

First up I attended **Women in Local Government Lunch: Leading & Thriving**

Speaker: Angela Meyer www.closedtoharassment.co.nz Discussion was around the challenges & opportunities our women elected members face. We discussed keeping safe in local politics.

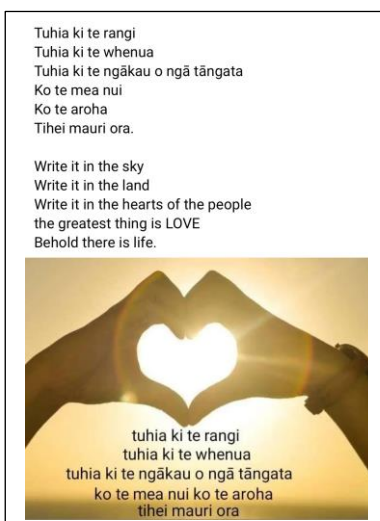
The Minister of Finance, Nicola Willis joined us sharing her perspective on gendered harassment & online abuse & she announced Netsafe's toolkit.

I asked LGNZ to provide Information packs for anyone standing for Election around keeping themselves safe & could they run a RESPECT campaign at Election time, reminding the public to be respectful. Another good idea was existing EM's could mentor/buddy up with someone new standing.

LGNZ emailed Netsafe's Social Media Self Defence Course if anyone is interested.

Mayor Tory Whanau opened, followed by **WRC Chair Daran Ponter** – he spoke about the importance of Regional Deals (devolution, partnership and sharing power)

Mayor Sam Broughton Opening karakia. Most concerned about the increase of costs, with very few levers to pay for it. 85% of Capital spend in his patch is on transport & water over the next 30 years.



Rt Honourable Christopher Luxton

"Get back to basics". " Councils need to go through their budgets line-by-line, only spending on key services."

Councils need to prioritise Water, transport resilience & Regional + city deals. Ratepayers expect LG to do core business only. WCC spent \$180 mill on Takina Conference Centre (Note: It is losing money however this conference alone brings in over \$1mill spend into the city)

PM insists "rein in the fantasy - the party is over! Time to come back reality, days of handouts are over."

Local Government will be impacted by imminent legislation:

1. Purpose: Abolish 4 wellbeing's and focus on core business.
2. Performance benchmark on key metrics – ensure clear delivery targets, how intend to finance, and level of customer service.
3. Limit on 'nice to haves': projects need to demonstrate value for money ie revenue/rates capping.
4. Increased Transparency/ accountability provisions

Hope to examine a 4-year term as too much churn, need to increase use of shared services, reduce insurance costs and lift debt ceilings for those that partner together & create thriving regions.

Mayor Sam Broughton responded: Leadership is walking in everybody's shoes. (I assume hence his pink sneakers) we need to work together to get the best for the people we serve.

Sarah Lucas Do localism, localism done well.

Conference theme of resilience ie the ability to adapt to change.

Community impact on decision making is where the rubber hits the road. Let the locals have representation and value citizens participation ie working with the power of love not the love of power!

Need to honour community wellbeing. No one knows their community more than those that live in it.

Chorus - Fibre connected to 87%. Connectivity is vital but there still is a digital divide, so we need to advocate for change. She spoke of \$6,500 benefit / house hold with local connectivity from things like streetlight control/ integrate weather, rubbish bins (alert when need pick up), smart carparking, ability to monitor in real time (air) & manage, monitor and control water.

John Allen

Need to be more efficient & transparent

Have a forward looking agenda.

Be creative, sustainable & work in partnership.

Disrupt the status quo. Deliver for growth.

What is the value of ROI – what is the value to the community.

At a time of challenge - What we do matters – that is democracy -ensure get results day by day – and what we do is valued by people.

What happens to a dream deferred to the energy and the vibe of the people.

Eg Zeelander transformed Wellington – provided vision & drive but the pipe network needs work & Council needs to balance the books.

Need Drive for science backed decisions = knowledge economy. Invest in technology = creates real jobs & energy.

Iaeon Cranwell

1 in 3 'under 25 year olds' are Maori. 1 in 4 are Maori in Rural communities.

