



Aktive – Strategic Plan 2040

Issues Paper July 2018

1. Introduction

Sport and recreation is an important part of the culture of Auckland, with more than one million Aucklanders active each week.¹ Auckland is also changing at significant pace with, for example, an ever growing and diverse population, ongoing urban intensification, and an increased pressure on public facilities. Add to this the fast pace of technological advancement, and we can expect to see major shifts in Auckland’s sport and recreation sector over the next 20 years.

Aktive is committed to actively planning for this future, to enable Aucklanders to have access to the types of sport and recreation opportunities they want. For this purpose, Aktive is developing a new strategic plan with a 20 year horizon. This will inform Aktive’s role in the planning and delivery of sport and recreation activities to the community through to 2040 (see Appendix 1 for more information about Aktive and its objectives for its 2040 strategic plan).

Developing a great strategic plan requires Aktive to understand the issues, challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. This Issues Paper provides some of this information. It is though, a starting point for discussion, debate, and new thinking about the types of sport and recreation opportunities Aucklanders will want and need over the next 20 years. Please use this paper to spark your thinking about the future and to inform your valuable input into the development of this long term strategic plan.

2. What do we mean by sport and recreation?

Aktive’s Trust Deed defines Sport and Recreation as “amateur sport and other physical recreation”.

The Auckland Sport and Recreation Strategic Action Plan 2014-2024 Refreshed 2017 contains the following definitions:

- **Recreation** is physical activity done for lifestyle, wellbeing, health and/or enjoyment. It includes play (age and stage appropriate development opportunities for young people), and active and outdoor recreation. It may be participated in either individually, with a group or as a team.
- **Sport** is physical activity that is competitive, organised, involves the observation of rules, and may be participated in either individually or as a team. It includes competitive sport taking place through clubs, events and national or international competitions.

¹ Submission to Auckland Council, The Auckland Plan and Long-term Plan 2018, Aktive

3. Current strategic environment

A number of organisations have adopted strategies, policies and plans which relate to or influence sport and recreation in Auckland. The key strategies are summarised below.

Government direction

Ministerial direction

The priorities of the Minister for Sport and Recreation are as follows.

- Grow participation by girls and women, including their ability to pursue professional sporting careers
- Improve the overall rates and quality of participation in sport and recreation by low participating populations
- Strengthen the long-term opportunities for New Zealanders with disabilities
- Address the drop off in young people's participation in sport and physical activity once they leave school.²

Treasury Living Standards

The Treasury Living Standards focus on intergenerational wellbeing and supports the Treasury's policy advice and medium-term strategy. It uses four capital stocks (produced, natural, human and social capital) as ways to organise indicators of intergenerational wellbeing.

Sport NZ

Community Sport Strategy 2015-20

Sport NZ's "primary goal is to develop and sustain a world-leading community sport system across New Zealand".

The Community Sport Strategy is based on the philosophies of being *participant-focused*, *system-led*, and *performance driven*.

It has three focus areas: school-aged children, local delivery (particularly in low-participation communities) and competitive sport (including talent identification).

Auckland Council

The Auckland Plan 2050

The adopted Auckland Plan 2050 contains Belonging and Participation as an outcome area. This includes a "quality of life" focus area, which recognises a range of elements important to improving Aucklanders' quality of life including arts and culture, heritage, and sport and recreation.

Outcome: Belonging and Participation	
<i>All Aucklanders will be part of and contribute to society, access opportunities, and have the chance to develop to their full potential.</i>	
Directions	Focus Areas
Foster an inclusive Auckland where everyone belongs. Many Aucklanders already have a strong sense of belonging. Some, however, experience loneliness and isolation, which impacts on their	Create safe opportunities for people to meet, connect, participate in and enjoy community and civic life Provide accessible services and cultural

² Minister for Sport and Recreation, Grant Robertson, Letter of Expectations

<p>self-esteem and wellbeing.</p> <p>Improve health and wellbeing for all Aucklanders by reducing harm and disparities in opportunities. Improving Aucklanders' health and wellbeing means people will be happier, healthier, and more able to participate in activities that they value.</p>	<p>infrastructure that are responsive in meeting people's evolving needs</p> <p>Support and work with communities to develop the resilience to thrive in a changing world</p> <p>Value and provide for te Tiriti o Waitangi / the Treaty of Waitangi as New Zealand's bicultural foundation for a intercultural Auckland</p> <p>Recognise, value and celebrate Aucklanders' differences as strengths</p> <p>Focus on investment to address disparities and serve communities of greatest need</p> <p>Recognise the value of arts, culture, sport and recreation to quality of life</p>
--	---

Auckland Sport and Recreation Strategic Action Plan 2014-2024 Refreshed 2017

This action plan, which was agreed by the Auckland sport and recreation sector, sets out a 10-year strategic direction with actions to guide the future planning and delivery of recreation and sport opportunities in Auckland.

