



Kaupapa Here  
Whaitake,  
Whakatāuteute

# Significance and Engagement Policy





Art Gallery 70,000  
Museum 40,000  
Museum 100,000  
Museum 100,000  
Order 100,000  
Order 100,000  
Order 100,000

# He mihi

Tāmaki – makau a te rau, murau a te tini, wenerau a te mano,  
kāhore tō rite me tō kotahi i te ao nei,  
ka whītiki nei au i taku hope ki ngā pepeha o onamata,  
ki ōku tūmanako mō āpōpō  
me ōku whakaritenga kua tutuki mō te rā nei.

Auckland – beloved of hundreds, famed among the multitude, envy of thousands,  
you stand alone, unique in the world,  
I gird myself with the promises of yesteryear,  
my hopes for tomorrow and plans for today.

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# 1. Context

## Introduction

Auckland Council's proposed new Significance and Engagement Policy is intended to become effective from 1 March 2022. This policy is required under the Local Government Act 2002 (the LGA).

The policy sets out the matters required by the LGA and, in broad terms:

- describes the council's approach to determining the significance of proposals and decisions
- describes how and when communities can expect to be engaged in decisions about different issues, assets, proposals or other matters
- lists the assets that the council considers to be strategic assets.

The council considers community views and preferences when making decisions. We gather information about the views and preferences of Auckland's diverse communities in many ways and use this information to inform our decisions. We consult or engage on a wide range of specific decisions, and we recognise how important certain decisions are to our communities.

We view engagement as a genuine dialogue with our diverse communities to help us make better decisions. Public input can be important in ensuring our decisions reflect the aspirations of mana whenua, residents, ratepayers, community groups and businesses.

We are committed to meeting our broad legal obligations to Māori including responsibilities under Te Tiriti o Waitangi, the Treaty of Waitangi. The council recognises these responsibilities are distinct from the Crown's and fall within a local government Tāmaki Makaurau context. We also recognise the enduring presence, aspirations, and cultural obligations of mana whenua as kaitiaki (stewards) in Tāmaki Makaurau.

Auckland Council works with the Independent Māori Statutory Board on matters that affect Māori and takes into account their advice.

Auckland's increasing diversity is an important consideration for many engagement processes and we regularly refine our tools and methods so that we can engage more effectively with groups and communities who have often been less involved in council decisions.

## 2. Determining significance

Significance, as defined by the LGA, means the degree of importance of an issue, proposal, decision or matter as assessed by the council taking into account the likely impact on, and consequences for:

- the current and future social, economic, environmental, or cultural well-being of Auckland
- those likely to be particularly affected by, or interested in, the issue, proposal, decision, or matter
- the council's capacity to perform its role and the costs (financial or otherwise) of doing so.

This section describes:

- the council's general approach to determining the significance of proposals and decisions; and
- any thresholds, criteria or procedures for assessing significance.

### 2.1 General approach to significance

The council will assess the significance of the matters affected by any proposal as part of its decision-making process. In doing so, the council will be guided by the principles relating to local authorities set out in the LGA.

The significance of a matter will fall somewhere on a continuum from low to high.

When assessing the significance of a package of proposals or decisions, the council will consider the cumulative effect of the proposals as a whole.

The council's intention is that, in making any decision, the following will be in proportion to the significance of the decision:

- the level of analysis undertaken including the identification and consideration of options; and
- the documentation, public engagement and the consideration of views.

### 2.2 How the council assesses significance

Matters the council may consider when assessing the degree of significance of an issue, proposal, decision or other matter include:

- the number of people affected, the degree to which they are affected and the likely impact of the proposal or decision
- whether this type of matter is likely to generate wide public interest within the local board area (for a local board decision or a Governing Body decision that affects a particular local board area) or Auckland or New Zealand generally (for a Governing Body decision)
- the impact of the proposal or decision on the Governing Body's or a local board's ability to deliver on actions that contribute to the Auckland Plan or perform any statutory responsibility
- the impact of the proposal or decision on intended service levels for a group of activities, including the start or stop of any group of activity
- the degree to which the proposal or decision can be reversed should circumstances warrant.

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These criteria provide an indication of the matters the council may consider when assessing significance. Ultimately, however, significance will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the above factors and also the overall circumstances of the matter.

