

EVIDENCE FRAMEWORK 2016 SUMMARY

Building a house of knowledge for Auckland
He waihanga i tētahi whare mātauranga mō Tāmaki Makaurau

November 2016

Mihi

Tuia ki te rangi Bind the domain of the upper realm
 Tuia ki te whenua Bind the domain of the land
 Tuia ki te moana Bind the domain of the seas
 Tuia te here tangata Bind the tapestry of life which affirms our connection
 E rongō te pō, e rongō te ao To the natural world and to one another
 Tihei mauri ora! Let there be life!

Auckland is New Zealand's largest, fastest-growing and most culturally diverse city. Our population is expected to increase by one million people over the next 30 years, and is already growing at a rate of 800 people per week. Growth brings many advantages, more people mean more jobs, stronger economic growth and a city with more to see and do. However, as more people choose to live in Auckland, the growth pressures on our natural resources and vital infrastructure, such as housing and transport, increase and pose long-term detrimental effects.

Auckland Council represents nearly 1.5 million people from an area stretching from Wellsford in the north to Franklin in the south. As a unitary authority, it is responsible for managing Auckland's environment and land use as well as supporting community and economic development. With the increasing pressures of growth, Auckland's decision-makers need robust evidence to assist them to evaluate the ramifications and potential trade-offs of the options available to them.

Purpose

Auckland Council's elected members and key decision-makers rely on robust evidence to facilitate good decision-making. Created by Auckland Council's Research and Evaluation Unit (RIMU), the Evidence Framework identifies evidence gaps relating to critical issues facing Auckland's people, economy and environment that RIMU, universities, research institutes and others can address and communicate to improve decision-making as Auckland grows and changes. The Evidence Framework ensures that Auckland Council has the evidence it needs in a form it can use in order to address the critical issues facing Auckland.

The Evidence Framework has a three-year and longer term perspective. It is an iterative living document managed by RIMU that is reviewed annually and as required to respond to the needs of Auckland and its decision-makers. RIMU produces mandatory and critical evidence to support council and Aucklanders in managing a growing region. RIMU is a multi-disciplinary cross-council service conducting research, monitoring, evaluation and reporting across many council responsibilities to support, inform and underpin council's core functions.

Principles

The council's Evidence Framework supports the development of high quality, robust evidence focusing on important strategic priority areas. It enables us to respond to changing and emerging issues and provides a platform for innovation, business improvement, and enhanced organisational effectiveness. It also helps to maximise strategic alliances and collaboration and improves visibility by explaining and mobilising knowledge.

Addressing the issues and questions outlined in this Evidence Framework will:

- ▶ Continue to improve the **quality** of the evidence used and the advice it underpins so we can more fairly evaluate trade-offs when they arise
- ▶ Improve **access** to relevant evidence required by elected members and the community in order to support better decision-making and improved outcomes
- ▶ Maximise the **value** from our investment in evidence, our specialists and strategic partnerships
- ▶ Increase our **preparedness and planning** for risks, new and emerging priorities and potential threats.



LAND USE AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Drivers and consequences of land use change

- ▶ What are the dynamics of the supply and demand of the Auckland property market?
- ▶ What is the relationship between the operation of urban land markets and their effect on patterns of urban growth and development?
- ▶ What is Auckland's current land use and land cover, and how can change be evaluated?
- ▶ What is the role of green space in Auckland?

Multiple and competing demands for land as Auckland grows

- ▶ What are the implications of the national and regional regulatory framework for Auckland?
- ▶ What are the incentives and barriers to optimal development?

Land use planning, climate change and resilience

- ▶ How well does our land use planning equip Auckland to address climate change?



ECONOMY

Labour markets and skills

- ▶ What is the impact of Auckland's population growth (including migration) and changing ethnic structure on its labour market?
- ▶ What is the spatial distribution of skills and employment in Auckland that will enable local employment opportunities as Auckland grows?
- ▶ What is the actual and potential impact of the growing Māori economy on employment patterns for Māori and others?
- ▶ What is the impact of access to technology on work patterns, equality of opportunity and outcomes?

Economic interactions

- ▶ What are the costs and benefits of policies intended to foster a low carbon economy?
- ▶ How does urban form contribute to the economic wellbeing of individuals, households and communities?
- ▶ How do different models of economic development affect people, economy, environment and sustainability?

Internationalisation and competitiveness

- ▶ How do Auckland's national and international connections enhance its competitiveness and international engagement?
- ▶ What is Auckland's role as an exporter of goods and services to other countries and, to other regions in New Zealand?
- ▶ What is the role of small and medium enterprises in Auckland's export sector, and their utilisation of trade agreements (including free trade agreements)?
- ▶ What is the relationship between Auckland's economy and the rest of New Zealand?



