



ESSENTIALLY
WAIHEKE
REFRESH 2016

A Village and Rural Community Strategic Framework

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SECTION 1 / WELCOME TO WAIHEKE

*“We are the land. We are the water. We are the air.
We are the descendants of Papatūānuku and Ranginui.”*

Foreword

Te Mauri O Waiheketua: *Essentially Waiheke*

Kimihia katoa nga pūtake o te kaupapa, ina I kitea kimihia te rongoa.
Ka rongo koe ki Waiheketua, ko rongo au ki te mauri o ōku tupuna.
Ka rongo koe ki te Wai-te-matā, ko rongo au ki te waiora o ōku tupuna.
Ka rongo koe ki te hau o Tawhirimatea, ko rongo au ki tōku hauora.
Mo te aha kei Waiheketua tātou?
Mō wai te moutere o Waiheketua? Mo ngā uri whakaheke.
Hei tiaki tō tātou taiao, ko Tikapa Moana.
Hei manāki ngā tāngata katoa.
Hei aroha tētahi ki tētahi.
Arā, mauri piki, mauri oho, Mauri ora, Kia mataara!

Essentially Waiheke is about creating a lived philosophy of human flourishing. Our strategy acknowledges the intrinsic values of Waiheke and Tikapa Moana, the ecosystem of origin of many of our people and generations to come. Enhancing the mauri of our place and its people is our goal, which will be achieved through holistically understanding our impact upon mauri. Uplift the life supporting capacity, awaken its potential, and realise human flourishing, now, and forever more.
Tihei mauri ora!

Introduction

“Slow down, you’re here”¹

Waiheke Island in the Hauraki Gulf is 93 sq km of paradise, just a 35 minute ferry ride from Auckland. It is an island of sandy bays, dramatic coastal walkways, and laid-back villages; home to diverse, creative and multi-skilled individuals, and free-range kids who enjoy the beach as their playground. The community is passionate, vocal and makes more submissions to government per capita than any other in New Zealand. There are no traffic lights here and no fast food chains. Ask any Waihekean what makes their island special and that heartfelt word *community* comes up time and time again.

Island communities and ecosystems are unique, and Waiheke is no exception. This is an environmentally-aware community that cares deeply about protecting and cherishing the environment, the land, the water, the air.

There is a wealth of things to experience here: boutique wineries, music festivals, award-winning restaurants, beachfront horse races, bustling weekend markets full of local produce and shops full of local crafts.

Waiheke also prides itself on being an island of art and culture, boasting a number of galleries and artists’ studios, a sculpture walk, art trail, music museum, as well as an architecturally-designed library and the culturally-significant Piritahi Marae Whareniui.

It is no surprise Waiheke ranked fifth best destination in the world to visit (Lonely Planet, *The best places in the world to travel in 2016*) and fourth best island in the world (Condé Nast, *Best Islands in the World: Readers’ Choice Awards, 2015*).

Over the last twenty years there have been significant changes to the Island’s demographic and economic makeup. As a consequence, Waiheke’s infrastructure faces the significant challenge of supporting the needs of its year-round community (pop 8,238, Census 2013) and those of between 500,000 and 750,000 visitors each year (estimated by Fullers, 2016). The island’s attractive natural landscape and its proximity to Auckland creates opportunities and challenges, such as:

- land development at Matiatia
- the island’s carrying capacity (housing and population)
- housing affordability and availability

¹ Aphorism, Island saying, bumper sticker and sign

- creating marine reserves
- the development of the village centres, community resources and halls
- schooling
- a new marina at Kennedy Point
- maintaining or improving water quality, including stream pollution and coastline clean ups
- public and ferry transport, including improved facilities for cycling and walking, ferry facilities at both ends of the island
- resolving parking issues.

Waiheke's abundant resources and strategic positioning has long made it a prime location since the arrival of the first settlers. The island was a refuge for the many people who left their markers here, a site of importance to mana whenua and the residents who call it home.

NB: quotes are drawn from the 2016 community consultation, unless referenced otherwise.

Why is *Essentially Waiheke* important?

“An empowered community is one where individuals, whānau and communities have the power and ability to influence decisions, take action and make change happen in their lives and communities.”²

Essentially Waiheke is a village and rural community strategic framework to help inform decisions on matters affecting our island and community. It represents our essential views, and opinions. It holds our concerns, our hopes and aspirations and our vision for the future of our island. This is the voice of the motu.

This document is based on the earlier versions of *Essentially Waiheke* (2000, 2005) and incorporates views, opinions and aspirations expressed by 600+ people over seven months of engagement in 2016. Among those consulted were short and long-term residents, tourists, professionals and subject-matter experts, local community groups and associations, the Waiheke Local Board, Piritahi Marae, and Ngati Paoa Iwi Trust.

² Source: Community Development Auckland Council General Manager on new Community Empowerment unit <http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/EN/newsevents/culture/OurAuckland/mediareleases/Pages/aucklandcouncilannouncesnewcommunityempowermentunit.aspx>

Essentially Waiheke should serve as a guide to anyone ‘thinking Waiheke’, including the Waiheke Local Board, Auckland Council and its Council Controlled Organisations (COO), central government, planners, developers, new businesses or existing ventures wanting to expand or restructure, community groups, long-standing or recent Waiheke residents, property owners and tenants, and any other person or organisation seeking to become a Waiheke stakeholder.

Here is a heartfelt statement from the Waiheke community in 2016. In this document you will find the essence of our home, its character, vision, values, principles, wishes and concerns. In other words, what Waihekeans stand for.

Purpose

The fundamental purpose of *Essentially Waiheke* is to:

- define and nurture the island’s unique character to preserve its mauri (vital essence, special nature)
- restore, protect and enhance Waiheke’s terrestrial and marine environments
- promote the community’s and island’s wellbeing, sustainable development³ and economic prosperity
- support community resilience and social, economic and environmental diversity
- encourage the community to use *Essentially Waiheke* as a vision and manifesto for a desired future. This document aligns with the council’s community empowerment approach.

Activities and development that impact on the island’s character, cultural, social and environmental distinctiveness, should come about only after demonstrable evidence of its need, of its sustainability and that it is in the community’s best interests.

Feel free to quote the contents of this document in your writings, correspondence and submissions, or use it as inspiration to become a guardian the land.

The concepts and aspirations expressed in this document can be advanced through statutory mechanisms and individual, businesses, council and stakeholder actions.

³ Sustainable development: development that meets the needs of the present while safeguarding and restoring Earth’s life-support system, on which the welfare of current and future generations depends.

SECTION 2 / ABOUT *ESSENTIALLY WAIHEKE*

"Waiheke, far enough behind to be ahead"

The first *Essentially Waiheke* (2000)

In 1997, the Waiheke community came together to “*produce a strategy that would provide a framework for development of the island over the next 20-30 years*”. Their views, captured over three years of community consultation, are articulated in the initial *Essentially Waiheke, a village and rural communities strategy* (2000).

Auckland City Council adopted the framework in 2000 as a guide for council and regional planning staff. The intention was to review this document every five years. However, this happened only once, in 2005 with no public consultation.

Almost 20 years later, the document still has relevance and it continues to be the *go to* reference within Auckland Council and CCOs.

One of the most important aspects of the initial *Essentially Waiheke* is the declaration of the island’s *rural and village* character (underlining a boundary to the Metropolitan Urban Limits-MUL, now the Rural Urban Boundary-RUB) and the divide between eastern and western Waiheke, now incorporated into the Hauraki Gulf District Plan.

About the 2016 review

Essentially Waiheke 2016 builds upon the original document, incorporates new perspectives and creates further opportunities to:

- ensure the island’s character guides Council, developers, visitors, businesses and potential new residents
- express the views, aspirations, vision and ideal scenarios for Waiheke’s future
- support the community’s role as guardians/kaitiaki for the sustainable future of the Island
- ensure the island voice is reflected in statutory documents, such as the Hauraki Gulf District Plan and the Auckland Unitary Plan
- embrace the relationship with mana whenua, to remember the past and prepare for a sustainable future for all.

There are many important and valid factors for this 2016 review, and all of these lead to one simple and very important need: **to keep *Essentially Waiheke* relevant as a strategic framework that facilitates real sustainable development, and protects the Island's unique character.**

Specific factors considered in this review:

A document perspective

The original *Essentially Waiheke* document was the end result of three years of extensive community consultation (1997-2000). The community took a strong stance about the island's village and rural character, clearly separating Waiheke from Auckland City.

A number of issues hampered the effectiveness of the document despite Auckland City Council and the Environment Court often referring to it. Some of the issues include:

- the document's approach and purpose was perhaps unclear. Although the community was consulted, it was written by the Auckland City Council staff in highly technical language. This narrowed readership and made it relevant only to council planners and staff rather than empowering the community to be active in understanding, monitoring and/or implementing strategic actions
- key strategies and actions were assigned as 'Auckland City' responsibility, leading the community and others to assume/believe the council would implement and monitor actions. Defined actions were neither implemented nor monitored beyond a desktop review in 2005
- the document makes common use of, and reference to, the term 'unique Waiheke character' without a clear definition. While island residents may have a shared understanding of the term, the potential for misunderstanding among council planners, staff and developers is significant
- The framework does not articulate a long-term vision for the island's ideal future.

A local perspective

Increasing tourism and improved ferry services attract more visitors, new residents and new businesses. The population on the island has grown and has

an increasingly ageing demographic. This strategic framework needs to recognise and reflect a broader range of views and voices.

A Māori perspective

Tangata whenua were not consulted for the original *Essentially Waiheke* (2000) or its first review (2005).

Throughout the 2016 *Essentially Waiheke* review process the inclusion of tangata whenua is present in the values and perspectives articulated in the final document. Indeed, for many other islanders, taurahere (maori living outside their tribal areas) and tauwi (non-maori) alike, these same values are shared and supported.

There is an acknowledgement of the natural and customary rights of tangata whenua in all its forms and in particular to exercise their kaitiakitanga⁴, in accordance with tikanga Māori (Māori world view). It extends further than a physical relationship, recognising the spiritual being of all things in the environment. The role of the kaitiaki is to sustain resource use, not only for the present generation, but also for future generations. Actions must not compromise the life sustaining capacity of the environment. This viewpoint considers a range of dimensions - spiritual, cultural, environmental, economic - as well the manaakitanga (hosting) of all who live within it. The aim is to balance the increasingly intense demands on our natural resources.

Over the years many groups have laid claim to Waiheke Island. Archaeological evidence demonstrates the island was occupied by early Polynesian settlers. From the fifteenth century or thereabouts, groups affiliated to the Te Arawa and Tainui waka settled at Tāmaki, and through the Hauraki and Coromandel area. From the seventeenth century new arrivals of Tainui origin, who collectively became known as the Marutūāhu Iwi, took up residence at Waiheke Island and across neighbouring areas. Today the following mana whenua groups claim customary and historical interests in Waiheke Island: Ngāti Paoa, Ngāti Maru, Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki, Ngaati Whanaunga, Ngāti Tamaterā, Te Patukirikiri and Ngāti Te Ata Waiohua⁵.

At Matiatia, Whetumatarau headland provides our last remaining direct living link with our Maori past, it was partitioned in 1911 and remains in Maori ownership today.

⁴ Kaitiakitanga is the exercise of guardianship by the tangata whenua of an area in accordance with tikanga Māori in relation to natural and physical resources; and includes the ethic of stewardship (source: Resource Management Act 1991).

⁵ Gateway to Waiheke, Paul Monin, 2012, page 17

A regional perspective

One in three New Zealanders lives in Auckland, with the majority of immigrants choosing to make the region their home, developments that drive economic growth, house prices, and the need for a better infrastructure and social services.

Essentially Waiheke was developed in a different local government context under two legal frameworks that have since undergone important changes - *The Local Government Act, 2002* and *The Resource Management Act, 1991*.

There have also been major structural reforms in this sector, with Auckland Council becoming a unitary authority through the amalgamation of one regional council and seven territorial authorities (November 2010). There is now a centralisation of governance in the Auckland Region, with one council and 21 local boards. Waiheke is now part of the Super City.

Land on Waiheke within the RUB is sufficient to meet the demand for growth forecasted to 2040. And while Waiheke is not identified as a growth area within the Auckland Unitary Plan, its proximity to Auckland and its easy accessibility, will undoubtedly mean growth is likely.

A national perspective:

Despite New Zealand being a country with multiple cultural identities and values, and increasingly becoming both more ethnically diverse and multilingual, our indigenous culture is our strong point of difference.

New Zealand continues to grow as a major tourist destination and preferred trading partner, with stable, political and economic conditions.

A global perspective

The world is quite a different place since the creation of the initial document. Since 1997 there have been major transformations that change the way we interact and perceive society.

SECTION 3 / THE WAIHEKE CHARACTER

“I am the motu, the motu is me. Listen, Waiheke speaks.”

One of the key goals of *Essentially Waiheke* is to clearly articulate the island’s unique character and express the community’s vision for the future. Below is a description of the Waiheke character as expressed during the 2016 consultation.