Hon Simeon Brown, Minister for Local Government

\$24bill savings in 9 months

Public tolerance for waste – no room for “nice to haves”

50% incr in budget for transport, 40% incr public transport

Benchmarking

Water – Labour spent \$1.25bill

LWDW – partnering with LGFA, set up CCO

Working with neighbours to find best solution

Align local objectives – put decision making closer to communities. Set shared goals/outcomes for a region across a range of key areas like transport and infrastructure.

Regional Deals – partnership Local & Central Govt – working together, clear plan

1. Economic growth & productivity
2. Delivering resilient & critical infrastructure
3. Improving the supply of affordable quality housing

Submit proposals/MOU/ negotiation within regions – 5 regions will be invited before end 2024, 1 in place by end of 2025 – must focus on the basics

Read the full strategic framework for regional deals here: <https://ow.ly/83w850T3vmG>

Mayor Alex Walker – careful of nice to hear soundbites – we are focusing on getting the basics done brilliantly – localism needs to create hope & a future for our communities. Highly complex, highly demanding business, a lot of anger & distress in our community, inspiring hope & vision is vital around local leadership.

Susan Freeman-Greene CE LGNZ

Bringing Localism to Life

1945 Quote – Control should be placed as near the people as possible. There should be a trend towards increasing local responsibility.

1958 Quote – Revenue from rates is or will be inadequate for the requirements of local bodies – and additional sources of revenue should be made available to them.

Feels like ground hog day!

We put LOCAL lens on everything we do. Frontline of a crisis. Last line of defence, few levers
“Control should be placed as near the people as possible”.

What’s changed: We have more data re drivers of infrastructure, greater understanding of ‘the what’, Av \$3.8bill every year spent

Not a lot levers, funding & financing

What is the circuit breaker?

Power of advocacy- to push for change. Power to show individually how we get things done.

What can we do better – Localism – improves bang for buck, has efficiencies.

Dr Oliver Hartwich, ED of NZ Initiative

Requires the right set of incentives.

Switzerland 2000 Councils – works really well, no one really knows who is in charge, PM chosen each year for non consecutive 1 year terms.

Ww will always be frustrated with CG. Do not hate the players, hate the game & fix it.

Sector is crying out for change – need bi-partisan agreement

Need to find a way to decentralisation – power to the people , rescue plan for democracy.

Need to find different ways of delivering Council projects - used Welli as example; conference centre & treat people as customers – need to work together to change the game CG & LG.

Susan

How do localism better with current levers.

New Guide – Localism: A practical Guide (via email) or find out more about our localism campaign at: <https://www.localism.nz/>

Communitiies with decision making power, local voices solving local problems,

Responding to the needs of your community – Urban Plus (CCO) Hutt City Council

Getting people to opt in – greater data base of self engaged people -Environment Canterbury

“If we don’t know what we stand for, what will we fall for?”

Alexander Hamilton

Letting Locals Lead the Charge

Charlotte Littlewood Taranaki RC/Leanne Watson CE Business Canturbury/Rawiri Richmond/Camden Howitt PWC

CH- Sustainable Coastlines: Restoring oceans for 15 yrs, engage schools 250,000 kids, remove rubbish – engage people to look after their place – citizens science approach

RR: Like to live the kaupapa not just a strategic plan

Met Living Building Challenge - gives back to the whenua more than takes from it – sustainable

See it, feel it –

LW: LG change perception; importance of partnership CG, LG & Private Sector, LG can influence this to provide confidence, certainty. Business are getting incentives from Australia. Need a greater collaboration with local business.

How can they help enable: Partner, create space for innovation, LG, iwi & wider community – off grid commercial building from waste with compostable wc etc

An issue if 4 well beings are dropped

RR: Challenge of Construction waste – 99% waste diverted (excl demo waste) Hard to recycle

LW: Eco wellbeing: importance of advocacy – understand needs of bus community, understand levers CG can unlock to help local business, find out impacts of decisions before they are made – often unintended consequences – business sees LG as a handbrake. Issues so different across different Councils.

!7 initiatives only 1 mentions business – need to include iwi & private sector

CH: what gets managed gets measured – eg Litter Intelligence – use data to inform DM, give local knowledge eg scollops

Q&A: What strategies effective to engage business eg developers forum – consultation done after the decision is made – what are the aspirations & the future thinking of the developers, better transparency, business know the regulation a problem when they change without explanation.

Issue of consultation fatigue – duplication DC & RC

Need huge National effort to manage our waste across the country - people want to do it.

