



END OF TERM REPORT

PREPARED BY

**AUCKLAND YOUTH
ADVISORY PANEL
TE RŌPŪ KAITOHUTOHU
TAKE TAIOHI**

*Hutia te rito o te harakeke
Kei hea te kōmako?
Rere ki uta, rere ki tai
Ki mai koe ki ahau 'he aha te mea nui o te
ao'?
Māku e ki atu
He tangata, he tangata, he tangata*

*If you cut the heart from the (harakeke) plant
Where will the bellbird sing?
It will fly inland, it will fly seawards
If you ask me 'what is the most important
thing in the world?'
My reply to you is - people, people, people!
(Metge & Jones, 1995)*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction	4
Background	5
I Am Auckland Plan	6
Work Program	7
Submissions & Feedback	8
Auckland Plan 2050	10
Engagement	11
Elections	13
Community Forum	14
Youth Advisory Panel Open Meeting	15
CDS Committee Meeting	16
Youth Week	17
Opportunities	18
Recommendations	19
Conclusions	20



INTRODUCTION

During this term, the Auckland Youth Advisory Panel was able to achieve its priorities of youth homelessness, environment and sustainability, transport and accessibility and civic participation and youth engagement. Alongside this, the Panel has made an effort to provide feedback on major plans and proposals that will shape Tāmaki Makaurau in the years to come. We have also made a conscious effort to engage with young people from across Tāmaki Makaurau to ensure that the panel is transparent with the work we are doing and acknowledging the amazing work done by other young people across the region. Therefore, it has been a privilege to follow in the footsteps of the previous Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, Flora Apulu and Alex Johnston. The work the previous panels have done to advocate for youth voices in decision making helped set the foundation of this terms work programme.

Therefore, the Leadership team has had the absolute honour to lead 19 of our most talented young people from across Tāmaki Makaurau. The calibre of young people is a reflection of the work the Panel has been able to achieve in the past two and a half years.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our liaison staff Mara Bebich (Youth Advisory Panel Lead Officer), Amanda Kelly, (Deputy Lead Officer), Austin Kim (Demographic Panel Advisor) and Michelle Judge (Governance Advisor) for the valuable support they have given to the panel over this term. We would also like to thank Cr. Fa'anana Efeso Collins (Liaison Councillor for Youth Advisory Panel) and Cr. Cathy Casey (Liaison Demographic Advisor) for their continued endorsement of the work the panel does.

This report is a strong reflection of the hard work the panel has put in this term to maintain a sense of transparency, engagement and advocacy.



BACKGROUND

WHAT IS THE YOUTH ADVISORY PANEL?

The Auckland Youth Advisory Panel is one of six demographic panels established by Auckland Council. The panel consists of 21 individuals, who are between the ages of 13-25 and are from a particular local board area in Tamāki Makaurau.

Our role is to advise the Mayor and Auckland Councillors on strategic plans, policies, and documents through a youth lens.


The panel serves a three-year term.

WHAT DOES THE PANEL DO?

At the beginning of our term, the panel created a work programme for the next three years. The panel agreed to four priority areas, which are;

- Environment and sustainability
- Transport and accessibility
- Homelessness
- Youth engagement and civic participation

These priority areas determine how we operate, and engage with stakeholders during our term.



I AM AUCKLAND PLAN

WHAT IS THE I AM AUCKLAND STRATEGIC PLAN?

In 2013, the I Am Auckland plan was developed in partnership between Auckland Council and the Youth Advisory Panel. This plan is part of Council's commitment to helping children and young people reach their full potential. This was under the direction of the previous Chair, Flora Apulu.

The current Panel has aligned its current work programme with the goals of this plan. The plan consists of 7 goals. They are;

1. Voice: Children and young people have a voice, are valued and contribute.
2. Belonging: Children and young people are important, belong, are cared about, and feel safe.
3. Health and well-being: Children and young people are happy, healthy and thriving.
4. Fair go: Children and young people are given equal opportunities to succeed and have a fair go.
5. Connected: Children and young people can get around Auckland and get connected.
6. Opportunity: Children and young people feel that Auckland is their playground.
7. Whakapuawai: Rangatahi tū rangatira (all rangatahi will thrive).



WORK PROGRAM

YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

The Panel participated in different hui 's to gain a better understanding around the work that is in place to help and support our most vulnerable young people.