Understanding the importance of the character of a place and its community

Places are like people; they have personality and character. The character of a place matters and we can better manage, improve and promote places when tuned-in to their distinctive qualities, rather than seeing them merely as a list of assets. The most important asset is ultimately the place itself, its unique character. A character infused by the spirit of the place and its people.

People make a strong emotional connection to their place in the world, based on the qualities of its landscape, cultures and built environment. When people feel connected to the places they live, work and play in, they tend to give their time generously and participate in community work; they take part in civic life and engage in the issues that shape the future. The connection of people to a place, to the land itself, its buildings and its culture, create a form of social capital, perhaps the single most important factor in forming a true sense of community.

What is the Waiheke character?

“A special connection to the land. Environmentally aware. Relaxed. Opinionated. Independent. Artistic. Unconventional. Resourceful. Sense of belonging.”

The Waiheke character is connected to the essence of the Island as an entity, to its natural life principle or mauri – which is an essential source of emotions, clearly embodied by residents and visitors alike (kia whakatinana te kupu). Waiheke’s coastline and beaches, native bush cover, informal villages and low-density residential areas all contribute to the island’s strong sense of character.

People here have a special connection to the land and this relationship is expressed through the many community initiatives. Most locals not only live *on* Waiheke but also *for* Waiheke. They love the island and its natural resources and they are ready to defend that with passion. The growing sense of environmental-awareness in the community has been fostered by the constant commitment of local community groups.

The Waiheke community also shares many characteristics with those of other small islands. The pace is “*quiet, laid-back, relaxed, cool and calm*”; a world away from Auckland, the ‘big smoke’, full of the hustle and bustle of traffic and people in a hurry. The desire of “keeping our pace of life” resonates throughout the island and there is a strong desire to maintain it as an essential part of Waiheke’s character. Waihekeans are proud of not having traffic lights or high-speed roads and the aphorism “*slow down, you’re here*” sums up community feelings perfectly.

Yet, as relaxed as they are, people on Waiheke also provide strong examples of civic leadership. They are combative, spirited and opinionated activists, ready to stand strong on any issue that affects them or the nation. For example, in the 1970s Waiheke was the first community in New Zealand to vote for a nuclear-free zone, and this action is said to have contributed to the nation’s decision to become nuclear-free. Since the 1990s Waiheke has also declared itself a GE-free zone and more recently has challenged the Government by declaring TPPA-free status. At a local level, numerous groups have worked to protect Waiheke from unwanted development. A recent example is Direction Matiatia which, with strong community support, won a case to stop a marina development at Matiatia Bay.

The sense of “being independent and having self-determination” possibly stems from the fact that, up until 1989, Waiheke had its own County Council, wrote its own District Plan, and determined its own planning applications developments.

The people of Waiheke are resourceful. The island is a hub for multi-skilled people: innovators, entrepreneurs, academics, artists and creative professionals, tradespeople, and a growing sports community, to name just a few. Waiheke’s identity as an artistic community (visual arts, music, theatre, cinema and dance) contributes significantly to the island wellbeing.

The community shares a special sense of belonging, an unspoken code. This relatively small and diverse community is proud of their status as Waihekeans. People feel they know each other, or of each other, and the children feel safe on their island.

“Islanders tend to be more collectivistic, they operate in teams to overcome or minimize any obstacles. Islanders, in fact, interact a lot with each other.... There is a high sense of community living. Islanders definitely know each other better, and they better realize the greater need for mutual support and help.”

“Here, patience too is indeed a common virtue among islanders; they are more inclined to be patient and easy-going. Having the time to watch the sunrises and the sunsets.”⁶

⁶ Are You Thinking Like an Islander? Or More So Like a Cosmopolitan?, (Prof. Dr. K. C. Patrick Low, PhD. Chartered Marketer, International Journal of Business and Social Science Vol. 5, No. 9; August 2014).

What people love about Waiheke

During the *Essentially Waiheke* community workshops, the first question asked was “what do you love about Waiheke?” A clear theme emerged, reinforcing the island’s essential character.

“Above all, we love our community and nature. We love the diversity, the creativity and the spirit of the people combined with living in a relaxed, peaceful, friendly and safe paradise.”

Many people spoke of how close they felt to nature, reconnecting to the land and to the basic values of life when they are on Waiheke. It is this sense of belonging to a community and the connection to Papatūānuku that makes Waiheke a special place:

The “safe, relaxed and peaceful atmosphere endorsed by nature’s stunning landscapes and beautiful coastlines”. “The combination of this paradise with a friendly, diverse, creative and special community creates a unique and unforgettable life experience.”

The community also relates to the artistic ethos and culture of the island as this provides enriching, spiritual and inspirational experiences for residents and visitors.

What people are concerned about

The next question at the community workshops was “what are your concerns about the future of Waiheke?” Again, one clear theme emerged - the fear of losing Waiheke’s distinctiveness.

“We’re concerned about unsustainable development affecting our environment and our community. This includes unaffordable housing, the impact of the cost of living, the growing traffic, litter and pollution, cost and inefficiency of public transport.”

Waiheke's attributes and proximity to Auckland makes it very appealing to tourists, holiday home-owners and new residents, at the same time increasing pressure on its environment, the infrastructure and the local community.

Uncontrolled, unsustainable growth is a major concern. Global economic development models based only on financial results tend to create negative cultural, social and environmental outcomes.⁷

Key concerns expressed during consultation included:

- *how the ongoing growth and development (gentrification) are affecting the island's essential character, as well as the community's ethos*
- *what is the island's carrying capacity and the community's 'caring' capacity*
- *how much the ecosystem can support.*

Answering these concerns requires collaborative engagement to achieve this goal and appropriate strategic management of infrastructure and services to deliver positive experiences so that people can enjoy the island without damaging what makes it special.

Waiheke is a *"little piece of paradise"* and the challenge – and opportunity – is to become an example of sustainable development. It is critical that the "voice of the Island" is heard and its character is protected and nurtured.

The uniqueness of Waiheke is directly related to the beauty and the essential character of the Island's natural environment and its community. It is this very character that attracts visitors from all over the world and therefore it should be protected.

⁷ <http://www.nzherald.co.nz/?objectid=10542218>

SECTION 4 / WAIHEKE VISION 2035

*"If I dream, I dream alone. If we dream together, we achieve. Mehemea ka moemoeā ahau, ko ahau anake. Mehemea ka moemoeā tātou, ka taea e tātou."*⁸

A community vision is a clear and succinct statement that provides a comprehensive, long-term perspective required to make aligned decisions in an ideal future.

Visitors, entrepreneurs, developers, planners and policy makers should understand and be compliant with the Waiheke vision.

Our vision

Waiheke, a beautiful island that embraces its essential character through:

1. **Restoring, protecting and enhancing** what makes Waiheke special: its character as a place and as a Community.
2. **Keeping the beauty**, integrating the precious natural environment with the island's village and rural features.
3. **Being home to a small, active community** that is thriving, active, opinionated, caring, creative, diverse, environmentally-aware, and where resources are accessed equitably.
4. **Creating social, cultural and economic opportunities** that give the community hope and prosperity.
5. **Becoming a sustainable tourist destination**, that attracts people for its natural environment and the symbiotic, relaxed island pace of life.

Pillars

- Our natural island environment, which is an essential part of a wider Maritime Park.
- Our sense of community: unity in diversity, together as one (piritahi).
- Our sense of place; a village and rural community part of the Hauraki Gulf (not a suburb of Auckland/Tamaki).

⁸ Source: Princess Te Puea Herangi (9 Nov 1883 – 12 Oct 1952).

- Our Waiheke character - environmentally-aware, relaxed, opinionated, independent, artistic, resourceful, caring, creative, unconventional.
- Our deep sense of history that reflects the fact that Waiheke has been regarded as a prime location and supported communities for 1000 years.

The ideal future for Waiheke depends on the community coming together as one. To collectively act as kaitiaki of the physical environment, the sea, its habitats, the ngahere (bush), the rivers, streams, and puna (springs). In fact, all life forms to achieve life- and energy-giving mauri.

All of the above are elements of a *wawata*, a vision or waking dream.

At the core of the Waiheke vision sits an invitation to be a self-determining community, pursuing a clear set of goals and objectives, for common good and for community growth and wellbeing. Regardless of the governance structures, Waiheke leaders should make strong decisions to prevent the island's needs from being subsumed by those of mainland or greater Auckland.

It also depends on a sustainable local economy that can create opportunities for locals, generate financial wellness, support environmental restoration, enhancement and protection, and improve community wellbeing and cultural development.

Implementing our vision requires inspired leadership, collaboration with mana whenua, private sector and governing bodies, information and education programmes for the local community and tourists, a strong commitment to sustainable change and, above all, courage.

Whakataukī (proverb) from Ngāti Paoa:

Paoa ki uta
 Paoa ki tai
 Ngāti Paoa ki Waiheke tua
 Te mana tūāpapa
 Te mauri tangata
 Ki te whai Ao, ki te Ao mārama
 Paoa to the land
 Paoa to the sea

The historical footprint of Ngāti Paoa on Waiheke into the future
 provides the foundation that binds us to the land
 So that the life essence of all people prosper
 To the world and onto the world of enlightenment

SECTION 5 / PRINCIPLES AND FOCUS AREAS

“The waters of the Hauraki Gulf are increasingly healthy, resilient and full of life. People are strong kaitiaki, lifting its mauri.”⁹

The community expressed their views and aspirations very clearly during the 2016 *Essentially Waiheke* workshops. The main focus was on the island’s environment, on the importance of the community, the local economy and the island infrastructure, giving examples of their ideals and their concerns.

5.1 OUR ENVIRONMENT

“If you want to know about the environment, ask the kereru.”

Many of the world’s most endangered species are making their last stand on islands. On Waiheke this is no exception. Island communities’ function is to increasingly value and understand the interdependencies in nature.

Waiheke’s environment, and its native plants and animals, are perceived by many as fundamental to the island’s character and requires restoration and protection. Landowners across the island are engaged in widespread forest restoration and predator control. Native Gecko, Kaka, Korora (Little Blue Penguin), Banded Rail and other species have hope for survival.

There is a sense of pride around the island’s close relationship with nature; rainwater collection, septic tanks, household responsibility for waste management, and no water reticulation are perceived as positive examples of this.

Any activity related to the environment should align with and be respectful of the island’s essential character.

Below is a list of aspirations and concerns expressed by people during the 2016 consultation.

⁹ Vision Water Quality and Catchment, Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Pari - 2015
<http://www.seachange.org.nz/PageFiles/365/Water%20Quality%20and%20Catchments%20RT%20PP%20handover.pdf>

Aspirations

1. Residents and visitors should become “guardians of the land” (kaitiaki). The island is part of the Hauraki Gulf Maritime Park, and therefore residents and visitors have special responsibilities. Waiheke environmental protection and culturally significant sites should not be traded for development opportunities. As part of a Maritime Park, recreational and biodiversity needs should be in balance.
2. Waiheke’s natural features and culturally significant sites should be identified, restored, enhanced and protected. These include: minimising waste; restoring streams, wetlands, forests, tree corridors and marine life; avoiding bush clearance and maintaining controls to protect vegetation in significant ecological areas; limiting development in coastal and ridgeline locations.
3. Current and future development, where there are identified environmental and amenity considerations, should be restricted and the community consulted where applicable. Development that compliments rather than dominates the natural environment, and which is both sensitive to the land and the community vision, should be encouraged yet still managed.
4. Maintain the existing land use pattern of discrete villages surrounded by areas of rural land and a clear distinction between East and West environments; maintain a low density residential character particularly when compared to Auckland; maintain vibrant but informal village centres with human scale developments; limit building height, scale, footprint and appearance to help restore, protect and enhance the environment and distinctive island character.
5. Identify features and areas that are iconic or have special value to the Waiheke community and define how these might be preserved, e.g. outstanding and significant natural, coastal and man-made landscapes; green belts, iconic buildings and trees, view-shafts and landforms, coastal setbacks and esplanades, often-photographed locations, such as the boatsheds at Rocky Bay, and houseboats, among others.
6. Restore, enhance and protect Waiheke’s coastal environment and biodiversity (including the coastal marine area). This could include the reintroduction of the Kiwi bird, the natural return of Kaka. Secure keeping Waiheke free of kauri die-back. Further encourage the regeneration of the native forest (including Kauri), and enhance natural habitats for native fauna and flora present on the Island. Take into consideration emergency scenarios (such as Gecko populations).