The following thresholds indicate where a proposal or decision will be assessed as having a high degree of significance:

- creating a new group of activities
- stopping carrying out a group of activities
- increasing (by 33 per cent or more) or decreasing (by 20 per cent decrease or more) spending on a group of activities
- transferring the ownership or control of our strategic assets.

## **2.3 Other matters relating to significance**

In the case of a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water, the council will ensure that it takes into account the relationship of Māori, and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land, water, sites, waahi tapū, valued flora and fauna, and other taonga.

All decision-making reports will include a statement addressing the issue of significance. Where a matter is considered to have a high degree of significance, the report will include a statement about how this policy and the relevant parts of the LGA have been addressed.

Where failure to make a decision urgently could, in the council's opinion, result in unreasonable or significant damage to property, or risk to people's health and safety, it may, in accordance with the LGA, make a decision that is significantly inconsistent with this policy.



## 3. Strategic assets

The LGA requires this policy to list the assets that the council considers to be strategic assets.

Strategic assets, as defined under the LGA, are assets that the council needs to retain in order to maintain the council's capacity to achieve or promote any outcome that the council determines as important to the current or future well-being of Auckland.

According to the LGA, strategic assets include:

- any asset or group of assets listed as strategic in this policy
- any land or building owned by the council and required to maintain council's capacity to provide affordable housing as part of its social policy
- any equity securities held by the council in a port company within the meaning of the Port Companies Act 1988 and/or an airport company within the meaning of the Airport Authorities Act 1966.

### 3.1 Auckland Council's strategic assets

The council determines our strategic assets to be those assets or groups of assets for which ownership or control by the council is essential to the long-term provision of services which are critical to achieving or promoting the council's community outcomes, including those identified in the Auckland Plan.

Assets which are not used for the delivery of council services<sup>1</sup> are not considered strategic.

Some service delivery assets have strategic significance as an overall network or group. In these cases, the council takes a group of asset or network approach (i.e. council considers the group of assets or network as a whole to be strategic, rather than each individual asset or component of the network). An asset that is part of a network or group that is not integral to the functioning of the whole (i.e. where the rest of the group or network will still enable the council to meet its strategic outcomes) will not be regarded as strategic on its own.

For example:

- "Water supply network" means the network or group of water supply assets as a whole and not each individual pipeline, reservoir, or pump station. The council does not consider that the addition or deletion of parts of that network will affect the overall network's strategic nature.
- "Roading and footpath assets" mean the group of roading and footpath assets as a whole. If, for example, the council group acquires land for a new road (or the formed road itself) as a result of subdivision, such additions are considered part of the day-to-day business of managing the group's roading and footpath assets, and do not affect the overall strategic nature of the group of assets.

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<sup>1</sup> Including where services are delivered by someone else on behalf of the council, for example, by a council-controlled organisation.

## **3.2 Schedule of strategic assets**

Assets the council owns that are defined as strategic assets under section 5 of the LGA are:

- shares in Auckland International Airport Limited
- shares in Ports of Auckland Limited
- the council's interest in Housing for Older People managed via Haumarū Housing.

The council has also determined the following to be strategic assets given they are critical to deliver services:

- roading and footpath assets
- the public transport network
- the water supply, wastewater, and stormwater networks
- the network of parks and open spaces
- the community facilities network
- cemeteries
- the heritage and general library collections
- the network of stadiums and venues
- Auckland Zoo
- Auckland Art Gallery, including the associated art collection
- freehold interests in central Auckland waterfront land
- shares in substantive Council-controlled organisations.

Any strategic asset listed in this policy that is held or managed by a substantive Council-controlled organisation (CCO) will be identified in the CCO Accountability Policy. CCOs must comply with that policy when making decisions on strategic assets under their control

## **4. Assessing significance of asset-based decisions**

### **4.1 Strategic assets**

A decision to transfer ownership or control of a strategic asset to or from the council must be explicitly provided for in the long-term plan (LTP). Therefore, any proposal relating to council's ownership or control of a strategic asset (outside of the development of an LTP) will require an LTP amendment and need to follow the process prescribed in the LGA. This requires an audit of the amendment process and the use of the Special Consultative Procedure (SCP) prior to decision-making.