MĀORI

Māori aspirations

- ▶ Identify, collate and map existing data related to Māori communities in Tāmaki Makaurau and share this data with these communities
- ▶ Identify gaps in existing data and evidence for mana whenua and mataawaka and guide future research initiatives.
- ▶ Ascertain the extent to which Maori values and aspirations are taken into consideration in resource management decisions.

Māori contributions to Auckland

- ▶ Measure the value of Tāmaki Māori contributions – cultural, environmental and social – to Tāmaki Makaurau
- ▶ Consider how economic development might leverage Auckland's unique Māori identity in a manner that is accountable and brings benefits to Auckland's mana whenua and mataawaka communities.

Mātauranga Māori and decision-making

- ▶ Investigate ways to better incorporate mātauranga Māori into the body of evidence required in planning processes such as the Environment Court and Independent Hearings Panels
- ▶ Contribute to the ongoing development of research, monitoring and evaluation resources to ensure that Auckland Council staff can use mātauranga Māori as evidence in council decision-making.
- ▶ Co-develop, with mana whenua, tohu (indicators) that reflect Te Ao Māori (the Māori world view) and encompass notions of iwi/hapū/whānau wellbeing in the natural, social and economic worlds

Māori data sovereignty

- ▶ Identify and develop data sources, research and evaluation that support Māori data sovereignty and the values and aspirations of Tāmaki Māori.
- ▶ Identify good practice in storing and protecting Māori data and intellectual property.



PEOPLE

Population growth and change

- ▶ What are the implications of current and anticipated population change and growth?
- ▶ What are the impacts of growth (including diversity and ageing) on Auckland's communities?
- ▶ What are the implications of the demographic dimensions of participation and representation rates for different population groups in local government?

Social implications of housing

- ▶ What is the impact of migration and foreign investment on Auckland's housing affordability?
- ▶ What are the implications of changing home ownership?
- ▶ What is the relationship between housing affordability and Auckland's labour market?
- ▶ What are the dimensions, drivers and dynamics of homelessness in Auckland?
- ▶ What are the opportunities to leverage Auckland Council policies to support affordable housing?
- ▶ What are the effects of central and local government policies and regulations on Auckland's property market?

Inequality and poverty

- ▶ What are the dynamics and implications of increasing inequality?
- ▶ How have cities in other parts of the world sought to address these problems?

Governance and co-management

- ▶ What are the specific opportunities and challenges associated with co-governance relationships?

Education

- ▶ What are the implications for Auckland of the growing proportion of Aucklanders that is disengaged from education and out of work?
- ▶ What are the opportunities and concerns that relate to the international education sector?
- ▶ How might the use and visibility of Te Reo be strengthened?
- ▶ Explore the extent to which multilingualism can be fostered in order to improve literacy, enhance social cohesion and contribute to economic development
- ▶ What is the impact of demographic change (growth and decline) at a spatial level on social infrastructure provision such as schools.



ENVIRONMENT

Healthy environment

What is Auckland's environment telling us and how is it reacting to growth and change?

- ▶ With increased growth and intensification in Auckland, how do we accurately represent what Auckland might look like in the future at both a regional and local level?
- ▶ How do we ensure that significant terrestrial, marine and freshwater (including groundwater) biodiversity values are identified and protected, and the ecological integrity of these species and ecosystems is maintained and enhanced?
- ▶ How will Auckland's environment respond to the pressures that climate change will impose? Do we know what will be most at risk or most vulnerable? Do we know where the effects will be seen or identified first?
- ▶ Can Auckland Council deliver on the intended environmental outcomes of its operations, plans and policies?
- ▶ What do we need to know in order to understand, predict, plan and manage for cumulative environmental effects and the interactive impacts of multiple stressors?

Quality environment, quality life

Is the region a healthy place to work, live, play and visit?

- ▶ What are the likely health risks and potential benefits to the population from growth and intensification?
- ▶ What do Aucklanders and our visitors perceive the future Auckland to look like, and how will what they currently value about the environment be affected?
- ▶ How do we sustain and support a resilient healthy growing region?

Balanced decision-making

What do we need to do to better assess environmental trade-offs in decision-making?

- ▶ How do we make trade-offs transparent?
- ▶ How is information and data best analysed, mobilised and presented for maximum accessibility and relevance to enable local decision-making and wider community understanding?
- ▶ How might environmental attributes be better accounted for in our planning decisions?
- ▶ Can Te Ao Māori and the implementation of Māori environmental aspirations and wellbeing provide a framework to translate an ecosystems services approach?