7. Secure public ownership of critically important land with high environmental value and encourage the creation of more reserves.
8. Maintain a high standard of air and water quality, building self-sufficiency for water supply and on-site wastewater treatment and disposal. A wish to remain free of reticulation.
9. Manage or where possible eradicate pests and noxious weeds that are harmful to the island's ecology. The aim is to be pest/spray/GMO free by 2023.
10. Support and build on the Community involvement and passion to develop and/or maintain programmes such as Forest and Bird, Native Bird Rescue, planting and weeding activities, etc. Consider alternative ways of funding such programmes and activities.
11. Caring for the environment also means caring for "what goes on the land, in the water and in the air." This can be achieved through:
 - a. protecting and enhancing the mauri of water
 - b. embracing a Zero Waste philosophy to reduce landfill.
 - c. encouraging the use of eco-products (for healthy septic tanks) in the household and in the tourism sector. The industry should be encouraged to consider other actions and behaviours to minimise their ecological footprint
 - d. reducing use of fossil fuel and finding carbon-neutral sources of energy
 - e. promoting self-sufficiency (e.g. building a second water tank to manage water use more effectively)
 - f. avoiding noxious chemical products.
12. Encourage activities aimed at protecting the environment and/or reducing the impact of development. For example:
 - a. community gardens and sustainable farming activities
 - b. community waste management
 - c. a local recycling centre
 - d. promoting organic/local food systems.

13. Waiheke's tourism industry should commit to supporting the restoration, protection, preservation and enhancement of the island's environment, landscape, amenities, culturally significant spaces and essential character.
14. Monitor the environmental impact of farming and agricultural activities.
15. Conduct further studies of the strategic linkages of *Essentially Waiheke* with Statutory Policy, especially those relating to Landscape Protection.
16. Mana whenua views from Ngati Paoa perspective:
 - a. protect wāhi tapu (sacred sites) around the island
 - b. Engage in meaningful collaborations with mana whenua, sharing a holistic approach to the protection of significant sites (e.g. maunga/mountains, peaks) and sensitive historic areas
 - c. Support initiatives that enable mana whenua to exercise kaitiakitanga over natural and physical resources, with particular regard to significant sites, places and landscapes and receiving marine environments.

Concerns

1. Water quality, both fresh water on marine coastal environment (e.g. Little Oneroa, Enclosure Bay, etc).
2. Wastewater reticulation if this puts at risk the island's essential character (i.e. the fear of Waiheke becoming "another suburb" of Auckland).
3. Growing levels of littering and pollution (noise, visual, land, air, water) including:
 - a. boat waste going directly in the sea septic tanks in poor condition or overloading of septic systems
 - b. harmful chemical products being used or dumped
 - c. litter (land and ocean)
 - d. noise pollution (machinery, helicopters, etc.).
 - e. light pollution.

4. Further damage to biodiversity. Most of New Zealand's endangered species are making their last stands on Islands¹⁰. Our island communities care deeply about our environment.
5. The standardising of Waiheke's roading, footpaths, kerbing, and channeling resulting in the island losing one of its points of difference to Auckland. Focus should be on respecting Waiheke's unique character.
6. Non-notified development impacting the environment and planning decisions made by people not accountable for and/or not living in our community and/or not having clear understanding of the character of the island.
7. Mana whenua perspective from Ngati Paoa:
 - a. activities that disrespect culturally significant sites

Other relevant environmental matters from *Essentially Waiheke 2000/2005*

There is consistency between the community views from the first *Essentially Waiheke* (2000/2005) and the recent ones captured during consultation (2016). The required actions and monitoring are still relevant and should be revisited:

1. Maintaining vegetation protection controls, noting that non-reticulated areas of Waiheke are not urban environments and District Plan general tree protections remain in place.
2. Maintaining minimum lot sizes for subdivision to preserve rural and low-density suburban character that is distinct from Auckland.
3. Avoiding contaminant discharges into the coastal environment.
4. Supporting native re-vegetation using eco-sourced species.
5. Undertaking a catchment approach to protecting and enhancing water quality within streams, wetlands and beaches, as well as waterway and wetland restoration.
6. Securing critically important land with high environmental value in public ownership through council covenants, financial contributions, esplanades, land/easement purchase.

¹⁰ <http://www.eds.org.nz/our-work/publications/e-news/pathways-to-prosperity/>

5.2 OUR COMMUNITY

The Waiheke community is multicultural, active, creative and multi-skilled, with a diversity in ages and backgrounds. This community has a strong character (see Section 3) and is friendly, artistic, opinionated, spirited and spares no efforts in battling to maintain its integrity and character.

There is pride in this sense of community, this ‘unity in diversity’, in being Waihekeans. The belief that “we are not Auckland” or that “Hauraki is not Tamaki” runs deeply.

Below is a list of aspirations and concerns expressed by people during the 2016 consultation.

Aspirations

1. Nurture a culture that helps restore, protect and enhance the character of the place and the community.
2. Foster commitment to change, leadership and kotahitanga/togetherness. There is a greater opportunity for all to work together for the common good and also greater opportunity to get things done.
3. Exercise the responsibilities as guardians/kaitiaki and invite visitors/businesses to also act accordingly.
4. Support the high rate of community engagement and voluntarism and the ability of the local community to rally. This sense of community is one of the most highly valued aspects of Waiheke character. It is brought about by a sense of ownership and belonging which is reinforced through a high degree of participation in community issues.
5. Further encourage a self-sufficient, sustainable community that works together to achieve resilience and an egalitarian society.
6. Foster a positive and tolerant attitude that adds to the island’s diversity and supports its character.
7. Celebrate Waiheke’s diversity, culture and history, including a greater visibility and emphasis of Māori presence and heritage.
8. Organise more events for the community.

9. Foster the growing level of community engagement/responsibility.
10. Design a model for self-sufficiency, self-governance and independence.
11. Create affordable housing for the community to maintain a diversity of population.
12. Support the development of community-focussed infrastructure and activities for different age groups. All should respect the character of the island.
13. Provide more educational options to meet community needs, with a particular focus on youth development and employment.
14. Work with community groups and agencies to ensure easy access to affordable healthcare.
15. Actively support development and planning that retains the island's character and keeps the community safe, diverse and inclusive.
16. Develop local environment management plans and programmes.
17. Support community initiatives including upcycling, community gardens, the Ostend market, Little Oneroa stream project, plastic bag-free Waiheke, Totally Locally, co-operatives and community trusts, and waste management programmes.
18. Consider establishing *Essentially Waiheke* as a “mini-constitution” or “a memorandum of understanding with Auckland Council and CCOs” so that conflicting policies and initiatives will not be undertaken.
19. Mana whenua views from Ngati Paoa perspective:
 - a. Support the strengthening of mana whenua (people and activities) on the island.

Concerns

1. Factors that threaten the island's character, such as:
 - a. an increasingly fast pace of life
 - b. the perception of being a “party island” or a “rich person's playground”

- c. uncontrolled/unsustainable development/growth
 - d. activity that trades wellbeing for economic growth
 - e. growing consumerism and land/property speculation
 - f. further development of gated communities
 - g. changes to the transport and/or roading network that increase traffic congestion and crowds.
2. Unaffordable housing, displacement and involuntary homelessness because of economic pressure.
 3. A lack of support, resources and opportunities for youth and elderly, forcing them to leave the island.
 4. Increasing levels of violence, poverty, discrimination and elitism.
 5. A growing percentage of empty holiday houses and lack of rental opportunities for locals.
 6. The unique difficulties that the community –particularly low-income families– faces on an island (e.g. access to hospital, transport, logistics, accommodation).
 7. Emergency dependency on Westpac Rescue and Police boats (and the need to maintain funding for these).

Other relevant community matters from *Essentially Waiheke 2000/2005*

There is consistency between the community views from the first *Essentially Waiheke* (2000/2005) and the recent ones captured during consultation (2016). The required actions and monitoring are still relevant and should be revisited:

1. Providing a range of facilities and opportunities for the whole community.
2. Planting natives and fruit trees in appropriate locations within road berms and reserves.
3. Self-governance options.

5.3 OUR ECONOMY

Economic growth based purely on financial indicators is unacceptable to the community if it depreciates, degrades and/or destroys the environment and/or island essential character. Economic development needs to provide a range of local jobs for the local people (with more than a minimum wage) and better opportunities for sustainable growth. The Totally Locally concept strongly underpins this.

The community understands that tourism is one of the main drivers of the local economy thanks to the natural beauty of the island, which is often complemented by a range of experiences; such as food and wine, arts and culture and wellbeing. Locals expect these businesses and sectors to consider and help protect the island's character not only philosophically but practically through their products and services. It is also important to mention the contribution the large number of commuters make to the local economy even off-season.

Hospitality and sustainable tourism training programmes should be made increasingly available on the island to support professional development and best practice along the tourism value chain.

Positive economic, social, and environmental outcomes can also be achieved through a strong drive towards local and sustainable food systems: growing, harvesting, processing, transporting, marketing, packaging, consumption, and disposal of food and food-related items.

Unaffordable cost of living is a problem on Waiheke, just like in any other popular tourist destination. The island's ideal economy should seek alternative models to solve some of the most prevalent issues i.e. cooperative housing, ecotourism, private and public transport options, and even new alternatives for social services. There is a need to incentivise community-led/social enterprises that can endorse and support the island's character. Generating permanent funding for these ideas is essential; the solutions can be found within the community and tourism industry. A visitors' tax is one option and it is essential to access such funds to enable community development and infrastructure projects.

To maintain the island's social, cultural and environmental character, any economic activity on Waiheke must balance development and environmental impact, as well as preserve what makes this place so special.

Aligning best practice with low-impact tourism is likely to benefit Waiheke and create fewer demands on resources. It will also avoid tourism fatigue from residents who have to deal with increased pollution, congestion, and other factors that impact on the character of the island.

Below is a list of aspirations and concerns expressed by people during the 2016 consultation.

Aspirations

1. Business activity should:
 - a. provide a diverse range of short, and long-term employment opportunities, ideally in different locations on the island
 - b. support the sustainable use of the land, maintain the island character, and limit the stress on environmental health and amenity.
2. Local, small-scale businesses and cottage industries, social enterprise and artisan production are fostered and supported to contribute to a better financial return, get money flowing locally and limit on stress resources.
3. Areas of business are compatible with the island's character and aligned with the aspirations and needs of local communities and villages. This could include the preparation of a design statement for local villages, using precedents, e.g. Oneroa Village – see District Plan, for areas like Matiatia Bay¹³.
4. The tourism industry commits to protecting, preserving and enhancing of the island's environment, landscape, amenity and essential character.
5. Physical and social infrastructure mitigates the adverse effects of population growth, as well as visitor demands.
6. Alternative models are adopted to support economic development, through:
 - a. incentivising local food production
 - b. creating and supporting local/community social services
 - c. fostering economic opportunities that stem from the wellbeing sector (e.g. recovery tourism)

¹³ <http://www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/council/documents/hgidecision/docs/hgiApp12.pdf>.

- d. creating jobs and education based on innovation and new technologies, such as software development (a potential income stream for youth with a low ecological footprint)
 - e. procuring and employing locally (social procurement).
7. Convert the present wharf tax to a visitor/tourist levy, and apply it to all modes of tourism transportation (including sea planes, helicopters, etc.). This levy should be commuter exempt and managed by the Waiheke Local Board or other community legal entity.
8. Explore innovative and sustainable economical activities and employment.
9. Develop job opportunities created by fast-speed broadband and technology-based industries to support home-based businesses.
10. Generate educational programmes that contribute to local employment and the economy, such as sustainable transport, waste and food systems.
11. Consider growing the knowledge economy, based on the island intellectual capital.
12. Introduce a loyalty scheme for locals who support businesses year round.
13. Mana whenua views from Ngati Paoa perspective:
 - a. all business activity should support positive cultural outcomes, including activities that are respectful to cultural/historic sites and kōrero.
 - b. all tourism activities around culturally significant sites should respect mana whenua values and have a consistent, approved kōrero to integrate oral traditions and stories
 - c. economic opportunities should be developed that have a positive social, cultural and environmental outcome for mana whenua.

Concerns

1. Economic growth that increases social inequalities without any community benefit.

2. Unaffordable housing (renting and buying) forcing individuals and families to leave the island. This contrasts with the considerable number of empty/unused holiday houses on the island.
3. Lack of job opportunities for locals, a challenge for younger generations to become part of the local economy.
4. Big franchise chains establishing on the island (e.g. McDonalds) as this would affect small and medium local businesses, and compromise the island's essential character.
5. Over-sized buildings and infrastructure.
6. Lack of monitoring and management of the impact caused by the increasing numbers of visitors.
7. Dependency on off-island services.
8. The growing number of vehicles and bigger buses.

Other relevant economic matters from *Essentially Waiheke 2000/2005*

There is consistency between the community views from the first *Essentially Waiheke* (2000/2005) and the recent ones captured during consultation (2016). The required actions and monitoring are still relevant and should be revisited:

1. Enabling appropriate commercial and mixed-use activities in existing villages, provided this is at a village scale. Consideration of the location of street trading businesses relative to established commercial activities.
2. Enabling appropriate small-scale visitor accommodation on residential sites, acknowledging this is an important income stream for many residents.