For example, an audited LTP amendment with an SCP would apply if the council proposed to enter a long-term lease arrangement for the use of its entire network of community facilities or if the council proposed

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to sell or lease Auckland Zoo. Any consultation on strategic assets will also follow the principles set out in the engagement part of this policy.

Other decisions relating to strategic assets may have a high degree of significance depending on the extent to which the decision affects the council's ability to deliver key services and achieve the council's community outcomes. The degree of significance will be assessed as outlined in section 2 of this policy and the consultation and engagement approach will reflect the degree of significance, and will follow the principles set out in the engagement part of this policy.

## 4.2 Non-strategic assets

The council also owns a wide range of assets that do not meet the threshold of being considered strategic assets, but for which changes to council's ownership or control of the asset are of high interest and significance to either the Auckland community as a whole or some part of that community.

The degree of significance for decisions or proposals in relation to non-strategic assets (including decisions to transfer ownership or control to or from the council) will be assessed as outlined in section 2 of this policy. This assessment will include considering who is likely to be interested in or affected by the proposal or decision and how they are affected. To support the council, guidelines have been prepared on the council's approach to assessing significance, and the likely appropriate consultation and engagement approach, for some key categories of non-strategic assets. These guidelines will continue to be updated and adapted to remain current and fit-for-purpose.

Where a proposal or decision relating to a non-strategic asset is assessed as having a high degree of significance, the council will consult with the interested or affected part of the community in accordance with the consultation principles set out in section 82 of the LGA 2002, and the guidance set out in the engagement part of this policy. Consultation will be undertaken prior to council making any irrevocable decisions for that asset.

The consultation and engagement approach used will reflect the degree of significance (as assessed by the council) and the following key principles (in addition to the general engagement principles set out in this policy):

- **Enabling the voice of the community** – not making irrevocable decisions on assets before engaging with the affected community and enabling them to make their view heard.
- **Efficient engagement** – targeting consultation and engagement to the communities that are particularly interested in or affected by the decision. Avoiding consultation fatigue and not asking the community for their views about the same asset multiple times unnecessarily.
- **Considering the direction of change** – emphasis will be given to engagement on proposals that reduce rather than increase council control over an asset.

## **5. Engaging Auckland's communities**

### **5.1 Effective community engagement is central to the success of Auckland Council**

Although the council does not need to consult on every matter, we must consider the community's views and preferences for all decisions we make in accordance with the LGA. We gather information about the views and preferences of Auckland's diverse communities in many ways and use this information to inform our decisions.

Auckland's Thriving Communities Action Plan identifies that thriving communities have citizens who care about and want to participate in, their democracy. Council is committed to consulting and engaging the diverse communities of Auckland on a wide range of issues and decisions and will actively seek to improve opportunities for engagement and demonstrate how public input has influenced decisions.

Auckland Council is committed to ensuring the safety, wellbeing and dignity of its staff, elected members and community when consulting and engaging. To see how we will meet this commitment, refer to the Engagement Guidelines, this reflects best-practice consultation and engagement which is continually modified to respond to Auckland's dynamic environment. Further, the Engagement Guidelines capture and leverage other council strategies and documents that ensure staff, elected members and communities can interact safely and meaningfully in a manner that is mana-enhancing for all.

### **5.2 What do we mean by consultation and engagement?**

Consultation is usually:

- on matters which council considers as having a relatively high degree of significance
- undertaken when we are required to under legislation
- focused on a particular project, issue or decision
- for a defined period of time
- driven by community needs and preferences.

Engagement is usually:

- focused on a long-term relationship
- ongoing
- driven by a community's needs and preferences.

To enhance council's partnership with its diverse communities, inclusive, culturally responsive consultation and engagement processes are essential. These processes should allow mana whenua, mataawaka, citizens, community and interest groups to work together with council in a manner that is mana-enhancing, in a space that is safe, through a medium that is appropriate.

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Council will establish and maintain enduring relationships with its communities to provide appropriate opportunities for matters to be raised which are not currently under consultation. Essentially, this is both a realisation that the community is diverse and is seeking opportunities outside conventional townhall-styled settings and a commitment to making it easier for our communities to have a say in shaping the democracy in which they live.