LW: if want to increase productivity & efficiency – need to leverage LG< RG<CG

Tips & Tricks to galvanise people to volunteer – it's a love story – empower people with love stories – communities do love their place – carrot getting people in one room that they love the place- Council role to unblock blockers. Eg Otaki – strong Maori community, easy to engage hapu.

LW: choose to live, work & invest in the District – so not looking for Councils handouts want the ability, right environment for them to do things well.

YOUNG ELECTED MEMBERS

Alex Crackett/Rohan O'Neill-Stevens -Deputy

Mayor of Nelson

YEMS -2014 started – aged 40 and under

Medium age NZ population is 38, av age Elected Members is 65

“2019 more councillors named John than councillors aged under 40”

YEM Leaders right now – Put your communities first

Bring fresh perspectives to the table – not your built in IT dept – what can we learn from them.

Huge increase in Young Voter turnout 27%-2021 to 47%in 2022

Young people want ToW upheld

What is the true cost of quick decisions we make today – we need mokapuna decisions

Protect environment, vision better Aotearoa

Celebrate LG diversity – every NZer feels valued

Drownings 36% Inland waterways vs 26% coastal drownings \$800

Chorus

Dataspace (Karin) Integral

Hon Shane Jones

Minister for Regional Development

\$100 mil for Weather related challenges today – flood management funding

\$1.2 bill to fund projects to work on together

Other things (find savings) eg legal, procurement = find the common ground with your neighbours

CG could help

Fast Track Legislation – incl Maori development/ differences in processing consents.

Energy crisis – need one-stop shop to deliver projects in a dire economy – in essence group consents together – tend to overstate risks & understate costs

Regional Deals: collaboratively, co-investment model

RIF – Regional Infrastructure Fund – help Ruapehu mill save 100's of jobs. Taking advice. Min.

Simeon announcements re energy in next few days.

Solar & Wind – how come not already happening – our model drives towards corporate profit.

Richard de Cani

The role of infrastructure in helping to drive change and deliver positive outcomes.

Drive productive growth – innovation – challenge to create place where we can be more productive.

Transition to net zero while becoming more resilient

Cities need to be more inclusive for everyone. Having enough homes. Adapting & responding to life changes. Contributing to health & well being.... See photo/notes

Consider Liveability eg Melbourne – where people want to live.

Auckland is in Top 10 Places to live – high quality of life, attracts talent.

Importance of accessibility and connectivity ie Transport network

Must understand drivers of change & ensure economic growth. Eg skills have available, current cost of land/labour, access to nature, cultural identity, available housing.

Need good/ productive growth.

In UK have large number of towns with separate cultural identity. Have devolution of powers ie regionally elected Mayors. Core focus is unlocking economic growth & unlocking individual potential. City deals are vital.

Identify, **“what are the barriers/blockers”, what’s getting in the way?** The process? Planning? Decision making? Procurement? Lack of appetite?

What’s the problem we’re trying to fix? Market failure? Lack of skills?

What unique competitive advantage does this place offer?

Challenge when don’t have the expertise & capacity to deliver.

What does this town need to grow & be successful?

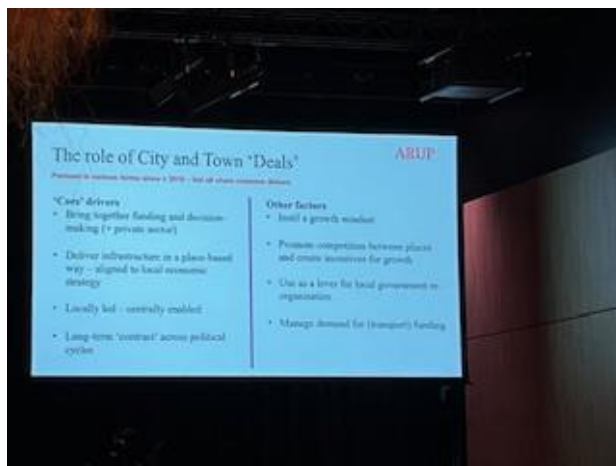
Carbon to green transition, deprived towns, wrong skills, urban renewal, industrial transition.

Looked at examples throughout the UK: importance of transport network.

Need place based solutions – focused on delivery & implementation of long term plans.