<p style="text-align: center;">Vision</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Aucklanders: more active, more often</i></p>	
<p>Priority areas</p>	<p>Key action areas</p>
<p>Participation: More Aucklanders living physically active lives through sport in informal physical activity, recreation and sport</p>	<p>Affordable and accessible options</p> <p>Children and young people more active</p> <p>Promoting healthy and active lifestyles</p> <p>Auckland's diverse range of communities being more active</p> <p>Promotion and coordination of information</p>
<p>Infrastructure: Access to open spaces, harbours, coastlines, waterways and a fit-for-purpose network of facilities that enable physical activity, recreation and sport at all levels</p>	<p>Accessible and activity-friendly environments</p> <p>Fit-for-purpose network of facilities</p> <p>Facility partnerships</p>
<p>Excellence in recreation and sport: Pride is built in Auckland's recreation and sport achievements and strong sporting culture, and talent and excellence are supported and celebrated</p>	<p>High-performance pathways</p> <p>Fit-for-purpose stadia and national venues</p> <p>Major and national sporting events</p> <p>Nurturing and celebrating talent</p>
<p>Sector development: A strong and capable sector that delivers quality recreation and sport experiences in a sustainable way, and contributes to Auckland's economy</p>	<p>Skilled and growing volunteer base</p> <p>Coaching</p> <p>Organisational capability</p> <p>Employment pathways</p> <p>Funding and investment</p> <p>Knowledgeable sector</p>

Aktive

Aktive has been established “to undertake a regional leadership role in relation to promoting active and on-going participation in Sport and Recreation by the people of Auckland” (Aktive Trust Deed).

Aktive’s strategic plan is being developed within the following Aktive strategic framework.

Vision To be the world’s most active city	
Mission To collaborate, set direction, and provide regional leadership for Auckland’s port and recreation communities	
Values	Our values reflect a sporting approach, and a drive to achieve results for our partners and for Aucklanders
Gutsy	We make transparent, bold decisions in pursuit of our vision for Auckland
Team Up	We succeed by trusting and playing to each other’s distinctive strengths
Relentless	We have the passion and perseverance to achieve our goals
Go Hard	We work with intensity, urgency and vigour
Play it Straight	We deal with the facts, focus on solutions, and treat everyone fairly and with integrity

The Auckland Approach to Community Sport

This is a collective approach from Aktive, Harbour Sport, Sport Waitakere, Sport Auckland, and CLM Counties Manukau to the implementation of community sport in Auckland. This involves working with others in the community, schools, sports clubs, regional and national sports organisations, charities, facilities, churches, and commercial providers to build on the success of sports and recreation activities in that community.

This approach focuses on five key strategic areas:

- **Collective Advocacy** – attract new funding, find efficiency savings and advocate at the highest levels of local and central government for the needs of the sport and recreation sector
- **Young People** – more of Auckland’s young people participating in sport and recreation
- **Coaching and Talent Development** – programmes, support and resources for coaches, athletes and organisations
- **Sector Development** – improved club, regional sport and recreation capability
- **Spaces and Places** – improved access to spaces and facilities for all Aucklanders.

Treaty of Waitangi

Aktive reflects a commitment to the Treaty of Waitangi by proactively engaging and supporting the aspirations of Māori and iwi. Aktive has adopted a Māori Engagement Policy, and seeks strategic advice from its Aktive Maori Advisory Group.

He Oranga Poutama ki Tāmaki Makaurau (HOP), “Stairway to wellbeing”, promotes the development and implementation of physical recreation and sport in a way that is culturally appropriate to Māori – as Māori for Māori.

