

Achievements Report

Howick Local Board

October 2016 – October 2019





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Introduction

Local board plans are key strategic documents which are required by legislation and adopted every three years. They inform the development of local boards' annual local board agreements and associated budgets. They also enable the local board to represent the views of residents and are the vehicles through which local needs and aspirations feed into the development of Auckland Council's long-term plans.

This achievements report provides a summary of achievements against the Howick Local Board Plan 2017 during the current electoral term.

The Howick Local Board Plan 2017 has six outcomes. Each outcome has supporting objectives and initiatives. Each year the board, through its local board agreement and associated annual work programme, funds activities to support the delivery of these objectives and initiatives.

The board also receives quarterly performance reports that provide a more detailed and wider record of projects and programmes. More detailed information is available through Howick Local Board meeting records, on the Auckland Council website.

The Howick Local Board Plan 2017 outcomes are:

Outcome 1: Involved and connected communities



At Botany Community Day.

We are proud of our area and participate in our community to make Howick a great place to live, work and play.

Outcome 4: A treasured environment



Mangemangeroa Valley.

We will keep our wonderful environment and admired coastline clean and safe for all to use.

Outcome 2: Our future growth is managed effectively



Half Moon Bay ferry pier.

We want to ensure future growth is well planned with good quality design and transport connections that enable people to move easily around our area.

Outcome 5: Our people are active and healthy



Artist's impression of playground on the former Greenmount Landfill site.

Our extensive network of public places, and recreation and leisure facilities will be looked after so people of all ages and abilities can use them to remain healthy and active.

Outcome 3: Valuing our cultural diversity



Performer at cultural event.

We are culturally diverse and have great facilities for creative activities including music and dance, theatre and visual arts.

Outcome 6: A prosperous local economy



Highbrook Business Park.

We will attract new businesses to support our economy and provide opportunities for training and skills development. We will also continue to attract tourism to our area.

Key highlights for the term

The key highlights for the Howick Local Board during its 2016-2019 term were the:

- comprehensive renewal of the Lloyd Elsmore Park Leisure Centre, including enhancements of the splashpad
- inaugural Moon Festival, held in 2018 at Lloyd Elsmore Park, which attracted between 2000-3000 people
- inaugural Chinese New Year Celebrations, held in 2017, which is now an annual event
- completion of a 10-15km network of walking and cycling paths along the edge of the Tāmaki inlet
- renewal of the boat ramp and pontoons at Half Moon Bay
- adoption of the Howick Village Centre Plan and Howick Heritage Plan
- opening of the John Walker Promenade in Barry Curtis Park
- delivery of the Pest Free Howick programme, which included the provision of environmental education and resources to the community
- delivery of approximately \$1.4million in grant funding to the community
- construction or renewal of over 20 playgrounds and public toilets
- delivery of the fruit and vegetables in schools programme, to 17 schools
- renewal of the walkway and carpark at Mangemangeroa Reserve.

Local Board Outcomes, Objectives and Achievements

The boards achievements from the term are listed below each of the local board outcomes and associated objectives.

Outcome 1: Involved and connected communities

Objectives:

- People are supported to actively contribute to their community
- People feel safe
- All communities have a sense of belonging and feel valued

Supported local events and activities:

A significant number of small and large events were supported by the board. These created opportunities for local communities to connect and feel a sense of belonging. This included the Howick ANZAC Service and the Koanga Spring Festival.

The board held biannual Volunteer Recognition, Celebrated Citizens, and Sports Awards to recognise the talent and work of local community members.

Between nine and 11 local events were funded annually from the event partnership fund. Groups who organised events with this funding received additional support from Auckland Council events staff. Events delivered included the annual Pakuranga River Festival, the Auckland Classic Brit and Euro Car Show, and the Stockade Hill and Mainstreet Light event.

The board supported community-led interests by funding two local community houses to deliver activities. These activities included Māori bone carving workshops, and free learn to sew courses.

Provided local grants:

The board progressively increased funding for local grants by 200% during its term. In total, the board granted approximately \$1.4million to largely local community focused organisations including Life Education Trust towards delivering health messages in schools and Kids Safe with Dogs Chairtable Trust.