Be prepared to do something different.

Personally I really enjoyed seeing these international examples but unfortunately it was a lot of information in one presentation & sadly he hasn’t provided a copy. Some photos.





Battersea London

- Large brownfield site with 14,000 homes and 24,000 jobs planned for the area. Unlocked by the tube extension (2.5km underground extension & 2 stations) had a £1.24 billion capital cost.
- New governance model included partnership Board with public sector and landowners.
- An Enterprise Zone was created around the area to allow future business taxes (from the new developments) to be captured for c30 years to fund infrastructure.

An aerial view of the Battersea London development, showing the new housing and infrastructure.

Manchester City Deal

ARUP

- **Terra Deal**, a new payment by road, would have transferred the city to invest in growth in return for a share of the national tax take
- **Measures to boost growth included:**
 - City apprenticeship hubs, enabling the city to boost apprenticeship numbers by supporting SMEs take on apprentices
 - Establishment of a £1.2bn Infrastructure Fund
 - A Business Growth Hub
 - An Award Investment Scheme to attract international and private capital to local projects
 - A housing programme that aimed to deliver 7,000 new homes
 - Revitalisation of transport projects



Old Oak Development Corporation

ARUP

- Major growth area in west London focused on new High Speed Rail station
- At the intersection of three local authorities and surrounded by rail lines and other infrastructure – no single leadership and complex constraints
- Mayor imposed a Development corporation to take powers away from local authorities and take on planning and development powers himself
- This included powers to assemble land and planning approvals and drive regeneration – through a new Board (with local authority participating)

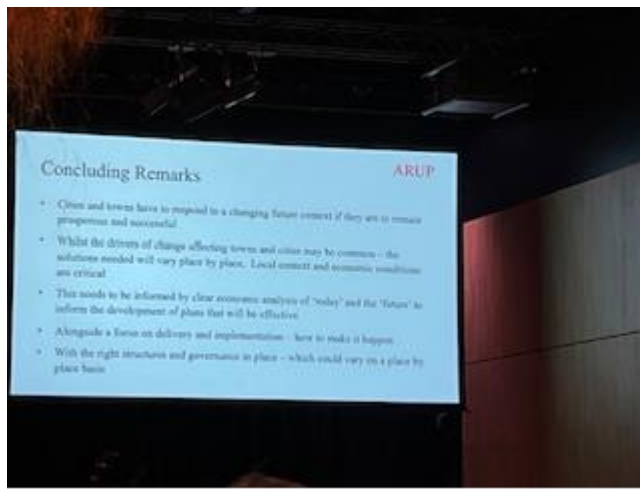


Lessons from UK 'deals'

ARUP

A reflective model

Positive	Negative
• Didn't work as a mechanism for bringing key players together in a dynamic in time	• Consistently underfunded or poorly resourced
• Place based and growth focused	• Assessment and oversight of spending regularly weakened
• Highly visible commitment to delivering local economic growth – narrative and consensus commitment	• Partnership agreements are still complex and often have unclear terms
• Opened the door to broader distribution of powers to UK regions	• Cost of competing
• Despite arrangements – suited to the needs of each place	



Sally Loudon OBE (Scotland) The importance of relationships

Former CE of LGNZ Scottish Counterpart- COSLA the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities.

City & Regional deals, climate adaptation, infrastructure growth. Importance of local communities.

32 council 5.5mill popn all unitaries – education, waste, transport etc

Range pop 22k to 600k in Glasgow

2016 advocacial– to community focused, work with partners to amplify voice not just a lobby org.

Unintended consequences – high dependencies,

Build – local led action plans - reduce rd accidents, derelict blds, engage young people

LG relationship with self - One voice & focus on communities, Party political stance, Power LG has when it works together, need agreed outcomes.

Talked about the power of one voice.

Aim – reduce poverty, improve the economy, public services reform, how LG & CG work together.

Both side agreed to develop relationship better, both agreed need each other. “Verity House Agreement”

LG need to be clear in how we want change. Importance of being one voice.