The Te Whetu Rāhua framework has been developed as a tool to help sport and recreation providers consider how they might design or adapt activities to be culturally responsive to Māori. The framework is based on the following five key values important for Māori cultural and social development:

- Te Reo and Tikanga
- Leadership and Management
- Whanaungatanga
- In Māori Places
- Traditional Games

The tool has been developed with Māori community sport and recreation providers. It supports Māori being able to participate as Māori, recognising that a strong and secure cultural identity helps facilitate access to wider society, as well as being vital to wellbeing as indigenous New Zealanders.

4. Rationale for Investment in Sport and Recreation

Many benefits flow from investment in sport and recreation. These are canvassed extensively in a number of sources and are well documented and understood.³ As such, they will not be discussed in detail in this Issues Paper.

The key benefits for the purposes of this strategic planning exercise are summarised below.

Educational achievement

Children who participate in physical activity have improved educational outcomes and gain social and emotional coping skills. It also reduces anti-social behaviour.

Improved health

People who regularly participate in physical activities are physically healthier. It also improves mental health.

Social connection and community wellbeing

Sport and recreation draws people from different backgrounds together, fosters cooperation and strengthens social and community ties. It also creates a sense of belonging.

Economic development

A healthy, active workforce is more productive. As well, sport and recreation contributes significantly to Auckland's economy.

5. Environmental Analysis

This is an initial environmental analysis based on a desktop review and with input from insights staff from Aktive, Sport NZ and Auckland Council (RIMU). It is expected that further information will become available throughout the engagement process.

Overview

More than 1.6 million people currently live in Auckland. By 2043 this is predicted to increase by another 720,000 people to reach 2.4 million, adding 313,000 dwellings and 263,000 jobs

³ See for example Sport New Zealand Value of Sport and Recreation Auckland Report 2015, Sport New Zealand; Auckland Sport and Recreation Strategic Action Plan 2014-2024 Refreshed 2017; ACW Auckland City Report 2018, Portas Consulting

in the Auckland region (see Appendix 2).⁴ With this increase, the demographic nature of Auckland's population will also significantly change. This will have major implications for sport and recreation in Auckland.

Currently, more than one million Aucklanders (children and adults) are active each week,⁵ with organised sport accounting for 20% of the physical activity people undertake.⁶ On average, 92% of all Aucklanders over 18 years of age are physically active at least once per week and 44% are active at least five days a week.⁷ There is, though, significant variation across Auckland. For example, there is a significantly higher proportion of people in certain parts of South Auckland who are physically inactive (Mangere-Otahuhu, Manurewa, Otara-Papatoetoe local board areas) than other parts of Auckland (such as Waiheke, Upper Harbour, and Waitemata local board areas). As well, Aucklanders are less physically active than the average across New Zealand.⁸

While some form of participation in sport and recreation is generally high, across New Zealand there has been an overall decline in adult participation in recent years. Between 1998 and 2014, overall participation decreased by 7.7% and by 13.9% in adults aged 18 to 24. The decline is also particularly significant in Pacific communities. There is also a concern that participation amongst young people may be in decline.⁹

The sport and recreation sector in Auckland is significant, with:

- 62 Regional Sport Organisations
- An estimated 1,500 clubs
- More than 450,000 members
- Approximately 308,800 volunteers¹⁰ (although there is an overall shortage in capable and available volunteers across the sector¹¹)

These figures do not include the many types of informal recreation that Aucklanders engage in.

Socio-cultural factors

Auckland is facing a major change in its socio-cultural make up over the next 30 years, which will significantly impact on the demand for and provision of sport and recreation within the region.

Ethnicity

Auckland is currently the fourth most ethnically diverse city in the world, with more than 120 different ethnic groups and 39% of residents (over 500,000 people) born overseas. This ethnic diversity will continue to increase.

- There is a declining European/Pākēha population, reducing from 73% in 1996, to 59% in 2013. This is predicted to drop to 48% in 2038.
- There is a growing Asian population (from 10% in 1996, to 23% in 2013) the number of people in the broad Asian category is projected to increase by 439,900 between 2013 and 2038 to reach 788,800.

