% of local individual submissions supported the proposal and 37% opposed.
 - C) support, pending further detail, the proposed establishment of a diversified investment fund for Auckland known as the Auckland Future Fund – but with strict management via a trust, and strong criteria as to its potential use, and:
 - 1) support the intention to implement self-insurance and reduce risk, noting the significant impact that the pandemic and storms had on both the operation and financial performance of the airport and port.
 - 2) encourage strict controls to ring-fence the fund to prevent political interference, including potential regulatory or legislative changes.
 - D) support the proposed transferal of Council's shareholding of just over 11 per cent in Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) to the fund, but do not support the sale of the shares.
- v) in regard to the Ports of Auckland, the Board:
 - A) note that 43% of local individual submissions supported the proposal to lease the operation, with 36% supporting council continuing to operate it. Proformas showed 98% support for a lease.
 - B) do not support the proposal for Council to enter into a lease for the port operations for a period of 35 years, but do support a proposal for an initial lease of 15 years, with a contract review to extend to two 10-year periods, on the basis of reduced risk.
 - C) support continuing to operate under the current arrangements and delivering more profits and dividends.
 - D) in the event that the council group continues to operate the Port of Auckland, support:
 - 1) continuing to use the profits and dividends to fund council services; and
 - 2) investing the profits and dividends in the proposed Auckland Future Fund; however
 - 3) the Board prefer the latter of these two options.
 - E) support any other aspects of the proposal for the Ports including in relation to self-insurance, and implementation options for the proposed Auckland Future Fund and possible changes to the council's shareholding in Port of Auckland Limited and to the ownership of the Port Land.
- vi) in regard to Port Land, the Board:
 - A) do not provide a view on the proposed transferral of Captain Cook and Marsden wharves to Council within 2-5 years -- owing to a lack of information on this matter and the potential impact on lease options.
 - B) do not provide a view the proposed transferal of the Bledisloe Terminal site to Council for use in another way within 15 years – owing to a lack of information on this matter and the potential impact on lease options.
- vii) in regard to changes to other rates, fees and charges, the Board:

- A) support resuming the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and extending it to 2034/2035, and:
 - 1) recommend that the organisation provide greater clarity on deliverables/investment areas so that the community can monitor returns.
- B) support resuming the Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) and extending it to 2034/2035, and:
 - 1) recommend that the organisation provide greater clarity on deliverables/investment areas so that the community can monitor returns.
- C) support broadening the description of bus services funded by the Climate Action Transport Targeted Rate (CATTR) to reduce the need to consult each year for minor changes to the bus programme.
- D) do not support discontinuing the Long-Term Differential Strategy and raising the share of NETR, WQTR and CATTR paid by businesses to align with their share of the general rate – and:
 - 1) support instead a reduction in business rates to bring them closer, and
 - 2) note that local business is critical to local and social economic well-being, contributing significantly as ratepayers.
- E) defer consideration on the Rodney Drainage Districts Targeted Rate to the Rodney Local Board.
- F) defer consideration on the Waitākere Rural Sewerage Targeted Rate to the Waitākere Ranges Local Board, and any other Western Local Boards that may have an interest in this matter.
- G) do not support the applying the Recycling Targeted Rate to all schools due to concern this may encourage schools to reduce recycling resulting in negative environmental and educational outcomes.
- H) defer consideration the planned roll out of rates-funded refuse collections to the Kaipātiki, Devonport-Takapuna, Upper Harbour, Hibiscus and Bays, Waitākere Ranges, Papakura, Franklin, and Rodney Local Boards.
- I) support the Franklin Paths Targeted Rate.
- viii) in regard to the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2024/2025, the Board support the draft proposal in line with Howick Local Board Plan 2023 objective to 'support the Tūpuna Maunga Authority to protect and enhance Ōhūiarangi / Pigeon Mountain'.
- ix) in regard to the Fairer Funding Model, the Board:
 - A) note with concern the abruptness of the changes to local board funding and the potential impact this may have on the ability to continue delivering services.
 - B) note its previous feedback from 17 August 2023 on proposals for achieving funding equity through the Long-term Plan (HW/2023/155) as follows, the Board:
 - 1) *“note the important connection between the funding equity and local board reorganisation review and request that the reorganisation should be done prior to addressing funding equity.*
 - 2) *note that figures provided on local community services funding are difficult to compare with the figures available via the Long Term Plan*

and Annual Budgets, making responding to the proposal challenging.

3) *in regard to the scope, the Board:*

a) support the limited scope of local community services based on the ability to deliver the most equitable outcomes in the shortest timeframe.

b) support the inclusion of LDI based on the increased decision-making of Local Boards.

c) support the consideration of CAPEX and OPEX separately given that these are funded very differently.

d) support the inclusion of unallocated capex provisioned for minor capex, response renewals and new investment (not growth) on the basis that Local Boards should have more control over spending in their area and these CAPEX items enable greater local responsiveness.

4) *in regard to the timeframe, the Board:*

a) do not support the proposal to achieve funding equity for local boards in a much shorter timeframe due to concerns around significant asset funding reductions.