Day 2

Sarah Baddeley

Martin Jenkins

Approaching Questions of Local Govt Structure

Her father was a Waikato Councillor for 12 years “Always building bridges”

Doing nothing is not an option

Once size might not fit all

Scale or not to scale

Av rates 15% is unsustainable

Cost of water service delivery

Voter turnout av 56% (Tauranga 31%)

Unfunded mandates = tension localism & centralisation

Challenge of social cohesion

It is a buggars muddle

Us to sort it out – govt not respond to FFLG – its in our hands

Shift to Devolution & Localism

Local Govt boundaries haven't kept up with growth

Needs of local pop vs the benefits of scale

Community Housing Challenges – soln look to partners in the community eg iwi & hapu

Scale or not to scale

More lab intensive, local focused

Delivered services efficiently –

Dm making today have Massive intergeneration impacts

A way forward

Comm Responsiveness / scale of delivery/financial sustainability/ strategy

-costs transparent, are cross subsidies understood

Collab/partner

Cant kick the can down the road

Get it right - Navigate over 6-12 months

Citizens assembly, YEM in Clutha, just do more

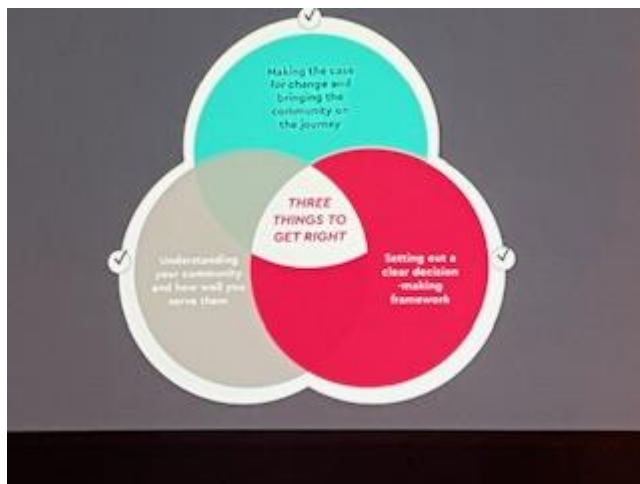
Challenge to democracy currently so need to engage everyone

Copy of her presentation:

<https://lgnz.cmail19.com/t/i-l-fqkidy-iyjudlhkil-q/>

[https://d1pepq1a2249p5.cloudfront.net/media/documents/MartinJenkins -
Authority and autonomy paper.pdf](https://d1pepq1a2249p5.cloudfront.net/media/documents/MartinJenkins-_Authority_and_autonomy_paper.pdf)







Comments: Its about Control

CG using regional deals to seize more power from Councils, spending caps, performance reviews,

PM's speech like a CEO giving a tongue lashing to an underperforming business unit

Porirua Mayor – protecting ourselves – Do have to stop doing somethings

Almalgamation 1989 – small, conditions strongly evident needed change

Eg Auck 6-7 Councils vs super city

Community has to recognize there is a problem – CG saying wont intervene –

Clear what is the problem – underinvestment in infrastructure by 1970's slowed, have coasted, 2002 needed to fund in Depreciation etc no increase funding

Under renew & don't know condition of the asset- midway thru fix- is it a structural problem or an investment prob –

1920's merger in Auck- understanding the value of having them coz had never had them before – citizens happy to pay – now ratepayers cant afford to pay

Need efficiency & only do core activities

BB: Multigenerational – If want a long term partner – Iwi – fastest growing part of NZ population

Iwi are cashed up especially around housing

We are precious we are here 7 councils to deal with but we are not going nowhere

Prob diff rules diff councils – Unitary Councils – 550K in Wellington, too small – what do the residents want not red, green, blue – put the politics aside. Use of Local boards to keep local voice. EM mayor is only one vote – LG nature of democracy – mayor doesn't have determining position – everyone vote individual – we are continually engaging with community – so different from the Minister making a decision – need to keep dialogue going – 100 marae in Ngati Kahungunu – all proud of each.

Acknowledge individual – can be together without being homogeneous – don't have to give up self-determination – stronger together – challenges not going away – what is better for all of us – consult Iwi / Pacific – took videos in their communities – need to go to their marae

LG & CG – aging communities- what is it going to take to keep the lights on- CG no strategy/ process/ministers decide – what have we learnt about how to maintain our assets & how can this help you.