⁴ The Auckland Plan 2050

⁵ Submission to Auckland Council, The Auckland Plan and Long-term Plan 2018, Aktive

⁶ Sport New Zealand Meeting, 30 May 2018

⁷ ACW Auckland City Report 2018, Portas Consulting

⁸ ACW Auckland City Report 2018, Portas Consulting

⁹ Briefing to the Incoming Minister for Sport and Recreation, 2017, Sport New Zealand referencing Sport and Active Recreation in New Zealand: 16-Year Adult Participation Trends, 2016, Sport New Zealand

¹⁰ Submission to Auckland Council, The Auckland Plan and Long-term Plan 2018, Aktive

¹¹ Auckland Sport Sector: Facility Priorities Plan 2017, Auckland Council, Aktive and Sport New Zealand

- The number of Pacific people could increase from 15 per cent of Auckland’s population in 2013 to 17 per cent by 2038.
- The Māori population is likely to grow at a rate of 1.7 per cent per annum over the next 25 years and will make up 11.6 per cent of the Tāmaki Makaurau population by 2038.¹²

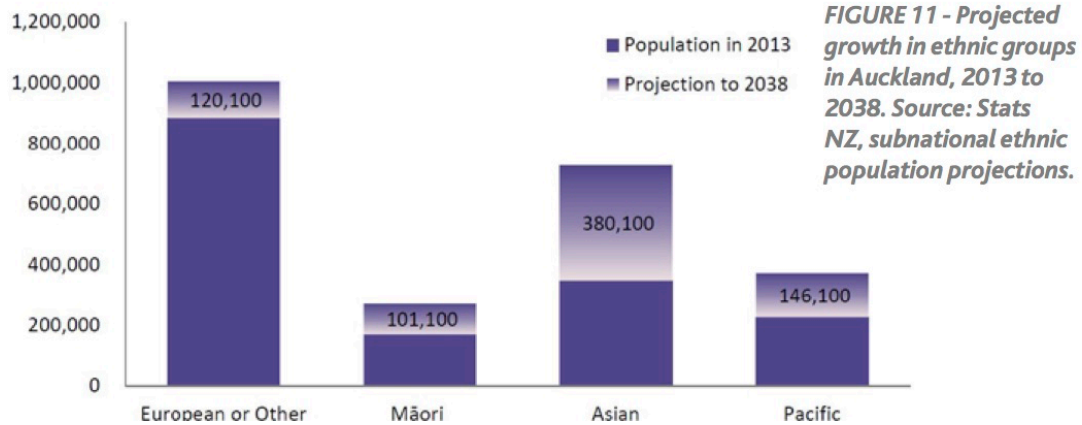


FIGURE 11 - Projected growth in ethnic groups in Auckland, 2013 to 2038. Source: Stats NZ, subnational ethnic population projections.

Ethnicity is relevant to participation in sport and recreation. For example, the Asian population has lower sport participation rates. Asian young people are less engaged in most aspects of sport and recreation when compared to young people overall.¹³ While further analysis is needed on the impact ethnic diversity may have on sport and recreation over the next 20 years, it is likely to have some influence on the types of sport and recreation activities that are seen as attractive. Participation rates are therefore, likely to vary across sporting and recreational codes and activities.

Age

By 2043 it is forecast that there will be almost twice as many people aged over 65 years (19%) than under 25 years (11%). The number of older Aucklanders will more than double by 2033 to 353,600.¹⁴ While a proportion of this population are currently inactive, 86% of people over the age of 65 were undertaking some form of physical activity each week in 2016.¹⁵ This growing elderly population will place additional demands on services and facilities to enable older people to fully participate in society, including participation in sport and recreation.

Auckland is though, still a youthful city and young people will continue to outnumber the older population. This is particularly the case with Asian, Pacific and Māori populations. Among Māori and Pacific populations, over half of both groups are under the age of 25. The number of children and young people will continue to increase over the next 20 years and a larger proportion of young people live in the south of Auckland.¹⁶ While most children take part in at least three hours of organised and informal sport a week¹⁷, there remains a segment of the younger population who are relatively inactive, particularly within certain sectors and groups.¹⁸

¹² The Auckland Plan 2050

¹³ Future of Sport in New Zealand, 2015, Synergia, referencing 2011 Young People’s Survey, Sport New Zealand

¹⁴ Auckland Plan Evidence Report: Belonging and Participation, February 2018 (Draft), Auckland Council

¹⁵ Quality of Life Survey 2016: Results for Auckland (Technical Report 2016/043), Auckland Council

¹⁶ Auckland Plan Evidence Report: Belonging and Participation, February 2018 (Draft), Auckland Council

¹⁷ The Economic Value of Sport and Recreation to the Auckland Region, 2015, Sport New Zealand, referencing Young People’s Survey, 2011, Sport New Zealand

¹⁸ Future of Sport in New Zealand, 2015, Synergia, referencing 2011 Young People’s Survey, Sport New Zealand

Over the next 20 years, there will be a significant proportion of younger and older people, which will create a number of challenges for the delivery of sport and recreation. They are likely to want and need very different sport and recreation choices and have different accessibility issues.