5) *in regard to alternative options, the Board:*

a) do not support the proposed approach that new capex funding to bring the remaining local boards to equity in the following seven years of the LTP is held in a pool and allocated according to agreed criteria.

6) *in regard to other items, the Board:*

a) note that the MBS programme needs further investigation with concerns around the lack of transparency, accountability and fairness that can arise from shared funding.

b) note the Mayor's statement on 21 July and acknowledge the important connection between funding equity and the reorganisation discussion.

Resolution number HW/2024/47

Member D Collings moved an amendment to the original motions, as follows:

MOVED by Member D Collings, seconded by Member K Bungard:

That the Howick Local Board:

e)

vi)

B) support the proposed transferal of the Bledisloe Terminal site to Council for use in another way within 15 years, on the proviso that it

is used in the interests of the people of Auckland such as a public open space.

CARRIED

The substantive motion was put:

Resolution number HW/2024/48

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member A White:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **receive consultation feedback on the proposed Howick Local Board priorities and activities for 2024/2025 and key advocacy initiatives for 2024-2034.**
- b) **receive consultation feedback on regional topics in the Long-term Plan 2024-2034 from people and organisations based in the Howick local board area.**
- c) **acknowledge and thank local residents and organisations for their input into this complex but important consultation.**
- d) **acknowledge the significant challenges faced by residents and businesses with increases due to inflation and cost of living, as well as the financial challenges faced by Auckland Council.**
- e) **provide the following input on regional topics in the proposed Long-term Plan 2024-2034 and advocacy initiatives to the Governing Body:**
 - i) **in regard to the overall direction for the Long-term Plan, the Board:**
 - A) **support Auckland Council’s central proposal overall, and:**
 - 1) **note that 52% of local individual submissions supported ‘Do less’, and 33% supported the central proposal.**
 - 2) **note the commentary received through submissions and in person at consultation events indicates that improvements to service delivery is important, especially transport, roading design and maintenance, environmental management, and enforcement services. As these cannot be delivered under ‘Do less’, the Board supports the central proposal overall.**
 - 3) **note that there was majority support for the central or ‘do more’ proposals in five of the seven areas, namely transport (77%), water (85%), environment & regulation (67%), parks & community (64%), and council support (63%). As these cannot be delivered under ‘Do less’, the Board supports the central proposal overall.**
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proposal for urban regeneration with Ormiston specifically in mind.

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 - a) *do not support the proposed approach that new capex funding to bring the remaining local boards to equity in the following seven years of the LTP is held in a pool and allocated according to agreed criteria.*
 - 6) *in regard to other items, the Board:*
 - a) *note that the MBS programme needs further investigation with concerns around the lack of transparency, accountability and fairness that can arise from shared funding.*
 - b) *note the Mayor's statement on 21 July and acknowledge the important connection between funding equity and the reorganisation discussion.*

CARRIED

Victoria Villaraza – Local Area Manager, Ian Milnes – Senior Local Board Advisor and Matt Fletcher – Local Board Advisor were in attendance to speak to this item.

5 Te Mōtini ā-Tukanga hei Kaupare i te Marea | Procedural motion to exclude the public

Resolution number HW/2024/49

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Deputy Chairperson B Burns:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) whakaae / agree to exclude the public from the following part(s) of the proceedings of this meeting.
- b) whakaae / agree that Claire Stewart – General Manager Active Communities, Rebecca Hellowell – ECE Operations Manager, Shyrel Burt – Principal Integration Specialist, Taryn Muir – Head of Advisory, Tommy Cain – Capability and Performance Advisor, Yusuf Khan – Manager Leasing, Carol Cowie – People Partner, Bharat Naran – Senior Commercial Advisor and Sibyl Mandow – Executive Officer be permitted to remain for Confidential Item C1 Howick Local Board direction on Early Childhood Education (ECE) service after the public has been excluded, because of their knowledge of the provision of ECE services, which will help the Howick Local Board in its decision-making.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution follows.

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

C1 Howick Local Board direction on Early Childhood Education (ECE) service

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Particular interest(s) protected (where applicable)	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
<p>The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.</p>	<p>s7(2)(h) - The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.</p> <p>In particular, the report contains site-specific commercial information, which if released would impact the ability to reasonably negotiate (which is a possible outcome of the report)</p> <p>Restatement / Review Date: The decisions can be released in the open minutes, but the report and its attachments remain confidential.</p>	<p>s48(1)(a)</p> <p>The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.</p>

The text of these resolutions is made available to the public who are present at the meeting and form part of the minutes of the meeting.

CARRIED

2.54pm The public was excluded.

Resolutions in relation to the confidential items are recorded in the confidential section of these minutes and are not publicly available.

4.16pm The public was re-admitted.

RESTATEMENTS

It was resolved while the public was excluded:

C1 Howick Local Board direction on Early Childhood Education (ECE) service

Resolution number HW/2024/50

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Deputy Chairperson B Burns:

- b) agree that this decision remain confidential until ECE staff and families have been informed of it.**
- c) agree that the agenda report and its attachment remain confidential until the conclusion of the EOI process.**

CARRIED

4.17 pm

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 HOWICK LOCAL BOARD
HELD ON

DATE:.....

CHAIRPERSON:.....