Cost – can't debt your way out of a revenue problem – have to repay

Role for increasing debt, think about project scope – cost & what we are taking on – all plans eg need papakainga – work closer to iwi,

Sense of place – we are one – in 10 yrs time will look like – 1 region –

Dublin: Citizens Assembly

101 – Ireland – 100 people in a room for 6 months ask them to solve a problem

Use Census to choose : women, men age region & gender, disability, farmers,

Govt aren't best placed to make their decisions

Citizens Assembly are a support system

Not a focus group – polling company – CA we fill them with info make them experts on the issue- then ask the question – so considered response – recommendations sent to parliament

Can be done at local level – mix politicians & public

Could they name their local mayor -70% couldn't name their local mayor

Rt Hon Chris Hipkins Leader of the Opposition

Pools & playgrounds are not nice to have if you don't have one.

Politics pure & simple – high rates/ not funding –

Need to have honest conversation about how going to pay now for 4-5 decades of underinvestment – work cant seen has been deferred – Cg hospital, energy & state housing-

Need to think longer term, now wants bipartisan agreement

Need certainty – find areas we agree on

Hon Simon Watts Mayor Jamie Cleine

Working together to tackle climate change

More information to make informed decisions – info sharing down to home owners

What is govt roles- need a framework to deal with these big issues — all at the table (not a hierarchy table)

Currently unstructured and finance not capped.

Iwi Maori at the frontline – marae often coastal. Need Plans for high-risk Maori.

This really matters for our Communities.

Challenge – RMA/Emergency Management : all needs to be joined up

Leading globally in this level of discussion.

10 years from now will need improving – multi generational.

Who pays? Currently NZers pay via tax & rates. NZ is a high-risk country in regards to insurance. Challenge is Insurers will stop writing the cheque.

Policy needs to be enduring.

If you can't get insurance you cant get a mortgage.

Digby Hall Bunkers or abundance? Local Government leadership role in adapting to climate change.

Eg Sheffield, Tasmania – great localism, no national govt.

Adaptation to date is only being done by LG – some tearing communities apart.

Eg Florida 1-2 inch per annum sea level rise – Real Estate market driving climate change adaption. Communities either dissolve or grow.

Direct correlation to amt CO2 to heat of earth

Safe number was 350' now 420' – what are we doing to get his number to go down.

Adaptation things we can do to slow it down

Disaster preparedness – climate triage/ investment

Be aware of False facts – distractions eg solar

Does it stop emitting Co2 – electric,

Restoring nature- key to get out of this

Ocean health – life in ocean regulates ocean temperature, control pollution into ocean

We are out of time: LG is the engine room for Climate Change Adaptation

1. Off the shelf – already been done eg renewables, going int off the grid eg Oz 60%
2. uSe leverage – what are your trim tabs /opportunity eg where super invested
3. Make it beautiful – otherwise we will end up with bunkers- need design excellence

Example Sheffield UK

Lens either new or existing

Curious what was the lever that let this happen, who was the decision maker, what was LG role?

Flood mitigation gardens – beautiful

NY 200 Green streets program – combine stormwater/waste reduce urban heat

Think about Impact of No access to hospitals, no comms

Green Edit of Controls for Climate Change Adaptation. Small low cost change but magnifies over time for huge impact

Renewable energy microgrids

No hip rooves – because difficult for solar panels / community batteries/nature based treatment plant, USA/ edible estate – 1/3 impact food

Underground power line

Rooftop gardens – hosbital green organic food for patients, care kitchen for families learn how to prepare it

If know will be underwater in 50 yrs time – what should we invest in now.

7 generations design teams into the future = better solution

Tips

Remove barriers – let private mkt dictate – grant permission (Enablers)

Align Asset Management Plan spending with Adaption (Abundance)

KISS

LG spades in ground, CG here is the policy & strategy eg 2040 no one will be here

MUST ACT NOW

49% emissions our from Ag – growing food in cities – 1 in 5 suffering food insecurity

NEED A TRANSITION PLAN

Should renewables be a requirement for new builds eg solar panels (in Australia owners are incentivised)

Copy of presentation: Worth a scroll!

[https://d1pepq1a2249p5.cloudfront.net/media/documents/Digby_Hall -
_Local governments leadership role in adapting to climate change.pdf](https://d1pepq1a2249p5.cloudfront.net/media/documents/Digby_Hall_-_Local_governments_leadership_role_in_adapting_to_climate_change.pdf)

Connecting Local to Super-Local

Transitions to a low carbon future – key challenge: how to engage Pacifica communities.