5.4 INFRASTRUCTURE and SERVICES

*“... More city shaping should be delegated to Citizens, and government should take the role of enabler rather than controller.”¹⁴
Waiheke should “further develop its differentiation from an ‘Auckland experience’ to sustain its market appeal. . .”¹⁵*

Infrastructure encompasses the physical and organisational structures and facilities necessary to sustain people in a community, such as transport, water and waste management, housing, utilities, etc.

Waiheke should be seen as a closed system rather than a part of the bigger Auckland. Its infrastructure supports the needs of its resident community (8,238 habitants, 2013 Census) as well as having the challenge of accommodating between 500,000 and 750,000 tourists and visitors per year¹⁶. In summer, this represents 10,000 to 12,000 visitors per day¹⁷.

This situation puts immense pressure on existing services; the result is an array of undesirable consequences such as: littering and high volumes of organic and inorganic waste; traffic, visual and air pollution, a detrimental impact on the natural environment, a negative perception of the island from visitors, and, perhaps most worryingly, an adverse effect on the community’s pride and love for the island.

The community does not want water reticulation or wastewater reticulation, and is against the development of high-rise buildings, as they are seen as altering the character of the island. Visitors and residents also identify many physical structures necessary to maintaining the island’s character, such as the unique bus stops with a story behind them, the benches along walkways and the community halls.

The increasing number of cars, trucks and buses on the island is another issue. A sustainable better-integrated transport system, including bike lanes and footpaths, vehicle size and number limitation, are among the transport solutions suggested for the island. The absence of traffic lights is seen as positive reinforcement of the character of the place.

¹⁴ Tactical Urbanism vol 4, 2014:8. https://issuu.com/codesignstudio/docs/tacticalurbanismvol4_141020/8

¹⁵ [(2015) NZEnvC 218 – para 391] Waiheke Marinas Ltd. <http://www.environmentcourt.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Decisions/ENVC-2016-018-decision-Waiheke-Marinas-Ltd-costs.pdf>

¹⁶ Estimated according to Fullers

¹⁷ Fullers CEO on http://m.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=11567650

Ferry access to and from the island is a continuing issue. The recent case of an alternative ferry company ceasing its services in 2016 caused surprise and sadness among many in the community as it created healthy competition in fares and improved services.

In 2012, the Council estimated there was a total growth capacity of approximately 1122 new dwellings available on Waiheke through the development of existing vacant sites. Another 949 or so dwellings could be created through infill development.

Waiheke is not identified as a growth area in the Auckland Plan but demand is likely because of its proximity to Auckland and improvements in accessibility.

Late in December 2015, the Environment Court gave its decision¹⁸ on an application to build a large marina in a bay that is both the gateway to, and spiritual haven for, residents and regular visitors to Waiheke.

The court made a variety of references¹⁹ to Waiheke being very distinct from Auckland – for instance that it should “further develop its differentiation from an ‘Auckland experience’ to sustain its market appeal to its core market – Auckland residents.”

Below is a list of aspirations and concerns expressed by people during the 2016 consultation.

Aspirations

1. Find solutions to solve the critical issue of affordable housing (community housing, low-cost healthy homes, new shared or communal housing models, emergency housing, pensioner housing, seasonal workers housing, etc.). This will allow the community to blossom and maintain the desired diversity of population. Existing vacant residential land should be prioritised to protect the boundaries of the existing villages and minimise village sprawl.
2. Create and promote a greener, better-integrated transport system (considering public transport, limitation of vehicle size and weight, car sharing, carpooling, electric vehicles, safe bike lanes, etc.). This should take into consideration the increase in users during tourism peak seasons.
3. Design parking alternatives to meet community and visitor needs (particularly in Matiatia, Kennedy Point and, increasingly, Oneroa).

¹⁸ (2015) NZEnvC 218 – Waiheke Marinas Ltd. <http://www.environmentcourt.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Decisions/ENVC-2016-018-decision-Waiheke-Marinas-Ltd-costs.pdf>

¹⁹ (2015) NZEnvC 218 – Waiheke Marinas Ltd [para 391].

4. Create more safety crossing and low-speed areas; and a user-friendly cycling and walking networks connecting the villages.
5. Find ways to generate alternative energy (e.g. wind turbines as a community-owned power source). Promote undergrounding.
6. Protect the unique architectural features that enhance the island's character (bus stop, toilets, village halls, etc.).
7. Promote and support a local waste-management programme that includes:
 - a. solid waste and waste reduction, recycling and reuse programmes
 - b. self-sufficiency of water supply. Limits on Waiheke's high-use aquifer in terms of bore water takes
 - c. on-site wastewater treatment and disposal
 - d. care for and maintenance of individual systems.
8. Keep the island a reticulation-free area (apart from what is already zoned in Oneroa).
9. Provide more areas/infrastructure/facilities to meet community needs, of our young in particular (swimming pool, playground, activities, skate park, etc.).
10. Consider ecofriendly infrastructure to support growing tourism numbers (e.g. public toilets, accommodations for hospitality workers, etc.). This should be designed and implemented in a sustainable way that respects the character of the Island.
11. Consider the implementation of a tourism levy to drive/fund local infrastructure development and/or a council funded scheme to support tourism infrastructure and activities (as Waiheke generates tourism income for the Auckland area). There should also consideration on monitoring the amount of vehicles coming into the island.
12. Develop a strategic plan for further development of the Artworks Complex.
13. Mana whenua views from Ngati Paoa perspective:
 - a. integrate mana whenua mātauranga and tikanga into the design of the built environment and open space, in recognition of the island's unique cultural landscapes

- b. support relationships with mana whenua.

Concerns

1. Over-sized, over-scale buildings that compromise Waiheke's character (e.g. high-risers or commercial/residential buildings, a high-street style of development, large-format commercial, malls, fast food chains and drive-throughs).
2. The shift or removal of the RUB without any community consultation or agreement is perceived by many as compromising the character of the island.
3. Increasing traffic and speed.
4. Visual, noise, light and air pollution.
5. Residential reticulated sewage.
6. Changing the environment to accommodate more building and/or roads (affecting green belts).
7. Intensive residential growth instead of maintaining a low density, spacious village character.
8. The environmental and economic implications of sending waste off-island to landfill/recycling.
9. Cellphone towers in residential areas.
10. Growing numbers of helicopters (and heli pads) and drones.
11. A decrease in biodiversity protection.

Other relevant infrastructure matters from *Essentially Waiheke 2000/2005*

There is consistency between the community views from the first *Essentially Waiheke* (2000/2005) and the recent ones captured during consultation (2016). The required actions and monitoring are still relevant and should be revisited:

Storm water, wastewater and water supply

1. Maintain low-density development, limiting residential spread.
2. Prevent erosion and silt pollution into storm water and coastal waters.
3. Monitor stream and inshore water quality.
4. Educate visitors and residents on water usage.
5. Monitor bores to ensure water quality.
6. Reduce waste generated by businesses and residents.

Open space network

1. Create sustainable growth of open space, reserves and walkways, meeting the community's recreational aspirations while maintaining and enhancing the natural environment and promoting kaitiakitanga.
2. Create a comprehensive, integrated and well sign-posted network of bridle paths, walkways, cycleways and footpaths.
3. Ensure bridle trails are physically separated from public roads and motorised traffic.
4. Create opportunity for everyone, including disabled, to pursue recreational activities.
5. Ensure access to sufficient public land and reserve space.
6. Protect access to and along the coast.

Recreation, community facilities and visitor activities

1. Plan proposed facilities in consultation with the community so that they are site-specific and user appropriate.

Emergency services and preparedness, noting Waiheke's distinct island location

1. Facilitate effective emergency response through improved design of the built environment. Avoid dependency on off-island contractors. Design and generate the local capacity beyond preparedness. This could also boost the local economy and employment.

Transport and roading

1. Locate and scale transport facilities to protect, preserve and enhance Waiheke's landscape, environmental and amenity.

Wharves and airfields

1. Maintain Waiheke's visual and residential amenity values through the provision of appropriate wharf and airfield facilities.

2. Maintain Matiatia wharf as the major passenger entry point to the island.
3. Maintain Kennedy Point as the main point of entry for vehicular traffic and bulk freight.

Public transport

1. Substantially decrease low occupancy private vehicle use.
2. Ensure public transport systems have a low environmental impact and work safely and efficiently without requiring substantial roading upgrades.

Cycling and walking

1. Increase the number of trips made on bicycle or foot.
2. Increase the range of transport alternatives compatible with the island's existing roading network.

SECTION 6 / THE VOICE OF OUR CHILDREN

“I am what I am because of who we all are.”²⁰

Our children are the future. A long-term strategic framework should reflect the non-biased, valuable and honest voices of our children as they will be taking active roles in the community in 10 or 20 years' time.

Several groups of local children and teenagers, aged 7 to 16, were consulted as part of the 2016 *Essentially Waiheke* review. Their vision and aspirations were very aligned with the larger Community, showing an impressive consciousness and understanding of what makes Waiheke special, as well as issues that could affect the island's future.

Waiheke children do not want to see the island becoming a suburb or a small city with fast-food outlets, big malls, high-rise buildings, large avenues and traffic lights. In terms of aesthetics, they like the island's natural, humble look. Many noted that some of the new architecture, such as the new Ostend supermarket *“doesn't look like Waiheke”*.

Free outdoor activities are considered among the best entertainments on the island but children would also like to have more facilities and organised activities. A swimming pool complex and a better skate park are among the most highly prized.

Above all, Waiheke kids feel safe and free. They love the friendly people, the characters on the Island, the diversity and sense of community. They also love the beaches and the nature surrounding them and are concerned about the future if unsustainable growth continues.

It is noticeable the contrast between children's positive comments when expressing their feelings about island life today and how it could be in the future. They are clearly concerned by signs of change in a “non-Waiheke way” and tend to blame visitors for the disruption.

This perception highlights the need for educational programmes to further develop awareness about sustainable development. These should focus on understanding the benefits of sustainable tourism while building resilient communities, and restoring, protecting and enhancing the island's character.

²⁰ Ubuntu philosophy – from one of the Bantu dialects of Africa [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ubuntu_\(philosophy\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ubuntu_(philosophy))

SECTION 7 / RECOMMENDED STRATEGIC ACTIONS

This section highlights some of the key areas of concern to protect and enhance Waiheke's character, as captured during the 2016 consultation.

However, like any document of this kind, *Essentially Waiheke* cannot fulfil its goal by simply reflecting the community's voice. It also needs to integrate with existing plans, strategies, funding sources and other mechanisms available in 2016 and beyond; and engage key actors, groups and bodies.

The recommendations below need to be further explored and activated with an implementation plan to support Waiheke's future sustainable development²¹.

7.1 Commitment from governing bodies

The community will be empowered if the Waiheke Local Board and Auckland Council embrace the aspirations and goals expressed in the 2016 *Essentially Waiheke* Strategic Framework. This document should become a go-to document for the Local Board's planning and decision-making.

Securing the commitment of governing bodies (Auckland Council and CCOs, in particular) to refer to *Essentially Waiheke* will ensure policies and initiatives will not be undertaken if they are in conflict with the best interest of the island and community. As an example, this should apply to a heightened level of both notification and consultation in regard to the granting of resource consents.

Expression of a collective community view on key matters where there is consensus, should be referenced in the planned review of the Auckland Unitary Plan (AUP) to incorporate the Hauraki Gulf Islands (HGI) District Plan.

7.2 Integration with key statutory documents and/or legal frameworks

It is critical to the community that *Essentially Waiheke* is recognised, considered and/or adopted by other key statutory strategies, frameworks and legal documents (e.g. the Auckland Unitary Plan). The community wishes to be empowered and ensure the island voice is heard. This can be achieved through collaboration and acknowledgment in

²¹ Sustainable development: development that meets the needs of the present while safeguarding and restoring Earth's life-support system, on which the welfare of current and future generations depends.

related statutory documents. An example of integration is the framework's inclusion in the Hauraki Gulf District Plan.

There are opportunities to include *Essentially Waiheke* in the upcoming District Plan review and incorporation of Hauraki Gulf Islands into the Auckland Unitary Plan.

Local Board should request the governing body to include the values, objectives and methods of *Essentially Waiheke* in the Auckland Unitary Plan and consequently into the Long-term Plan and Annual Plans. Recognition in the Auckland Plan will ensure that the whole Council, including the CCOs, gives effect to *Essentially Waiheke* at every level of planning, implementation and monitoring.

7.3 Monitoring the island's carrying capacity

"The threshold that will determine when it is appropriate to provide additional land for residential development on Waiheke is when the current residential capacity of the Island is at 90%. That is, of the existing and potential residential stock of around 5,400 properties²², 10% (540 residential properties) are still vacant. To give an indication, 90% development is expected to have occurred when the permanent population reaches approximately 10,000 people. This is expected to occur around the year 2006."
(*Essentially Waiheke*, 2000)

The forecast of reaching 10,000 people by 2006 was an overestimate. Approximately 8500 people are currently living on the island (2016) and, according to Statistics NZ, the mid-range projections for Waiheke's 2043 population is 11,800.