In general, the council aims to keep the community informed of opportunities to be engaged through:

- digital approaches such as e-newsletters and social media
- Engagement HQ (the council's platform for consultations)
- advertisements and articles in the media
- information and displays in libraries and service centres
- OurAuckland (the council's newsletter)
- the People's Panel (a survey-based mailing list)
- and any other appropriate avenue or medium.

## 5.3 Consultation requirements

Consultation is one form of engagement. The law requires consultation for certain types of decisions. In other cases, the council may decide to consult to find out more about the community's views or because we recognise how important the particular decision is to our communities.

The council regularly consults communities through processes such as the local board plans and the Long-term Plan which determine council's strategic direction at a local and regional level, as well as how we prioritise projects and set budgets. In addition, we consult on a wide range of operational issues such as park upgrades and service improvement.

The LGA contains principles which guide our consultation process. These are summarised below. The LGA refers to both consultation and the 'special consultative procedure' (SCP). As the name implies, the SCP is a particular kind of consultation. This is discussed further below.

This policy sets out in section 2 how the council assesses the significance of decisions. The council will generally consult its communities before making a decision that is assessed as having a high degree of significance.

We can also decide to consult at any time on any decision, where we consider that this is appropriate. For most council decisions, there is no express requirement to consult the public, but we will consider people's views and preferences.

## 5.4 Principles of consultation under the LGA

Section 82 of the LGA applies whenever the council consults. In practice, this means that when consulting the public we will endeavour to:

- identify people who will be affected by or have an interest in the decision
- provide them with reasonable access to relevant information about the process and decision in an appropriate format
- encourage people to give their views

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- give people a reasonable opportunity to give their views in an appropriate way
- listen to, and consider those views, with an open mind
- after the decision, provide access to the decision and any other relevant material.

When the LGA requires us to consult in accordance with or in a manner that gives effect to section 82, then (as set out in section 82A of the LGA) we will prepare and make available:

- a description of what we want to do, and why
- an analysis of the practical options (with advantages and disadvantages)
- a draft of the policy or relevant document (or details of the changes to any policy or document).

## 5.5 Special consultative procedure

Part 6 of the LGA specifies the use of the SCP for some plans and processes, including:

- The long-term plan (LTP)
- local board plans
- bylaws of significant interest to the public or of significant impact.

The council can also choose to use the SCP to consult on a matter if it wishes.

In addition to acting in accordance with the consultation principles listed above, under the SCP, we must:

- develop and make publicly available detailed information about the proposed decision
- allow feedback for a minimum of a month
- ensure people are given an opportunity to present their views to the council through spoken interaction (or using sign language).

In some (limited) circumstances, the council may only make a decision if it is explicitly provided for in its LTP.<sup>2</sup> If the LTP does not provide for the decision, it will need to be amended, using the SCP. Where a decision is required to be included in the council's LTP, there are also particular requirements around the information that must be included in the consultation document, which the council will comply with.

## 5.6 Bylaws

When the council is making, changing or revoking a bylaw, it will use the SCP if the proposal is:

- a. likely to generate a high degree of public interest (taking into account the general criteria outlined above); or
- b. likely to have a significant impact on the public.

In all other cases (except for minor changes and corrections provided for by the LGA), the council will consult in a manner that gives effect to the requirements of section 82 of the LGA.

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<sup>2</sup> This only applies to decisions to significantly alter the intended level of service provision for any significant activity undertaken by or on behalf of the council (including a decision to start or stop any such activity), and decisions to transfer ownership or control of a strategic asset to or from the council.

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## 5.7 Māori

The Māori community in Tāmaki Makaurau is comprised of a mix of mana whenua and mataawaka. The council recognises 19 tribal authorities as representing mana whenua interests in Tāmaki Makaurau and works closely with mataawaka through partnerships, in reflecting the voice of Māori in its decision-making. Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau acknowledges that there are unique approaches when engaging with mana whenua and mataawaka and will actively seek appropriate advice and guidance when doing so.

In addition to meeting our statutory requirements, we aim to achieve best practice in working with mana whenua as Treaty partners. Māori are best placed to express and advocate their cultural interests, values and mātauranga. We aim to ensure due consideration is given to Māori cultural interests, values, and mātauranga in the exercise of their cultural obligations as kaitiaki.