Ohakune Transport Plan

Sustainable Climate Adaptation

Motivated well organised local community

Population of 1500 swells to 10 times its size -now more in Summer than Winter

Ruapehu Destination Management Plan: population of region 13k, 1.5 mill visitors mostly domestic, 72% to holidays homes. 400k visit Turoa/year. Successful development of “Ocean to Sea” has high reliance on visitor numbers. Need year-round tourism.

[Future_Ohakune_Flyer - Project intro, Timeline, Giving feedback.pdf](#)

[20230119 Ohakune Transport Plan Final.pdf](#)

<https://www.visitruapehu.com/about-us/ruapehu-destination-management-plan>

Set up a reference group with a local lead and broad membership including iwi to consider the future of Ohakune & identify

1. Quick wins
2. Revitalization project
3. Special places
4. Way finding signage project.

They connected a governor's board (not Council) to identify issues and solutions, not glossy Consultant reporting.

Themes: Sustainable transport, regenerative tourism, strong cycling focus.

Social Impact Assessments – Hauraki

****Who don't we hear from?****

What different groups (need diversity of outlook).

Locals know their communities & have strong community connection.

How do people make sense of the change?

Look at what other Councils have done. How going to Implement. Talk to Iwi. Talk to Communities at the start. Ensure wide range of stakeholders. Include civil defence.

Look at carbon consumption as well as carbon emissions. What are the insurance implications. Keep asking – who's not here? Cold calling maybe necessary.

Find out; What do you value about the area? What is your experience of say flooding? See Akona:

Partnering for a resilient South Dunedin Future:

Admit – hey we've stuffed up; hey we don't know how to fix this

Understand what matters most to the community. Need to have a vision. Be Flexible and open to change.

Fundamentally about trust and confidence, nimbleness & flexibility.

Most important advice is fostering a good relationship.

1. Right time (have enough technical information to define process)
2. Confidence – know enormously impactful.
3. Good evidence – What community wants for good decision making.

Minister for Infrastructure – Minister for Housing – Minister responsible for RMA

Reform

Hon Chris Bishop

1. RMA – 20 commitments to make it easier incl
Reform NPS
Electrifying economy is key: car, bus, ferries, trains (prioritised)
Standards regime for Infrastructure
Quarries – change legislation
Simplify designation process (simplify test)
2. Housing
Free up land for development (growth targets for Tier 1&2 Councils)
Incentives for Councils to come.
New rules re expanding out at urban fringe.
No min floor areas
Medium density (optional)
Granny Flats (National direction)

Papakainga (National direction)

Need to increase density and provide better infrastructure.

3. Heritage
4. Urban Design – greater social licence
5. Farming & Primary Sector- highly productive land & solar farms
6. Emergency and Natural Hazards

Kainga Ora owns or manages 77000 houses (nearly 5000 added Jun 23-Jul 24)

Thank you for the opportunity to attend. A lot to take in!

Kim Hill was the Conference MC – she was a real hit!

I loved what she had to say about Local Government as a junior jurno “moments of exhilaration after hours of boredom”! But she found the Conference gripping because we were dealing with such serious stuff, not just water but how to fund infrastructure, adapt to climate change, promote engagement, all while trying to enhance our sense of place.

Finally, like any of these events its often the conversations at breaks etc that generate a lot of thinking and wondering of the relevance to RDC.

Some that come to mind:

- 12 properties in the Manawatu have now been strengthened by Arthur Morgenstern.
- What is the secret sauce of MTFJ in RDC: Pride & connection of Mayor & Council (being a small Council if a placement goes wrong “someone hears about it”; definite need; capability (personnel have years of experience, an ability to determine good outcomes, offers pastoral care), the team have mana in the Community; MTFJ is visible in the Community.
- How well do we know our network? Need to communicate what it looks like to our ratepayers. What is our programme to test?
- Drown Prevention Aotearoa recommend we advocate for a Hazard Assessment Sign at Vinegar Hill (cost \$1000) I was initially told there have been 80 drownings since 1980 – I couldn’t sleep – then went back the next day & challenged him, after some debate realized he was looking at Rangataiki River. (Another example of our identity crisis)
- Mr Google tells me there have been 3 drownings since 2000: 2007, 2010, 2018.

Here endth my report!