Although that seems like the distant future, it is recommended that studies are undertaken as soon as possible to determine what are the potential future scenarios for the island's carrying capacity (e.g. identify areas to accommodate future population growth) and the impact on the island's character and wellbeing. This should also include monitoring visitor numbers.

Planners advise that land on Waiheke already within the RUB is sufficient to meet growth demand forecasted to 2040 in the Auckland Region.

Auckland Council/Central Government should consider the negative impacts on Waiheke should MUL/RUB boundaries be relaxed to encourage development. Based on growth modelling undertaken by the Council (2012) it was estimated that there was a total capacity of approximately 1,122 new dwellings available through the development of existing vacant sites, and a total capacity of approximately 949 new dwellings available through infill development.

²² This figure includes only land classified as Land Unit 11 or 12 in the Hauraki Gulf Island District Plan; it does not include rural properties or 'lifestyle blocks'.

The community strongly wishes to retain the island's existing village and rural nature, while protecting its environmental, heritage and cultural features. There is a need to raise debate as to how the community expects growth to be dealt with.

7.4 Addressing housing supply, choice and affordability

Sustained growth of the Auckland population has induced phenomenal housing pressure in the Region. Paradoxically, we see widespread homelessness, overcrowding and numbers of investment homes lying empty across the region. Against this backdrop our island aspires to maintain and sustain the diversity within our community.

The community would like to see a Waiheke housing entity established to address the housing issue on the island, to study and identify alternative models and opportunities for community-built and owned housing, including pensioner units, seasonal workers, community-built owner/occupier, and low and medium cost housing. Any housing development should take into consideration the character of the island.

Further studies and conversations need to be undertaken to define if/how both Local and/or Central Government and other Bodies could provide land and/or seed-funding grants to get this project moving. In concert with this initiative, Council – in close consultation with the community and mana whenua – must establish special housing areas designed to meet land needs for lower to medium-cost housing.

Also there is a need to take into consideration the increasing housing pressure in Auckland and the actions Council and central Government are considering into their 40-year plan to build houses to alleviate demand.

7.5 Developing a sustainable transport system

Transport systems exist to provide social and economic connections. The advantages of increased mobility need to be weighed against the environmental, social and economic costs that transport systems pose.

Most Islands have small populations and limited natural resources, meaning that economic diversification and connectivity are key to their development. A sustainable economy and transport system are crucial to promote sustainable development.²³

²³ UNCTAD, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.
<http://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=832>

The community perceives Waiheke's transport system to be an issue because of the high cost of commuter travel, inefficient public transport and the increasing number of cars and buses on the roads. Creating and promoting a greener, integrated transport system is paramount, including better facilities for cycling and walking, car sharing, carpooling, electric vehicles, parking alternatives, ferry facilities at both ends of the island, convenient and efficient public transport, a locally-owned shuttle service, and limitations on vehicle size and weight.

Local community involvement and empowerment in transport planning, provision of transport services, tourism planning and roading is key.

A study/project is necessary to define a range of transport alternatives that are compatible with the existing roading network, covering wharves, airfields, road and maritime public transport, cycling and walking.

As part of this, special consideration needs to be given to Matiatia and Kennedy Point as the key entry points to the island. Not resolving the current and imminent issues will pose a threat to the local/regional tourism and the local economy and affect the character of the island.

7.6 Becoming a sustainable tourism destination

Tourism is one of the world's largest and fastest growing industries. Sustainable tourism development is paramount to minimise the stress on biodiversity, local infrastructure and the local communities.

Sustainable tourism development requires the informed participation of all relevant stakeholders, as well as strong political leadership to ensure wide engagement and consensus building. Achieving sustainable tourism is a continuous process and it requires constant monitoring of impacts, introducing the necessary preventive and/or corrective measures whenever necessary.

Sustainable tourism should also maintain a high level of tourist satisfaction and ensure a meaningful experience to the tourists, raising their awareness about sustainability issues and promoting responsible tourism practices amongst them.

(UNWTO, United Nations World Tourism Organisation)

Sustainable tourism should:

1. Make optimal use of environmental resources that constitute a key element in tourism development, maintaining essential ecological processes and helping

to conserve natural heritage and biodiversity whilst protecting culturally significant sites.

2. Respect the socio-cultural authenticity of host communities, conserve their built and living cultural heritage and traditional values, and contribute to inter-cultural understanding and tolerance.
3. Protect and enhance outstanding and significant natural, coastal and man-made landscapes
4. Follow consistent messaging with regards to historic accounts as guided by mana whenua.
5. Ensure viable, long-term economic operations, providing socio-economic benefits to all including the wider community, providing stable employment and income-earning opportunities and social services to host communities, and contributing to poverty alleviation.

Any tourism activity on Waiheke should have a positive impact on the environment, community and economy. It is important to monitor, manage and forecast tourism's impact on the character and mauri of the island.

From a social, environmental and economic point of view, it is fundamental to develop a model in which the profits from tourism activities also support the island's restoration, protection, preservation and wellbeing.

From an infrastructure point of view, it is crucial to take into consideration the development of the island's two main access points - Matiatia and Kennedy Point.

As an example, there is an opportunity to convert the present wharf tax to a visitor/tourist levy, applicable to all modes of tourism transportation (including sea planes, helicopters, etc.). This levy should be managed and controlled by the Waiheke Local Board and/or other Community legal representatives. It should be used to foster and promote tourism-related infrastructure development, education and awareness programmes, biodiversity restoration and protection, and development that mitigates its effects. This could also benefit the community by reducing the transport/commuting costs for residents.

7.7 Restoration of biodiversity

“Waiheke Island is home to a great number of conservation groups, all working to enhance the natural character and biodiversity of the Island. There is also an ethos of social responsibility towards the Island’s people”²⁴

Sustaining and enhancing Waiheke’s natural environment is essential to preserve the island’s character and achieve the community’s vision. Restoring biodiversity is paramount for Waiheke.

There is a need to support and develop current pest management and weed management initiatives to make the island pest and weed free. The same effort should go into keeping Waiheke free of kauri die-back.

There is enough evidence to support the case for designating Waiheke a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, the first of its kind in New Zealand²⁵. Further discussions and consultation with community would have to take place, and this process would support the community’s aspirations, enhance ecotourism, promote further research, create preservation awareness, and other positive outcomes.

It is also important to engage with mana whenua in exploring mechanisms to restore, protect and enhance biodiversity.

7.8 Making *Essentially Waiheke* a living document

Essentially Waiheke’s aim is for it to become a living document, and manifesto for a desired future, that remains relevant, is frequently updated, and has room to evolve over time (i.e. should be formally revised with public consultation every 3 to 5 years).

For this to happen it should become a ‘movement’. It is paramount that *Essentially Waiheke* is owned and powered by the Community, and supported, endorsed and adopted by the Local Board and Auckland Council.

To engage the community this strategic framework should be promoted, and made easily accessible, online and in print, and be referenced when ideas or recommendations are needed on how to use or develop any of the island’s resources.

²⁴ Forest & Bird <http://www.forestandbird.org.nz/what-we-do/news/will-waiheke-island-be-the-next-unesco-biosphere-reserve>

²⁵ <https://waihekenova.wordpress.com/>
<http://nzcg.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/140517-Waiheke-Lecture-Keynote-Paper-1.pdf>

7.9 Establishing a measurable decision-making framework

In *Essentially Waiheke* (2000) the strategy was defined as a “well-educated guess about how to accommodate people on Waiheke and manage effects that cannot always be known in advance.” As identified in the 2016 version, roles and responsibilities for implementation, management and monitoring any development were unclear.

We recommend the adoption of a simple, effective method or tool to monitor actions that support the community vision and acts in the best interest of Waiheke.

The Mauri Model²⁶ is an example of a decision-making framework. Developed by Waiheke resident Dr Kepa Morgan, this aims to transform the understanding of kaitiakitanga and sustainability in Aotearoa/New Zealand.

“This tool uses the concept of mauri as the measure of sustainability, in comparison to the conventional, monetary-based assessment. The model measures mauri in four dimensions – environmental wellbeing, cultural wellbeing, social wellbeing and economic wellbeing. In enhancing the mauri of our families, our communities, mana whenua, and our ecosystem, we will achieve sustainability. By recognising and respecting the inter-relationships between these priorities in a manner consistent with Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and evaluating the manifested trends transparently, we will be able to best achieve our collective human flourishing.”

²⁶ <http://www.mauriometer.com/DataEntry/Page1>

References

Essentially Waiheke, a village and rural strategy (2000, 2005)

<http://www.ourwaiheke.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/Essentially-Waiheke-updated-per-WCB-050225-and-as-online090322.pdf>

Waiheke Island Visitor Survey Report (2009). Dr Lucy Baragwanath and Dr Nick Lewis with Brigette Priestley

http://www.sosukeonline.com/editorunlockedlibrary/doc.php?doc_id=535&action=inline

Auckland Council District Plan - Hauraki Gulf Islands Section - Operative 2013

<http://www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/council/documents/hgidecision/docs/exclusionlist.pdf>

The Waiheke Characteristic Study (August 1992)

Hard copy only – available at Waiheke Local Board

Hauraki Gulf District Plan

<http://www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/council/documents/hgidecision/docs/exclusionlist.pdf>

Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Plan

<http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/en/aboutcouncil/representativesbodies/haurakigulf/forum/pages/2012aurakigulfmarineparkseminar.aspx>

Thriving Communities Action Plan, Ngā Hapori Momoho (2014)

<http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/EN/planspoliciesprojects/plansstrategies/Councilstrategies/Documents/thrivingcommunitiesactionplan.pdf>

Empowered Communities

<http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/en/newseventsculture/communityfundingsupport/pages/empoweredcommunities.aspx>

The Whanganui River became a legal entity and has a legal voice under an agreement signed between Whanganui River iwi and the Crown (2014)

http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=10830586

The Environment Court's decision on a marina for Matiatia Bay (para 391)

<http://environmentcourt.govt.nz/cases-online/matiatia-bay-marina-proposal/correspondence/>

Research methodology and engagement plan

The process of community consultation (engagement plan) for *Essentially Waiheke* 2016

This revision of *Essentially Waiheke* was guided by a council-approved engagement plan that included informing, consulting, involving and collaborating with the community. The revision was commissioned by the Local Board and facilitated by an independent project team of local residents.

The project team consulted with the community and subject matter experts from a variety of sectors over a seven-month period (December 2015 - July 2016).

The process involved a series of community workshops in different areas/villages on the island; presentations and meetings with many of the local groups, Residents' Associations, local primary and secondary schools, experts and individuals.

The community and expert feedback gathered during these consultations was distilled to articulate the island's character and vision, as well as a map of the community's wishes and concerns about the future.

Essentially Waiheke community consultation (2016):

Informing community through:

Coverage in local media (Gulf News, Market Place), the Waiheke Speaks project website & Facebook page (www.waihekespeaks.org.nz), several Waiheke community Facebook pages, Waiheke Radio, posters in public places (announcing events), Waiheke Library (posters and open public engagements every Tuesday morning over a three months period), Ostend Market stand (open stall every Saturday over two months), Waiheke Cinema (advertising), Our Auckland newsletter (two articles).

Consulting with the following groups:

Piritahi Marae, Ngati Paoa Iwi Trust, WAICOSS, Waiheke Rotary Club, Waiheke Resources Trust, Waiheke Island Tourism Forum, Waiheke Golf Club, community at large at Ostend Market, Auckland Council and CCOs, contributors to the original *Essentially Waiheke*, subject matter experts.

Workshops with the following local villages and institutions:

Onetangi Village Association, Waiheke Library, Rocky Bay Association, Ostend Community (Ostend Memorial Hall), Oneroa Community (Morra Hall), Surfdale Community (Surfdale Hall), Waiheke High School, Waiheke Primary School, Rotary Club, Piritahi Marae and Ngati Paoa.

8. APPENDIX

8.1 The Context (2016)

Waiheke today

It is important to understand the context of Waiheke at the time of the 2016 review.