Auckland Council has duties, obligations, and commitments to Māori and to the Independent Māori Statutory Board (IMSB). These include to:

- consider the recognition and protection of Māori rights and interests within Tāmaki Makaurau
- consider Treaty principles
- enable Māori participation in the council’s decision-making processes
- recognise Māori cultural values and perspectives including mātauranga Māori, tikanga and kaitiakitanga
- contribute to Māori capacity
- enable and promote Māori well-being
- work with and consider the advice of the IMSB in ensuring that mana whenua groups and mataawaka of Tāmaki Makaurau input is reflected in the council’s strategies, policies, and plans, and on other matters.

## 5.8 Diverse and changing communities

Tāmaki Makaurau has a unique ethnic composition compared to the rest of Aotearoa. Currently, Aucklanders identify with over 200 ethnic nationalities with 39 per cent of residents and 44 per cent of the workforce born overseas.

The Census 2018 results show:

- 11.5 per cent of Aucklanders identify as Māori
- 53.5 per cent of Aucklanders identified as European. Within this group we include New Zealand European or Pakeha, British, Irish, Dutch, Australian and German peoples
- 28.2 per cent of Aucklanders identified with an Asian ethnicity. Within this group we include Chinese, Indian, Korean, Filipino and Sri Lankan peoples
- 15.5 per cent of Aucklanders identified as Pacific peoples. Within this group we include Samoan, Tongan, Cook Islands Maori, Niuean, Tokelauan and Fijian.

Around 20 per cent of Aucklanders have some kind of access need. This includes, but is not limited to, people with visual, hearing or literacy impairments and those who speak English as a second language.

The diversity of our city is expected to rise. By 2038, Māori, Pasifika and Asian peoples will comprise over 50 per cent of Auckland’s population.

Increasing diversity brings both benefits and challenges. The Auckland Plan outlines a key strategic direction: “To create a strong, inclusive and equitable society that ensures opportunity for all

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Aucklanders”. To this end, during consultation and engagement, we will carefully consider how to meet the needs of our diverse communities in respect of language, accessibility and cultural expectations.

Auckland Council has six demographic advisory panels:

- Disability
- Ethnic Peoples
- Pacific Peoples
- Rainbow Communities
- Seniors
- Youth.

These panels advise the governing body and staff on regional and strategic matters within the remit of the Auckland Plan and offer strategic advice on other council plans and strategies that impact their communities. The council is committed to hearing from these demographic advisory panels on matters of significance.

## 5.9 Engagement principles

This section of the policy outlines the engagement principles of Auckland Council which align to the principles for local authorities set out in the LGA and extend to include what we have heard is important to Auckland’s citizens. For further understanding of how each principle will be achieved and operationalised, refer to Auckland Council’s Engagement Guidelines.

**Principle 1: Council will conduct its business in an open, transparent and accountable manner and meet its identified priorities and outcomes in an efficient and effective manner.**

To meet this principle, we will:

- conduct engagement with a genuine effort to listen to and consider with an open mind, community input
- ensure options are realistic and deliverable when presenting them for community feedback
- ensure questions are objective (i.e.: not leading, allowing people to express their views freely)
- allow reasonable time and provide relevant resources to ensure participants have fair opportunity to understand the matter and contribute their views
- allow time for issues that might arise during an engagement process
- value contributions made and time given
- give timely feedback on the results of the input and decisions made
- value, respect and give weight to local knowledge.

**Principle 2: Council will make itself aware of and carefully consider the views of all its communities.**

To meet this principle, we will:

- build ongoing relationships with communities through a range of approaches such as mana whenua and mataawaka hui, the demographic advisory panels, the People’s Panel, reference groups and forums
- provide the community with a reasonable opportunity to present their views and actively consider the best way to engage them
- ensure the community can proactively raise issues with council so that it is an authentic, two-way relationship



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- proactively identify opportunities to work in partnership with community organisations and leaders
- ensure timely and effective sharing of information relating to community views and preferences within the council.

**Principle 3: When making a decision, council will consider the diversity of the community and the community's interests and the interests of future as well as current communities and the likely impact of any decision on them.**

To meet this principle, we will:

- reach out to affected communities and stakeholders, including those who are not typically heard from
- provide more than one way for people to participate
- invest in community capacity building to enable participation when required
- use plain language and avoid jargon and acronyms
- make the process of engagement inclusive and accessible
- consider how to meet community needs in respect of language, accessibility and cultural expectations.