TRANSPORT & ACCESSIBILITY

During our term, we have identified that the conditions of affordability, accessibility and safety on all modes of transport for young people can be improved. The Panel has voiced concerns on these issues on numerous occasions and has made an effort to see how we can be an agent for change.

CIVIC PARTICIPATION & ENGAGEMENT

The panel worked with the Elections team for Auckland Council to encourage civic participation and engagement amongst young people.

ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

The Panel has expressed an interest in exploring how the Auckland Council can be accountable for championing environmental issues. The Panel has questioned and responded to Auckland Council's environment-related plans , in order to ensure that the voices of young people are clearly reflected in plans.

SUBMISSIONS & FEEDBACK



Ward Representation Review

The Youth Advisory Panel offered feedback on the different proposals presented by the Auckland Council ward and local board subdivision boundaries review.

A small working group was created to help provide feedback on the heavy piece of policy, that many members found hard to articulate. The working group met with Policy Advisors which added clarity to the content of the proposal, however, many concluded that the review prioritised number requirements, rather than reflected the communities' interests.

The working groups' feedback, specifically in the proposal to split the Manukau Ward, was strongly aligned with the overwhelming result of public submissions which were against the split. The proposal did not go ahead as a result.

Regional, cross-sectoral homelessness plan for Auckland

Policy analyst Peter Chaudhry during a presentation at a panel meeting provided background information on the development of the regional, cross-sectoral homelessness plan. This allowed panel members to gain a better understanding of the work Auckland Council is doing for our vulnerable communities. We were able to provide informed feedback on how to include youth in the development of this plan.

Auckland Climate Action Plan

The panel received a presentation during a panel meeting with updates on the Auckland Climate Action Plan. This looked at preparing Auckland for the effects of climate change. The panel provided feedback on energy sources and recycling in Tamaki Makaurau.

SUBMISSIONS & FEEDBACK



Auckland's Future Water Strategy

The Youth Advisory Panel supported the targeted issues that the Auckland Water Future strategy proposed.. The panel believed that an immediate response is necessary for the future of Auckland's waters. There was an emphasis made in the panel's submission on the importance of the cleanliness of our drinking water, the general recreation of our beaches, streams and the importance of whakapapa and identity with water for Māori.

Southern Structure Proposal

The Youth Advisory Panel were able to provide a general response that was supportive of the proposed structure plan[s] and proposed transport network however, were eager to see what this will look like when it is implemented. Unfortunately, due to the complexities of this proposal, it was difficult for members to navigate this high-level proposed plan and thorough feedback.

Speed Limit Bylaw

Overall, the Youth Advisory Panel supported the proposed initiative to change the speed of our roads in order to increase public safety.

Transport is one out of the four priorities of the panel, therefore the safety of our roads is paramount.



AUCKLAND PLAN 2050 / LONG TERM PLAN

AUCKLAND PLAN 2050

The Auckland Plan 2050 is a 30-year spatial plan that explains how Auckland Council will deal with Tāmaki Makaurau's biggest issues. During the consultation period, the panel was very active in advocating for youth voices in this significant plan. Papakura representative Jacqueline Paul played a fundamental role in which she was commended by Auckland Council staff and Councillors for her contribution to the Auckland Plan.

Her feedback is included in the final document and was noted by Cr. Richard Hills at the Auckland Plan launch.

LONG-TERM PLAN

The long-term plan outlines how Auckland Council will invest its money over the next 10 years. The Youth Advisory Panel submitted feedback and recommendations on the proposals of the plan.

The panels' recommendation and feedback included:

- Concern for youth who have to drive and use public transport with regard to the implementation of a fuel tax,
- Accountability for how relevant agencies spend money raised through rates
- The accumulative cost of the multiple rates increases



ENGAGEMENT

HIGHLIGHTS

At the beginning of the term, the panel identified engagement as a key focus area. It was important that the panel was able to advocate for all young people in the best way possible by prioritising engagement with young people in Tāmaki Makaurau. Here are a few ways we engaged.

Facebook Page

The panel utilised social media as a way to grow the presence of the panel in the community. This has been done by posting open meeting invitations, links for consultations and ongoing updates.

Online Profiles

The Panel shared online profiles of all panel members on the panels' Facebook page. The profiles provided an opportunity for ongoing engagement with panel member and the public.

Youth Voice Groups

Members made a conscious effort to reach out to their local youth voice groups within their area to establish a relationship. This helped with the accuracy of the feedback given to Auckland Council as a continued effort was made by panel members to attend the Auckland Youth Voice Network.