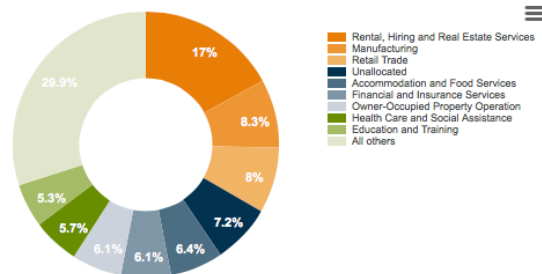
ECONOMY AT A GLANCE

home	economy	employment	productivity	businesses	skills	infographics	report	toolkit
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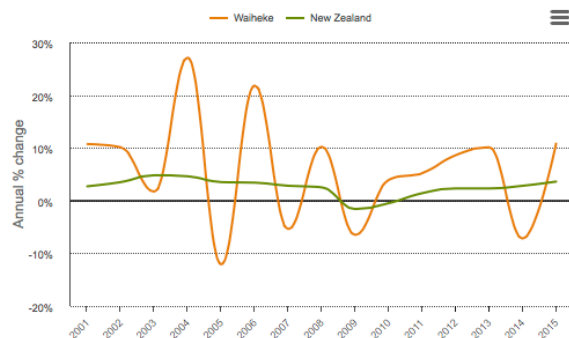
overview | growth | structure

GDP 2015		
LEVEL	REGIONAL GROWTH	NATIONAL GROWTH
\$264	11%	3.6%
million in 2010 prices	Waiheke	New Zealand

Industries: Proportion of GDP (2015)



GDP growth



Biggest contributors to economic growth 2005-2015

Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	\$25
Financial and Insurance Services	\$13
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	\$9
Manufacturing	\$8
Wholesale Trade	\$7
All other industries	\$37
Total Increase in GDP (\$m)	\$99

Info Graphic - Source: Statistics NZ (census, trends over last 15 years)

Observed Trends: visitor numbers (source: Wharf Tax), development intensity (source: ACC Planning e.g. subdivision consents/land use consents/building) Note: Industry figures do not include work located outside Waiheke.

According to the 2013 Census, 8238 people usually lived on Waiheke. This is an increase of 549 people, or 7.1 percent, since the 2006 Census. This represents less than one percent of Auckland's population (1.529 million).

There are 3756 occupied dwellings and 1743 unoccupied dwellings on Waiheke.

The majority (90.5%) of the Waiheke resident population identified themselves as European, compared with 59.3 per cent across Auckland as a whole. The proportions of residents who identified with an Asian or Pacific ethnicity were considerably lower in Waiheke than in Auckland.

11.4 per cent of Waiheke's population identified as Māori, compared to 12.3 per cent in 2006.

The median age is 45.2 years for people on Waiheke. Auckland's median age is 35.1 years.

18.5 percent of people on Waiheke are aged 65 years and over, compared with 11.5 percent of the total Auckland population.

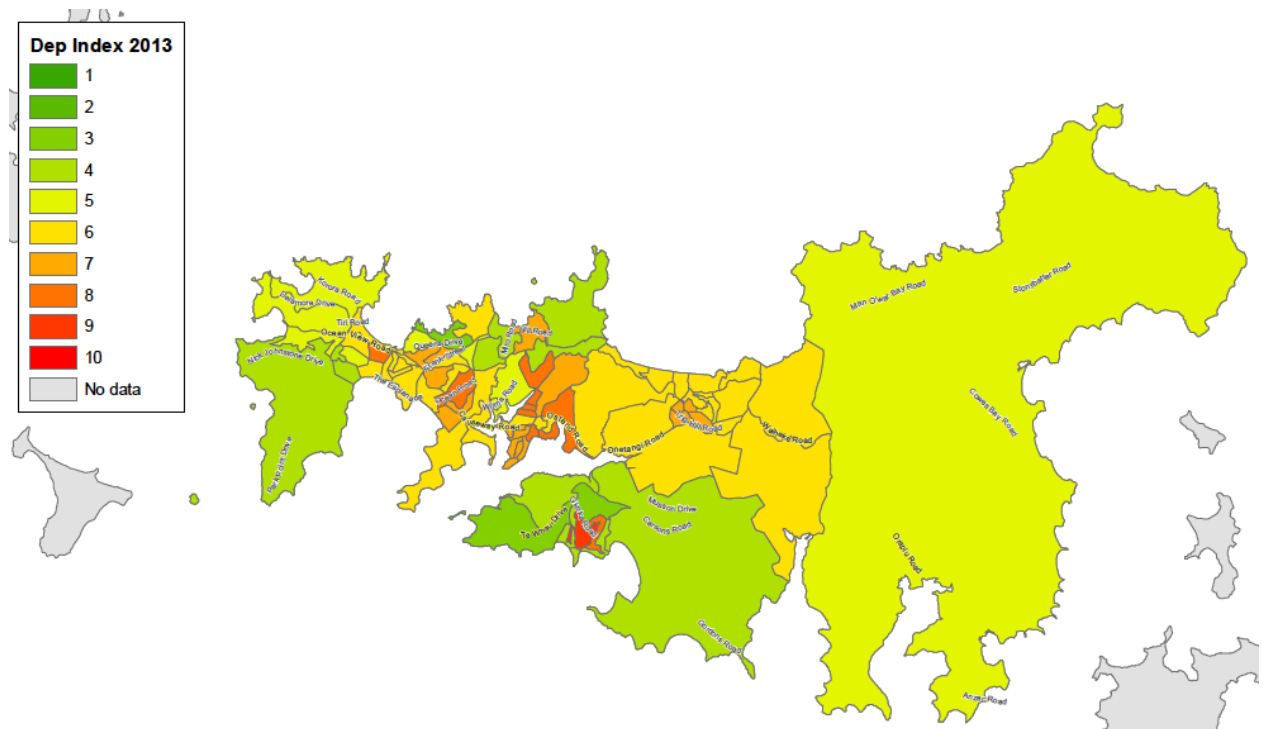
17.7 percent of people are aged under 15 years and 29.8 percent of people were born overseas.

80.2 percent of households have access to the internet, compared with 81.6 percent of Auckland households.

83.9 percent of households have access to a cell phone.

66.0 percent of households occupy private dwellings, owned the dwelling-owner or held it in a family trust.

Waiheke is very mixed on NZ deprivation index, from areas of little deprivation to the very deprived.



In 1998/99 Waiheke islanders produced approximately 5000 tonnes of refuse and 600 tonnes of recyclable material. In 2013/14 they produced the same amount of refuse and approximately 2000 tonnes of recycling.

8.2 Further Comment from Public Consultation

As part of the process of refreshing Essentially Waiheke, members of the public were invited to give feedback on the draft document that was developed through the community consultation process. Comments were submitted either through an online form on the Shape Auckland website, or by completing a hardcopy questionnaire available at the Waiheke Service Centre, Citizen's Advice Bureau and Waiheke Public Library. Feedback opened on August 10th, 2016 and closed September 7th, 2016. The consultation was widely publicised through Our Auckland, the Gulf News and the Waiheke Local Board Facebook page. The document and feedback forms were distributed widely on Waiheke including the Saturday market, community groups and the Fullers ferry.

8.2.1 Demographics of Submitters

- Submitters were 58% female, 42% male and largely aged 45 – 74 (89%)
- 95% were European, 3% Maori, 8% Latin/Middle Eastern or African and 1% were Asian.

8.2.2 Results

Eighty-eight completed questionnaires were received with the majority of the feedback stating that the document was an accurate reflection of the views and opinions of the people of Waiheke:

- 94% of submitters stated that they either strongly agreed or agreed that Section 3 “The Waiheke Character” did represent the character of Waiheke Island
- 93% strongly agreed or agreed that this section also represented people’s loves and concerns about Waiheke
- 92% strongly agreed or agreed that Section 4 on Waiheke’s Vision, represented aspirations and desires for Waiheke’s future.

For a full report on the Public Consultation feedback see Appendix 8.3 - “Essentially Waiheke Review - Feedback Summary”.

For a full list of the feedback received from the public consultation process please go to the Auckland Council Website www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz and search on: “Essentially Waiheke 2016 Public Feedback”

8.2.3 Additional feedback from the public consultation process

Community

Ideal Scenarios

- To protect and nurture activities and lifestyle that reflects the character of the Island, like allowing people to live on house boats
- Explore the significant opportunities for the island community to improve the health and well-being of island residents
- Create meaningful ways to deal with the isolation and lack of support for our older people
- Creation of a Waiheke Housing Entity and a 40-Year Housing Plan is needed.

Concerning Scenarios

- Concern was expressed about how Essentially Waiheke could influence and be taken into consideration by Auckland Council policies on Waiheke Island.
- The problem of summer evictions of island residents from rental properties for summer lets, is leading to a lack of housing security and is resulting in people leaving the island.

Environment

Ideal Scenarios

- Residents need to take more responsibility for eradicating and managing pests on their own property

Concerning Scenarios

- Concern was expressed about the need to prevent agricultural run-off from entering local freshwater streams and the need for control of underground aquifers
- There needs to be greater protection of public space for use by all rather than allowing individual community groups to take control
- The use of glyphosphate and other toxic chemicals on the island.

Infrastructure

Ideal Scenarios

- Support the use of smaller more frequent, buses which are not focused just on the ferry timetable
- Speed restrictions using flora-based road narrowing and restrictions by vehicle weight
- Establish Kennedy Point as a second passenger ferry terminal to ease the load at Matiatia
- Commissioning of a long-term study as to how the island's infrastructure - aquifers, roads, housing, waste-water treatment systems etc. can cope with the impact of summer visitors and new residents

Concerning Scenarios

- Problem of in-fill housing used for tourist accommodation spoiling the island character and how to manage it
- Poor quality rental accommodation an issue on the island due to the legacy of holiday baches
- Concern was expressed that "small and active" should not exclude modern amenities that make Waiheke more liveable. "Small" must not be backward.
- Oneroa uncontrolled development is seen by some as a threat to the natural environment
- Prevent private development from compromising beach-fronts

Consultation Feedback on Infrastructure

- There were comments both for and against a visitor tax

Economy

Ideal Scenarios

- There is a need for more accommodation for seasonal workers and that this should best be provided by employers
- Become a "Living Wage" community (\$19.25 per hour) and actively oppose wages at, or barely above, the NZ minimum

Consultation Feedback on Economy

- Comments were made on the importance of commuters to the Waiheke economy, therefore a formal study is recommended on commuters and the financial impact they make.
- Similarly for the wine and olive industries, farming and organic farming – respondents stated that these industries make a significant contribution to the local economy and therefore an updated study is required.

General Feedback on the Essentially Waiheke Refresh 2016

Eighty-eight people responded to the public questionnaire, the majority (92%) stated that there was good alignment between the contents of the report and the views and sentiments of Waihekeans. Therefore, the public consultation has, to a significant extent, validated the Essentially Waiheke Refresh 2016.

Some of the feedback is worth further mention. A number of submitters suggested that the document would benefit from a series of strategic statements about the future direction of the island and that a regular refresh and review of progress against recommendations would be beneficial. There is an overall disappointment that the document, given its non-statutory status, had limited power to influence local government decision-making.

A stronger Town and Regional Planning focus in the document was recommended by a number of submitters and there was a suggestion to undertake an expert review of the strategic linkages between the Refresh and Statutory Policy, especially those relating to Landscape Protection and Water Quality. There are however, clear recommendations contained in the report which will inform public and Waiheke Local Board input into the proposed Hauraki Gulf Islands District Plan review in 2017.

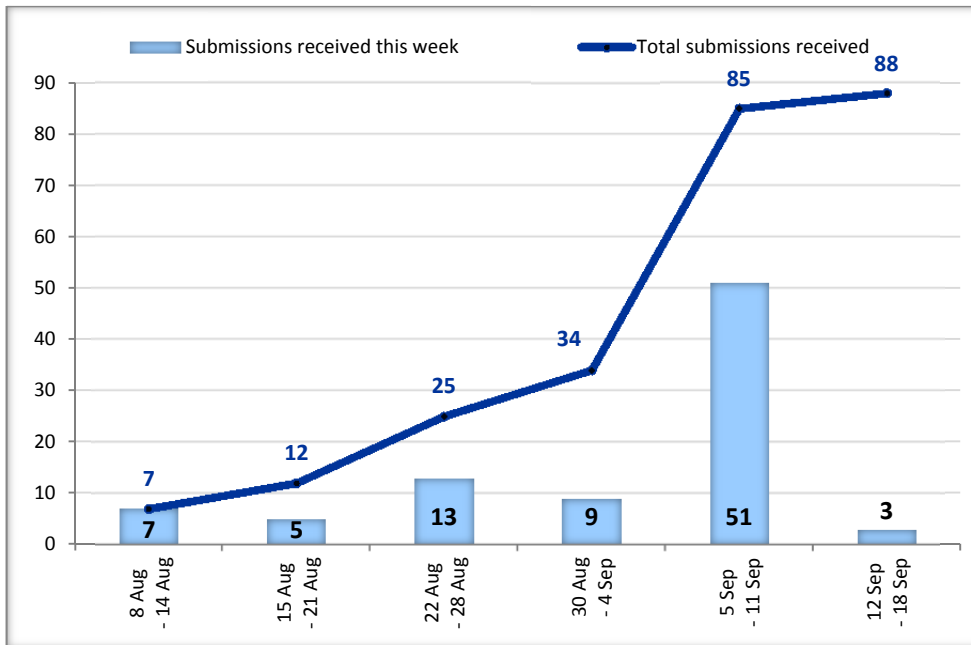
8.3 Public Consultation Summary

For a full report on the Public Consultation, please refer to the following section named *'Essentially Waiheke Review feedback summary' (14 September 2016)*.

ESSENTIALLY WAIHEKE REVIEW

FEEDBACK SUMMARY

The following information relates to feedback received and processed at 9am 14 September 2016.