Provided additional funding to local libraries:

Regional levels of service for local libraries was topped up by the board. This provided greater access to the four local libraries through extended hours and additional pre-school programmes.

A comprehensive renewal for the Howick Library was completed which included the purchase of new equipment and furniture.

Outcome 2: Our future growth is managed effectively

Objectives:

- A well-integrated, well-designed and efficient public transport system
- Local services and infrastructure in place to meet growth
- Well-designed and quality development in the Howick Local Board area
- Better used facilities and open space to meet existing and future growth needs

The Barry Curtis Park Master Plan progressed:

A key priority for the board this term was to progress the Barry Curtis Master Plan. A number of significant projects were delivered including the John Walker Promenade, toilets and changing rooms adjacent to Flat Bush School Road and the installation of lighting for sports fields and Park Road. A highlight was the opening event for the promenade held in December 2018, attended by Sir John Walker.

The board continued to advocate to the Governing Body to bring forward the development of the multi-use community facility, library, and aquatic centre in Flat Bush.

A focus on safety and resilience resulted in the Flat Bush Community Needs Assessment. The recommendations from this assessment included funding locally based festivals and events to aid connections between residents.

Funded or advocated for local transport initiatives:

The board advocated local concerns related to transport options, congestion and safety to Auckland Transport as part of the Auckland Manukau Eastern Transport Initiative (AMETI). In particular, the board advocated to extend the planned express service to Cockle Bay and to consider the effectiveness of the proposed T2 lanes.

The Half Moon Bay Ferry Terminal was funded in the previous term but completed in this term.

The boat ramp and pontoons at Half Moon Bay were renewed improving access to recreational activities for residents.

Funding was allocated to build a new pedestrian bridge near Te Uhu o te Nikau Primary School to provide safe access to and from the school. Funding was also allocated to improve safety with a safer crossing at Botany Downs Secondary College Chapel Road and a better walking connection at the Cascades Walkway.

Outcome 3: Valuing our cultural diversity

Objectives:

- Share and celebrate our cultures
- Grow our arts, culture and music

Diversity celebrated through local events:

The inaugural Moon Festival was held in 2018 at Lloyd Elsmore Park. It attracted between 2000-3000 people. The Moon Festival is widely celebrated across Asia and falls when the moon is at its brightest.

The inaugural Chinese New Year Festival was held in 2017 and has run annually since, with attendance increasing each year.

Implemented capacity building programmes:

The board funded local community groups to deliver capacity building programmes tailored to ethnically diverse communities. These included safe driving education and new migrant programmes.

Supported local arts and culture:

Te Tuhi, Uxbridge Arts and Culture Centre and the Howick Historical Village received operational grants. Local bands and musicians were funded to operate and play at local events.

The Uxbridge Arts and Culture Centre was upgraded to include the installation of acoustic panels and a new air-conditioning system.

The board funded the Arts out East festivals and Estuary Arts Awards. The annual community arts programme included street art and a mural at the art gallery.

Implemented the Howick Village Centre Plan and Howick Heritage Plan:

The Howick Village Centre Plan and Howick Heritage Plan was adopted in 2017. These plans were designed to guide the future of Howick Village. Work completed to date under these plans include, heritage panels at Stockade Hill and Howick Beach and a new interactive mobile tour app.

Supported local Matawaaka:

Funding was provided to Te Tahawai Marae to develop its strategic plan.

Outcome 4: A treasured environment

Objectives:

- Our coastal environment is well managed and maintained
- Our natural and built environment is well managed
- Identify, preserve and protect natural features, historic places, property and relics (including cultural, written, oral and visual traditions)
- Reduce waste through recovery, reuse and recycling

Addressed coastal erosion:

The board advocated for coastal erosion to be recognised as a regional issue, requiring a regional approach and funding. Alongside this, the board funded an investigation to improve the seawall at Cockle Bay. Significant seawall repairs at Bucklands Beach were also completed.

Protected local waterways:

A range of initiatives designed to protect local waterways were implemented. These included the delivery of a Neat Streets event with the aim of reducing illegal dumping and a residential Adopt a Spot programme that enabled community members to undertake regular weed control at Riviera Drive Reserve. Stream clean-ups, weeding, planting, and waste reduction workshops were also delivered.