Organisations

The panel ensured that new relationships with key organisations that work with and for young people were consistently made. Organisations such as UNYouth and AUTSA provided the opportunity for the Auckland Youth Advisory Panel to tap into a wider audience that the panel traditionally lack in reach.



ENGAGEMENT

Para Kore Ki Tāmaki

Para Kore Ki Tamaki works to educate whanau about the effects and threats of plastic pollution, sustainable fisheries and revealing the truth behind consumer actions.

The panel hosted the group at various public meetings, which helped inform specific panel members on the amazing work they have done to strengthen youth voices in the discussion of the Auckland Climate Action Plan.

Auckland School Strike 4 Climate

There has been a lot of work done by rangatahi around climate change and sustainability. The panel was able to host the Auckland School Strike 4 Climate organisers at a public meeting which they were able to share their aims and priorities as a group.

This information was used to provide consistent collaboration within different channels of youth voices. As a result, members who were apart of the Auckland Climate Action Plan Symposium were able to use this information to strengthen youth voices.

Auckland Youth Voice Network

The Auckland Youth Voice Network is a network of youth voice groups from across Auckland.

The panel have maintained a relationship with the network by attending meet-ups hosted by different youth groups. The meet-ups brings together the Network to connect and share their work which the panel has used to engage with other youth voices in Auckland.



ELECTIONS

The Youth Advisory Panel recognise the lack of youth voice in decision making.

The panel has been able to support the kaupapa of Auckland Councils' Elections team through forms of face-to-face engagement at Universities, as well as the series of online elections videos which aim to educate and encourage youth participation in this upcoming Local Body Elections.

University O-Week Celebrations

The Panel has supported Auckland Councils' Elections Team and the Electoral Commission by working in collaboration at University stalls during O-Week. The University O-Week celebrations we attended were: AUT (North and City Campus),

MIT (Manukau Campus) and UoA. This was an awesome opportunity for the panel members to engage with young people around the importance of enrolling to vote.

Election Videos

The Youth Advisory Panel alongside attending O-Week stalls has been able to help share a series of election videos that the Maori elections engagement team have produced with Activate, around educating young people on this local body elections.



PUB QUIZ

In 2018, the panel held a Pub Quiz. The panel identified that it attracts a particular set of individuals in which it wanted to engage with a wider group of youth.

The Pub Quiz was held in an effort to engage with people whom we don't normally engage with. The quiz integrated panel-related information through an Auckland Civics category. Questions were related to the Auckland Plan 2050, Long-Term Plan, I Am Auckland Strategic Plan and the Auckland Youth Advisory Panel.

The learnings from this event was that there was a gap in fundamental knowledge around plans and policies that help structure the lives of young people in Auckland.

END OF YEAR EVENT

The End of Year event allowed the panel to share their work to-date.

The panel was able to present the key priorities of the panel and the feedback they provided to plans in 2017-2018. The panel had an amazing turn out of 40 individuals from the community which included youth groups and voices, local board members and young people.

The End of Year report was formulated and shared with those who attended and on Facebook via through a digital format.



OPEN MEETINGS

The Youth Advisory Panel Meetings have been used as a platform for young people who are leading change in Tamaki Makaurau to share their work with the Panel.

It's an opportunity for the panel to align their work in advocacy so that it is reflective of the views of young people in Auckland. Public meetings are both empowering and educational for both parties of those who are presenting and the panel. This has enabled the public to gain a better understanding of the key areas the panel is looking into for each priority.

The Youth Advisory Panel Open Meetings have been a huge success as the number of young people attending have increased over time.

April: Auckland – School Strike 4 Climate team presented their work and their aspirations for the movement.

June: Howick Youth Council Presented to Auckland Youth Advisory Panel on T2 Bus Lane

April/June: Conscious Climate Mana Rangatahi Summit Parakore Ki Tamaki and Te Ohu Mana Rangatahi



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SAFETY MEETING

The Youth Advisory Panel co-hosted the Community Development and Safety Committee meeting alongside Councillor Cathy Casey.

The Community Development and Safety Committee meeting was an opportunity for Auckland Councillors, Executive Members of Auckland Transport and Youth Advisory panel members to discuss transport issues of significance to young people.

The Panel used this opportunity to discuss the affordability, accessibility and safety of all modes of transport for young people in Auckland.

The Panel was able to invite some amazing presenters who ranged from academics, youth advocates and public servants.