**Principle 4: Council will provide opportunities for Māori to contribute to its decision-making processes.**

To achieve this principle, we will:

- recognise the enduring presence, aspirations and cultural obligations of mana whenua as kaitiaki in Tāmaki Makaurau
- actively consider the recognition and protection of Māori rights and interests within Tāmaki Makaurau and how we contribute to the aspirations of Māori
- where a significant decision relates to a land or a body of water, take into account the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land, water, sites, waahi tapu, valued flora and fauna and other taonga
- ensure all decision-making reports consider impacts on Māori
- establish and maintain processes to provide opportunities for Māori to contribute to our decision-making processes including partnership approaches where appropriate
- support Māori to fully engage with us, for example (but not limited to) capability and capacity building
- build ongoing relationships with Māori through a range of approaches that enable:
  - early engagement with Māori in the development of appropriate plans and policies
  - Māori to guide how they want to engage with the council.

**Principle 5: Council will ensure prudent stewardship and the efficient and effective use of its resources in the interests of the region, including, by planning effectively for the future management of its assets.**

To meet this principle, we will consider the appropriateness of the engagement approach for the particular decision being made, including the costs and benefits of any engagement or consultation process.

## 5.10 Methods for engagement

This section of the policy sets out the engagement and decision-making principles which we will follow and our statutory consultation requirements.

One way that the council ensures it is engaging according to best practice guidance, is by following the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) approach (set out below) which indicates different engagement approaches on a spectrum from providing information through to community empowerment.

### IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation



Auckland Council will seek opportunities to involve or collaborate with our communities, such as through place-making initiatives and community-led planning.

The type and nature of the decision, including its significance (assessed in accordance with section 2 this policy), guides how the council will go about communicating and engaging with our communities. This table provides an indicative guide to this:

Type or nature of decision	Examples of how we may engage
Small and simple (low significance) (e.g., redevelopment of community halls, park improvements, footpath and road)	Localised promotion, for example, through display boards and local media. Targeted engagement, for example through service users where appropriate. Promotion through e-newsletters and social media. Information online and in local libraries and service centres. Surveys and open days may also be appropriate.
Medium significance (e.g., cycle lanes, works on main roads, action plans, local area plans)	Targeted, online engagement which may include a survey and social media. Hui or events. Information in libraries and service centres. Promotion through e-newsletters, the local media or through OurAuckland.
Large or complex (high significance) (e.g., major new roads, changes to the passenger transport network, Local Alcohol Policy, Long-term Plan)	Large-scale publicity and promotion. There could be an informal engagement/discussion phase ahead of a formal phase of consultation. Likely to need consideration of different cultural styles and needs for engagement. Likely to include a range of events and a focus on online activities. Promotion through OurAuckland and e-newsletters.

## **6. Applying the policy**

### **6.1 Supporting information**

The council has a number of operational resources that support staff to implement this policy including:

- The Engagement Guidelines provide more detailed guidance on engagement principles and good practice
- Guide to engaging with Māori
- Quality Policy Advice guidelines
- Guidelines for assessing significance for non-strategic assets
- Templates and other related guidance such as the Accessible Communications and Information Guide.

These operational resources are reviewed and amended on an ongoing basis to ensure that they remain up to date and reflect best practice.

In addition, the council provides regular engagement training opportunities through the International Association of Public Participation and there is a consultation and engagement network which was established as a way of sharing good practice, lessons learned and to support those who regularly engage with the community.

### **6.2 Reference material**

There are many sources of information that help inform the council about community views and preferences that are already known to the council. This includes, but is not limited to:

- local board plans
- submissions on the council's other strategic documents
- IMSB's Schedule of Issues of Significance to Māori in Tāmaki Makaurau
- iwi management plans
- past consultation and market research data
- People's Panel survey results.

### **6.3 Managing conflicts of interest**

The council has a code of conduct to help guide elected representatives and staff to manage conflicts of interest within the engagement and decision-making process.

### **6.4 Other legislation**

There are specific processes under different legislation for certain policies (for example, under the Gambling Act, Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act or Psychoactive Substances Act), or particular decision-making processes (for example, under the Resource Management Act 1991 and the Reserves Act 1977). Some of these have specific consultation requirements. When consulting on policies or decisions under

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legislation that prescribes a particular consultation process, the council will set out clearly the consultation process that will be followed.