88 submissions have been processed and included for analysis – 3 of which were received after the submission deadline.

SUBMISSION BY RESIDENT LOCAL BOARD

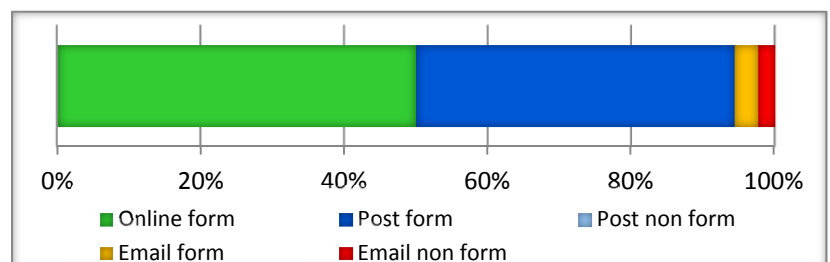
The table below indicates the total number of submissions received by the local board submitters live in.

LOCAL BOARD	Organisations	Individuals	Total	Percentage
Waiheke	2	81	83	94%
Whau	0	1	1	1%
Not supplied	0	4	4	5%
TOTAL	2	86	88	100%

SUBMISSION TYPE

Only two submissions came from organisations, i.e. Waiheke Community Art Gallery and Red Shed Art Gallery. The table below shows what channel submitters used to provide feedback.

SUBMISSION TYPE		
Online form	44	50%
Post form	39	44%
Post non form	0	0%
Email form	3	4%
Email non form	2	2%
Total	88	100%

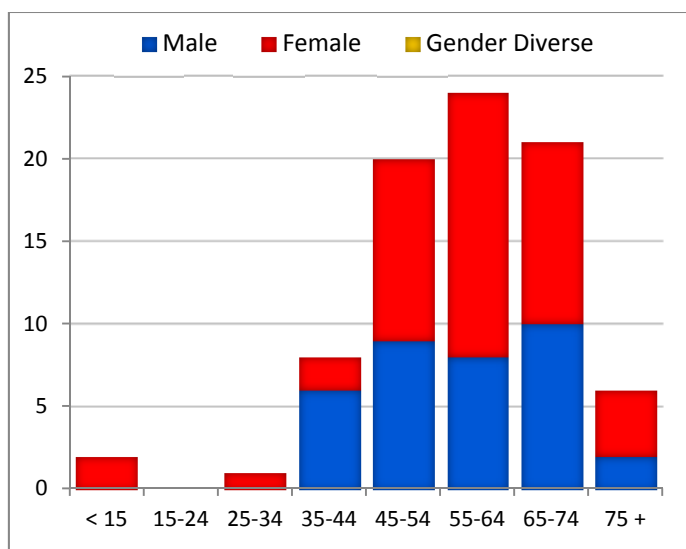


DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

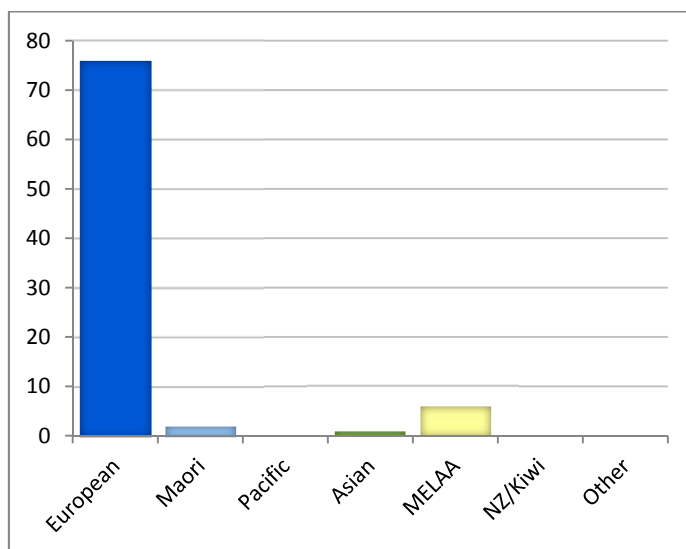
The table below indicates the demographic information people identified with when provided (note – the graphs only include a breakdown of those that provided demographic information).

GENDER		
Male	35	42%
Female	48	58%
Gender diverse	0	0%
Total submitters providing data	83	NA

AGE	Male	Female	Diverse	Total	%
< 15	0	2	0	2	2%
15 – 24	0	0	0	0	0%
25 – 34	0	1	0	1	1%
35 – 44	6	2	0	9	11%
45 – 54	9	11	0	20	24%
55 – 64	8	16	0	24	29%
65 – 74	10	11	0	21	25%
75 +	2	4	0	6	7%
Total submitters providing data				83	NA



ETHNICITY	#	%
European	76	95%
NZ European	65	81%
Other European	11	14%
Maori	2	3%
Pacific	0	0%
Samoan	0	0%
Tongan	0	0%
Other Pacific	0	0%
Asian	1	1%
Chinese	0	0%
Indian	1	1%
Other Asian	0	0%
African/Middle Eastern/Latin	6	8%
Other	0	0%
New Zealander/Kiwi	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total submitters providing data	80	NA



FEEDBACK ON THE CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

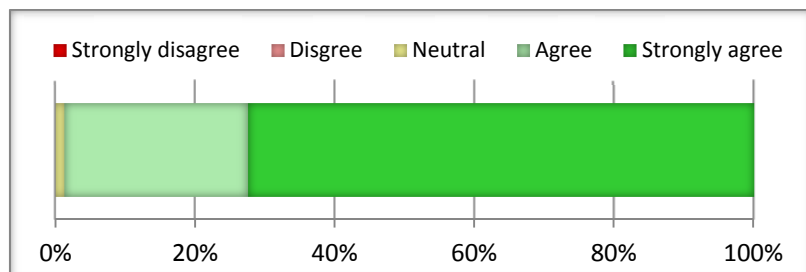
The graphs below give an illustration of responses to the consultation questions.

Responses to each of the questions are included in the [attached](#) spreadsheet.

Q1 Waiheke's Character

Submitters were asked - Does this section represent Waiheke's character?

(84 responses)

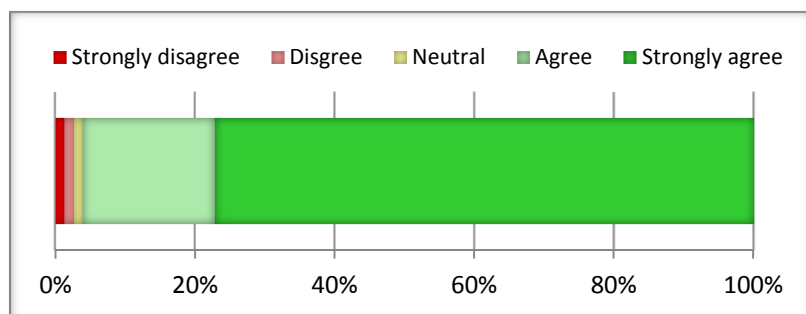


RESPONSES	
Strongly disagree	0
Disagree	0
Neutral	1
Agree	21
Strongly agree	58
Don't know/NA	3
No response	1
Other comment	1

Q2 Love and Concerns

Submitters were asked - Does this section capture what you love and what concerns you about Waiheke?

(82 responses)

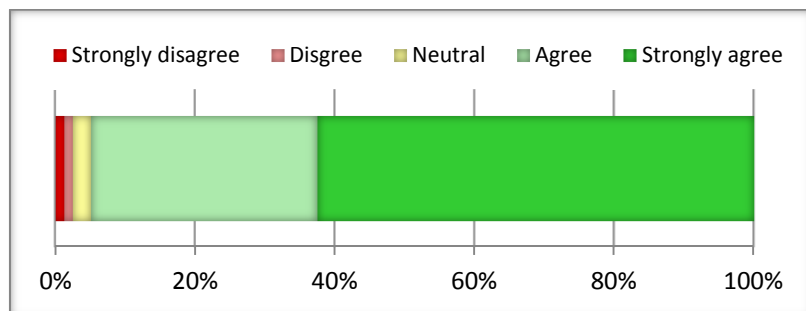


RESPONSES	
Strongly disagree	1
Disagree	1
Neutral	1
Agree	15
Strongly agree	61
Don't know/NA	1
No response	2
Other comment	0

Q3 Waiheke Vision

Submitters were asked - Does this section represent your aspirations and desires for the future Waiheke?

(83 responses)



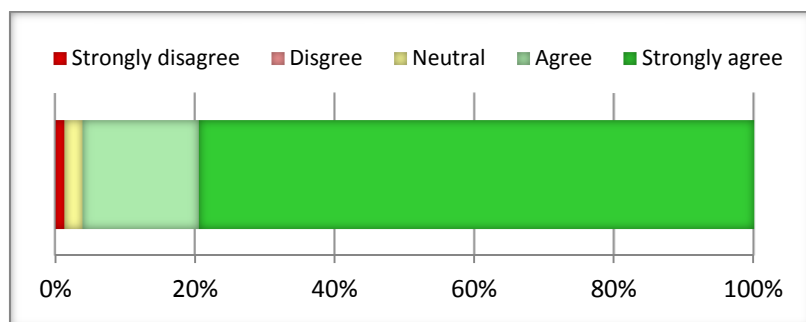
RESPONSES	
Strongly disagree	1
Disagree	1
Neutral	2
Agree	26
Strongly agree	50
Don't know/NA	1
No response	2
Other comment	1

Principles and Focus Areas

Q4 Our Environment

Submitters were asked - Does this section represent the ideal and concerning scenarios for the Waiheke environment?

(84 responses)

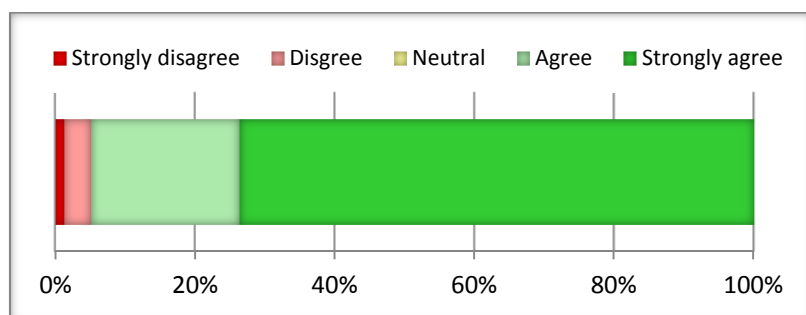


RESPONSES	
Strongly disagree	1
Disagree	0
Neutral	2
Agree	13
Strongly agree	62
Don't know/NA	1
No response	4
Other comment	3

Q5 Our Community

Submitters were asked - Does this section represent the ideal and concerning scenarios for the Waiheke community?

(84 responses)

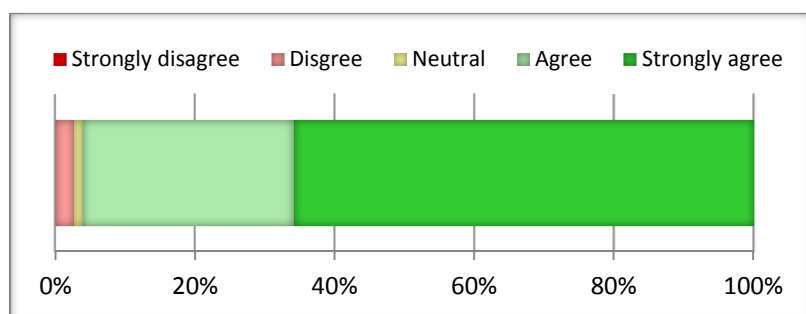


RESPONSES	
Strongly disagree	1
Disagree	3
Neutral	0
Agree	17
Strongly agree	59
Don't know/NA	1
No response	2
Other comment	2

Q6 Our Economy

Submitters were asked - Does this section represent the ideal and concerning scenarios for the Waiheke economy?