The board advocated to the Governing Body in 2019 for the Natural Environment Targeted Rate to address local waste water issues including pollution and illegal dumping. The board also supported the Tāmaki Estuary Environmental Forum who developed an action plan to support the health of the Tāmaki Estuary.

Support was also given to businesses through a proactive programme that encouraged them to be environmentally aware and to prevent industrial pollution from entering waterways.

Ensured a pest and weed free Howick:

Significant investment in improving Howick's environment and enhancing biodiversity was accomplished through the Pest Free Howick programme. Initiatives included pest plant and animal reduction, education programmes and equipment supply. Through this programme, free community workshops and events were delivered.

Environmental planting and ecological education programmes were delivered in local parks. Community planting and clean up events also gave opportunities for the community to be involved.

Supported fruit trees in schools:

The fruit trees in schools programme was delivered annually and was expanded to include vegetables. The programme aimed to involve local school children in the

garden to table concept of food resourcing. By the end of its term 17 schools were participating.

Funded an agrichemical free Cockle Bay Reserve:

In 2018, the board held several workshops and presentations on agri-chemical free areas for Howick. In 2019, funding was committed for Cockle Bay Reserve to be agrichemical free for the 2019/2020 financial year.

Outcome 5: Our people are active and healthy

Objectives:

- **Sport and recreational opportunities respond to the needs of our growing communities**
- **Parks and open spaces allow for a wide variety of recreational activities**

Improvements made to Lloyd Elsmore Park:

The board funded a range of upgrades and improvements to facilities in Lloyd Elsmore Park. This included the comprehensive renewal of the leisure centre, enhancement of the splash pad and various play equipment and sportsfield assets renewed. Planning for the proposed multi-sport facility at Lloyd Elsmore Park was advanced during the term.

Ensured great local parks:

More than 20 playgrounds and public toilets were built or renewed with significant investments at Eastern Beach and Blyton Lane playgrounds.

A significant programme of events in parks and open spaces designed to get the community active in local parks was delivered. These included 'doggy day out' and 'art in the park'. The board also introduced activities and games to local parks by installing fitness stations, a barbeque at Farm Cove and a chess table in Fencible Walk.

The board funded a skate park custodian at Barry Curtis Park. This skate park is one of the largest in the country and is a focal point for local skaters. The custodian performed the role of coach and activity planner.

Created Howick Walking & Cycling Networks:

The Howick Walking and Cycling Network Plan was adopted in 2018. A 10-15km network of shared paths along the edge of the Tāmaki Inlet linking to the Rotary Walkway was then completed. The Mangemangeroa Reserve walkway and carpark were also renewed. These projects have improved access within the local board area and created recreational opportunities for the community.

Invested in a healthy Howick programme:

A range of initiatives were delivered under the Healthy Howick work programme. These included a mindful living programme and a community-led virtual village. The first stage of the Emilia Maud Nixon Community Teaching Garden was completed and local schools began to use this as part of their teaching programme.

Outcome 6: A prosperous local economy

Objectives:

- Growth in local business activity which will provide increased employment
- A popular place to do business
- Our area is an attractive tourist destination

Promoted Howick as an attractive tourist destination:

East Auckland Tourism was supported to promote Howick as a tourist destination. The aim was to generate income for local businesses and contribute to a thriving local economy. With this support, East Auckland Tourism launched new branding, a website, tourism plan and a Howick Tourism Map. They were also supported in developing an additional tourist map which is displayed at the Half Moon Bay Ferry Terminal.

Supported the local economy:

The board provided financial top ups to the local business associations of Greater East Tamaki and Howick Village.

Supported young people in business:

The board provided funding to the Howick Youth Council. The youth council received project management and leadership up-skilling which aimed to support them into employment and training. The youth council was also encouraged to lead their own initiatives. One such initiative was a 'Youth Summit' which was attended by over 80 students from local schools.

The Young Enterprise Trust was funded to deliver the Young Enterprise Scheme. This was a practical year-long programme where students developed businesses.

The board engaged Unity House to investigate, from a youth perspective, the design and feel of a great youth space. Key themes emerged around safety, accessibility and hosting productive activities such as workshops on careers, mentorships and mental health support. A youth facility space is now being prototyped.

Find out more: **phone 09 301 0101**
or visit **aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/**