## **6.5 For more information**

Visit Have Your Say Auckland to find out more about the council's consultation and engagement process. For more information:

- go to: <https://akhaveyoursay.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/we-want-to-hear-from-you>
- email: [sandepolicy@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:sandepolicy@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)
- phone us: 09 301 0101

# **Appendix 1 – Auckland Council’s decision-making**

Local government is charged with enabling democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities. Our governing body makes regional decisions while local boards make local decisions. Local boards also have a key role in identifying and communicating the views of local communities on regional strategies, policies, plans and bylaws to the Governing Body.

Both the Governing Body and local boards must ensure that all decision-making requirements, including those relating to consultation and engagement, are met when making decisions.

## **The mayor and Governing Body**

The Governing Body, comprising the mayor and councillors, focuses on regulatory decisions, and other non-regulatory region-wide strategic decisions.

The mayor is responsible for ensuring effective engagement with Aucklanders, including those too young to vote. We have a number of advisory panels to provide us with advice on issues of importance to their communities (youth, ethnic people, pacific people, seniors, disability, rural) and to advise on effective engagement with those communities.

## **Local boards**

Local boards are responsible for:

- making decisions about non-regulatory local matters, including the standards of services delivered locally
- making decisions about regulatory local matters delegated to it by the governing body
- identifying and communicating the views of local people on regional strategies, policies, plans and bylaws to the governing body
- providing local leadership and developing relationships with the community, community organisations and special interest groups in the local area.

## Appendix 2 - Definitions

Term	Definition
Community facilities network	The community facilities network includes arts and culture facilities, community centres, libraries, pools and leisure facilities, and venues for hire (community or rural halls)
Governing Body	The term used to refer to the mayor and councillors
Group of activities	One or more related activities and services provided by the Auckland Council and, where appropriate, the activities and services provided by those entities that comprise the Auckland Council Group (including all subsidiaries, associates and joint venture arrangements). For example, water supply or public transport travel demand management
Hapū	A number of whānau related through a common ancestor – section of a large kinship group
Hui	To meet, meeting
IAP2	The International Association for Public Participation is a member association which seeks to promote and improve the practice of public participation or community engagement
Independent Māori Statutory Board	A board established through statute (Local Government (Auckland Council) Act 2009) to assist the Auckland Council to make decisions, perform functions, and exercise powers by promoting cultural, economic, environmental, and social issues of significance for mana whenua groups and mataawaka of Tāmaki Makaurau, and by ensuring that the council acts in accordance with statutory provisions referring to the Treaty of Waitangi
Iwi	A number of hapū related through a common ancestor
Iwi management plans	Documents prepared by iwi that councils must consider when developing or amending RMA plans
Kaitiaki	Steward, guardian
Local boards	Auckland's 21 local boards are a key part of the council's governance, representing and making decisions for local communities
LGA	Local Government Act 2002
Mana whenua	The people of the land who have mana or customary authority – their historical, cultural and genealogical heritage are attached to the land and sea
Mataawaka	Māori whose tribal affiliations are from outside the Auckland region
People's Panel	The People's Panel is a way for Aucklanders to have their say on the council's plans, activities and services by taking part in short, emailed surveys
SCP	Special Consultative Procedure is a particular kind of consultation defined by the LGA
Shape Auckland	The council's website for all consultation information ( <a href="http://shapeauckland.co.nz">shapeauckland.co.nz</a> )
Significant	This is defined in the LGA as "in relation to any issue, proposal, decision, or other matter, means that the issue, proposal, decision, or other matter has a high degree of significance"
Network of stadiums and venues	A network of regionally important facilities providing capacity for activities such as sporting events, cultural events, or conferences (examples include stadia, theatres, and convention venues)
Te Tiriti o Waitangi	The Māori language version of the Treaty of Waitangi: this differs in parts to the English version
Tāmaki Makaurau	The Māori name for Auckland
Taonga	A treasured item: it can be tangible or intangible

## Kaupapa Here Whaitake, Whakatāuteute

Tikanga	Principles and protocols
Waahi tapu	Sacred ancestral sites and places of significance to iwi, hapū or whanau
Whānau	Family, extended family



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