Auckland Youth Advisory Panel member, Kramer Hoeflich was able to share his experience on public transport as a person with a disability. As well as this, Kramer was also able to talk on the issue of accessibility on public transport for our rangatahi who have a disability.

Kramer's presentation resonated with Auckland Councillors and the Executive team of Auckland Transport on the need to provide universal access for all.



Auckland City Mission

Youth Week of 2018, the panel made trays of food that were donated to the Auckland City Mission, in celebration of their awesome kaupapa in the community. The panel was able to sit down with staff to gain an understanding of what advocacy the panel could offer for our most vulnerable rangatahi.

Job Fest 2018

The Chair and Deputy Chair of the panel was invited to speak at the opening ceremony of the annual JobFest. JobFest is an event that brings employers, and students looking for employment together. JobFest is one of the only events of its kind and has over 1,500 young

people attending annually.

Youth Week 2019

The Auckland Youth Advisory panel supported different local events across the region and members attended youth events in their local boards.



OPPORTUNITIES

Youth Homelessness Collective

The panel has prioritised Youth Homelessness as a key priority and has maintained a relationship with Lifewise during the panels' term.

The Collective was created and facilitated by Lifewise, which incorporates representatives from different organisations who are working together to form actions against Youth Homelessness.

UNYouth Tertiary Policy Conference

Members of the panel were invited to speak on a panel alongside Cr. Richard Hills on the Auckland Plan 2050, and the 6 proposals of the plan.

UNYouth - Aotearoa Youth Declaration

One of the themes for the Aotearoa Youth Declaration this year was local government. The panel hosted a

a group of participants from Aotearoa Youth Declaration and shared the work of the Youth Advisory Panel.

Rangatahi Collaboration

Te Ohu Mana Rangatahi in collaboration with Auckland Council was able to provide the panel with the opportunity to participate in a collaborative workshop. This workshop helped to develop, lead and inform the rangatahi engagement strategy for the review of the Auckland Plan

Child Youth and Well-Being Strategy

The panel was invited to take part in a workshop hosted by the Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Education. This workshop focussed on the outcome "All young people will be free from racism, stigma and discrimination" which is one of the sixteen outcomes of the strategy.



RECOMMENDATIONS

These are some of our recommendations for the next Youth Advisory Panel:

Be present and be consistent with your presence

An integral part of being apart of this space is being present as much as possible. It is important to participate in as many hui, community forums, engagement sessions as possible to show your dedication to young people in decision-making discussions.

Make use of all the opportunities Auckland Council offers

It can feel overwhelming with the number of opportunities available, however, there's a saying of 'ask and you shall receive'; this is where you put that saying into action. Auckland Council has an array of networks that are waiting for young people to tap into and make impactful change in. You just have to ask.

Bring others along on this journey with you

Being apart of the Auckland Youth Advisory Panel, you have the opportunity to open doors for other young people who are creating impactful change in their community. The Auckland Youth Advisory Panel can provide a platform to share their work, either in a public meeting or through the endless networks you will develop as a panel. It's important that we work in collaboration with other young people from across Tāmaki Makaurau to make an impact as a collective of passionate young people in decision making.

CONCLUSION

Throughout the term, there have been an array of opportunities that all panel members have been able to gain valuable experience. During this process of personal development, the panel has had its fair share of learning to navigate the complicated world of Auckland Council, high-level strategic documents and ways to create impactful change on an advisory level. Many of the panel members joined the Auckland Youth Advisory Panel fresh out of High School and are near their end at University. And so, as we are nearing the end of our term; we are graduating Auckland Council.

It's an odd feeling to have spent three years of your life with 19 other young people, however, it has been the most enriching experience to be able to see each panel member develop into their own person with passion and purpose in serving Tāmaki Makaurau. We are extremely proud of the work the panel has put in and hope to have ensured that young people feel included in discussions that are relevant to their present and future. We hope that during the panel's term, we were able to achieve the priorities we've set as and have made an impact on young people, the demographic panels, Auckland Council and the development of Tāmaki Makaurau. As we reflect on this term, we are looking forward to seeing what the next round of panel members will achieve in elevating youth voices in decision making. Therefore, it is with our greatest honor to share this report of the Auckland Youth Advisory Panel for 2017-2019 term.

Ngā mihi nui
Chairperson Veisia Maka
Deputy Chairperson Damian Piilua



END OF TERM REPORT

THANK YOU FROM:



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