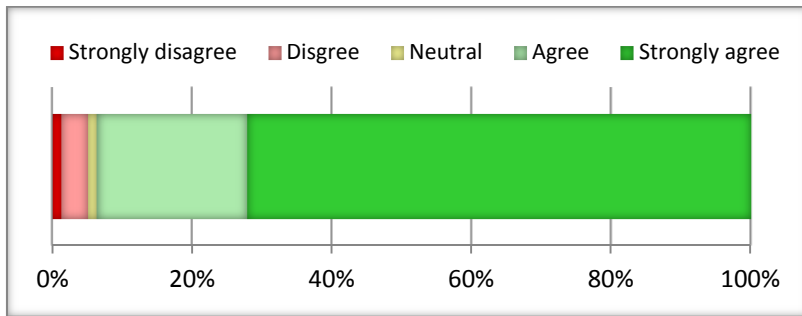
(84 responses)



RESPONSES	
Strongly disagree	0
Disagree	2
Neutral	1
Agree	24
Strongly agree	52
Don't know/NA	1
No response	0
Other comment	3

Q7 Infrastructure and Services

Submitters were asked - Does this section represent the ideal and concerning scenarios for the Waiheke infrastructure and services?
(83 responses)

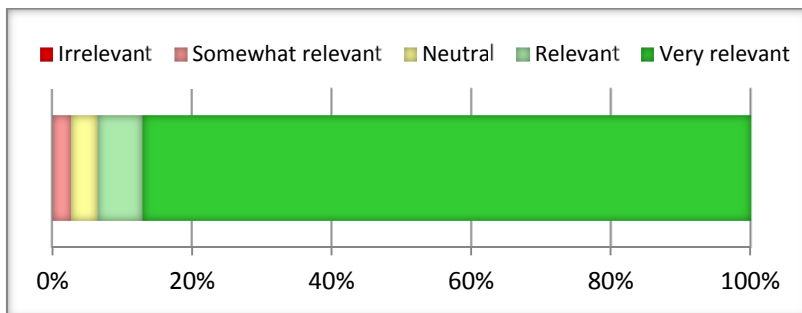


RESPONSES	
Strongly disagree	1
Disagree	3
Neutral	1
Agree	17
Strongly agree	57
Don't know/NA	1
No response	2
Other comment	2

Recommended Strategic Actions

Q8(a) Commitment

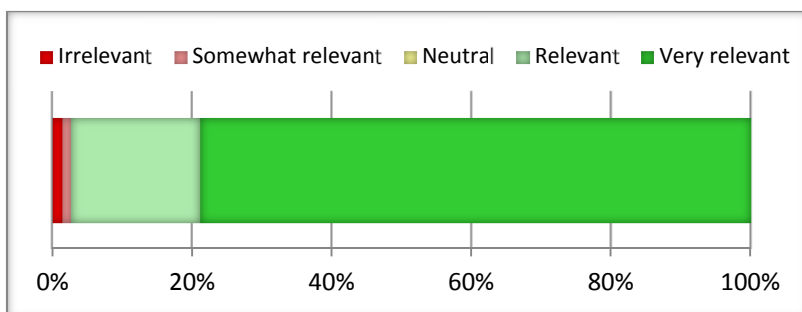
Submitters were asked to respond regarding the relevance and importance of the following action – Commitment from Governing Bodies
(83 responses)



RESPONSES	
Irrelevant	0
Somewhat relevant	2
Neutral	3
Relevant	5
Very relevant	68
Don't know/NA	4
No response	1
Other comment	1

Q8(b) Integration

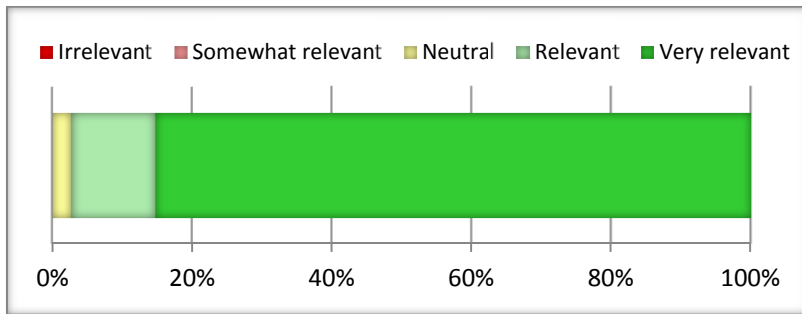
Submitters were asked to respond regarding the relevance and importance of the following action – Integration with other key statutory documents and/or legal frameworks
(82 responses)



RESPONSES	
Irrelevant	1
Somewhat relevant	1
Neutral	0
Relevant	14
Very relevant	60
Don't know/NA	4
No response	2
Other comment	1

Q8(c) Monitoring/Capacity

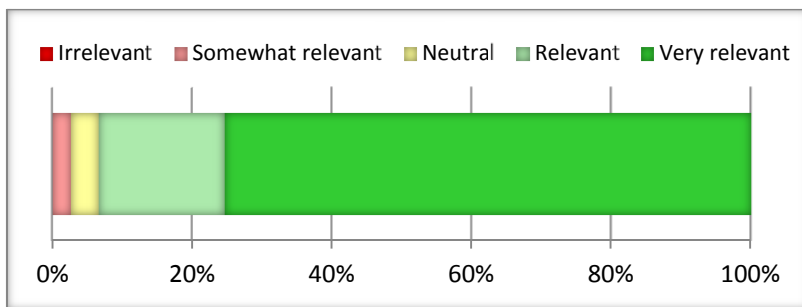
Submitters were asked to respond regarding the relevance and importance of the following action – Monitoring the island carrying capacity
(81 responses)



RESPONSES	
Irrelevant	0
Somewhat relevant	0
Neutral	2
Relevant	9
Very relevant	64
Don't know/NA	2
No response	4
Other comment	1

Q8(d) Housing Supply, Choice and Affordability

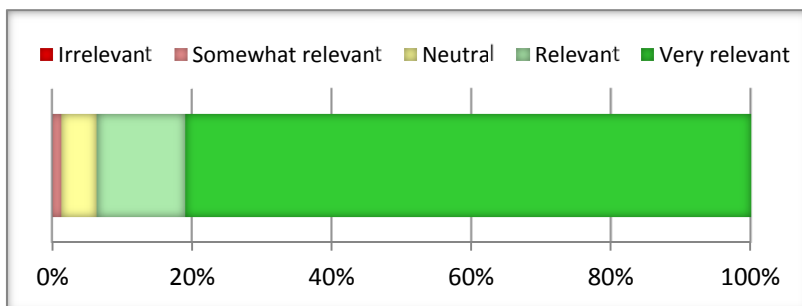
Submitters were asked to respond regarding the relevance and importance of the following action – Addressing housing supply choice and affordability
(83 responses)



RESPONSES	
Irrelevant	0
Somewhat relevant	2
Neutral	3
Relevant	14
Very relevant	58
Don't know/NA	1
No response	4
Other comment	3

Q8(e) Sustainable Transport

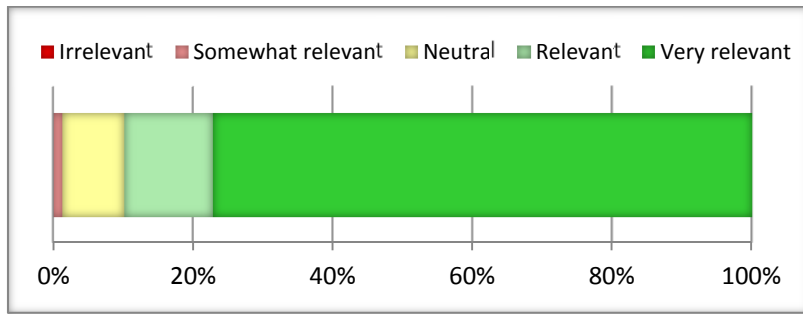
Submitters were asked to respond regarding the relevance and importance of the following action – Developing a sustainable transport system
(82 responses)



RESPONSES	
Irrelevant	0
Somewhat relevant	1
Neutral	4
Relevant	10
Very relevant	64
Don't know/NA	0
No response	3
Other comment	0

Q8(f) Tourism Destination

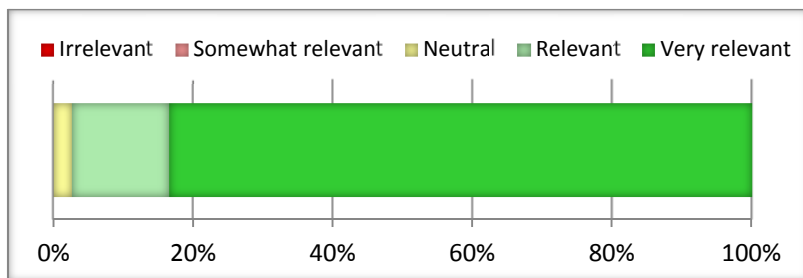
Submitters were asked to respond regarding the relevance and importance of the following action – Becoming a sustainable tourism destination
(84 responses)



RESPONSES	
Irrelevant	0
Somewhat relevant	1
Neutral	7
Relevant	10
Very relevant	61
Don't know/NA	0
No response	4
Other comment	3

Q8(g) Biodiversity

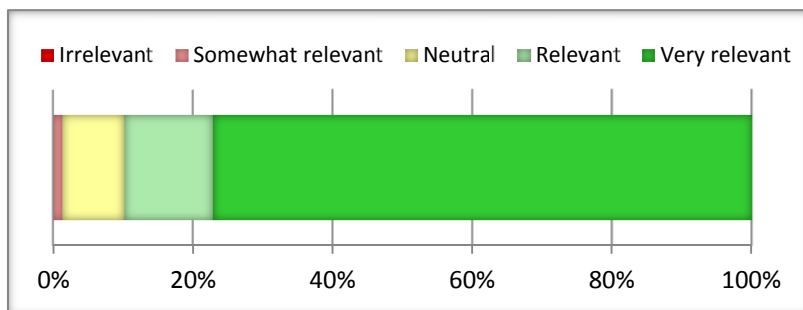
Submitters were asked to respond regarding the relevance and importance of the following action – Restoration of biodiversity
(83 responses)



RESPONSES	
Irrelevant	0
Somewhat relevant	0
Neutral	2
Relevant	11
Very relevant	66
Don't know/NA	0
No response	4
Other comment	1

Q8(h) Living Document

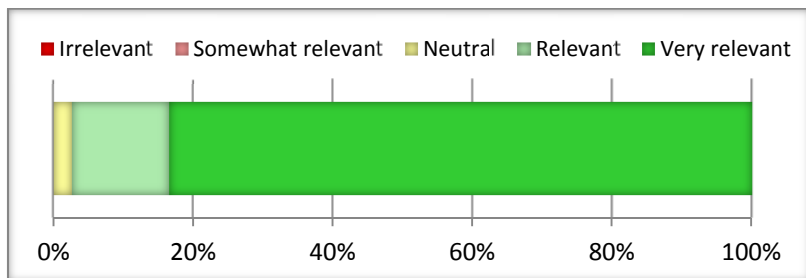
Submitters were asked to respond regarding the relevance and importance of the following action – Making Essentially Waiheke a living document
(83 responses)



RESPONSES	
Irrelevant	0
Somewhat relevant	1
Neutral	0
Relevant	14
Very relevant	65
Don't know/NA	0
No response	3
Other comment	0

Q8(i) Measurable Decision-Making Framework

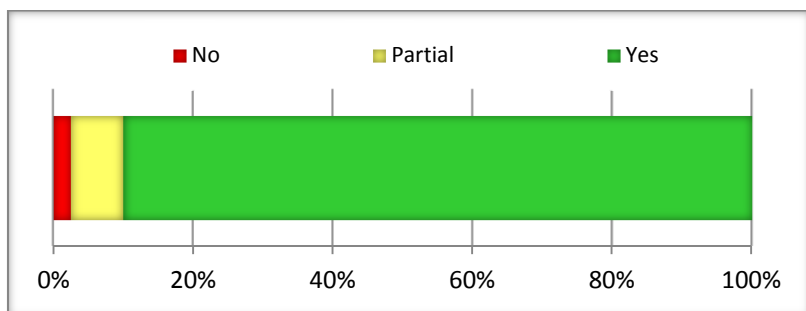
Submitters were asked to respond regarding the relevance and importance of the following action – Establishing a measurable decision-making framework (81 responses)



RESPONSES	
Irrelevant	0
Somewhat relevant	1
Neutral	1
Relevant	17
Very relevant	57
Don't know/NA	1
No response	4
Other comment	2

Q9 Waiheke Voice

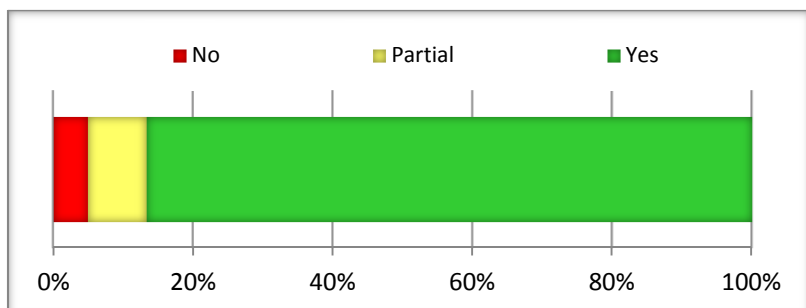
Submitters were asked - Overall do you believe that the Essentially Waiheke 2016 draft document captures the voice of Waiheke and expresses the essential views, opinions and aspirations of the people/community? (85 responses)



RESPONSES	
No	2
Partial	6
Yes	72
Unsure	1
No response	3
Other comment	1

Q10 Guiding Tool

Submitters were asked - Do you believe that this document will be useful as a guiding tool to help individuals, groups and organisations' better understand the vision, character and principles to achieve a positive future for Waiheke? (87 responses)



RESPONSES	
No	4
Partial	7
Yes	72
Unsure	1
No response	1
Other comment	3