Gender

Participation in sport and recreation varies not only based on ethnicity and age, but also with gender. On average, males spend more time participating in sport and recreation than women, although this varies with age (there is no gender difference between ages 15-17, 25-34 and 50-74). As well, adult women are more likely to participate in non-competitive sports and activities.¹⁹ Previous research has shown that walking is by far the main form of sport and recreation for women (72.2% of women had participated in walking a 12 month period as compared to 46.8% of men). See Appendix 3 for a comparison of sport and recreation activities by gender.²⁰

The percentage of girls involved in sport at secondary school level has been consistently lower than boys for over 15 years. While participation rates for girls has risen slightly since a low point in 2010, in 2017 in the Auckland region, 52% of girls participated in sports as compared to 58% of boys.²¹ Girls like sport less as they progress through secondary school and spend less time participating in formal sport and casually. More Pacific girls like sport “a lot” and fewer Asian girls like sport “a lot”.²²

Sport NZ does not currently collect participation data broken down by gender from National Sporting Organisations. However, research into Women in Sport by Women in Sport Aotearoa shows that women are underrepresented as participants in most sports, (with a limited number of exceptions, with netball being the most notable) and also underrepresented at the governance, senior management, and coaching levels of sporting organisations (with a few exceptions).

Rainbow communities

The term rainbow communities covers “a diversity of sexual orientations, as well as gender and sex identities”.²³ Rainbow communities face issues with visibility and discrimination, which can have an impact on their health and wellbeing. Little research is available relating to the involvement of this diverse group of people in sport and recreation either at the national or regional level.

People with disabilities

Disabled people represent a fifth of all Aucklanders, a sizeable proportion of the region’s population.²⁴ This creates challenges for ensuring sport and recreation options and choices are accessible and available to all.

Health

Participation in physical activity is an issue linked with childhood obesity²⁵, particularly amongst Māori and Pacific populations, which continues into the adult population.²⁶

¹⁹ Active New Zealand: The New Zealand Participation Survey 2017, Sport New Zealand

²⁰ Sport and Active Recreation in the Lives of New Zealand Adults, 2013/14 Active New Zealand Survey Results, Sport New Zealand

²¹ New Zealand Secondary Schools Sports Council Representation Census, 2017

²² Sport NZ Presentation, “Active Girls: The Teenage Challenge, SI Sports Coordinators 2015

²³ Auckland’s Rainbow Communities: Challenges and Opportunities (Technical Report 2017/012), 2017, Auckland Council

²⁴ Auckland Plan Evidence Report: Belonging and Participation, February 2018 (Draft), Auckland Council

²⁵ Future of Sport in New Zealand, 2015, Synergia

²⁶ Healthy Auckland Together: Monitoring Report 2017

Countering sedentary behaviour by encouraging greater participation in physical activity is particularly important as a way of combating the health consequences of obesity.

Encouraging physical activity through involvement in sport and recreation also provides an important mechanism to improve the quality of life for those facing mental health issues, as well as addressing loneliness and isolation.

Lifestyles

There are a number of lifestyle changes which will impact on the provision of sport and recreation in Auckland.²⁷ These include the following, which all have an affect on patterns of participation.

- The changing nature of families, such as two working parents and changing family composition.²⁸
- The individualisation of sport participation, which has seen a growth in “pay for play” sports activities, outside of traditional sports club structures, where participation is comparatively low.²⁹ These include for example 24/7 gyms, mountain bike parks and boot camps, which enable informal participation based on the needs and preferences of individuals.³⁰
- Growing consumerism, which sees sport and recreation are becoming seen as a product or service to be consumed and competing against other competing demands on people’s time and attention.³¹
- The changing nature of work, including a shift to working remotely, flexible working arrangements and part time work.
- Increasing pressures on people’s time, which are likely to have impacts on how and when they participate in sport and recreation.

These lifestyle factors influence how, when and where people choose to participate in sport and recreation and point to a greater need for a wide range of informal and flexible options.

Economic factors

Employment

Auckland has a large growing labour force with an increase of 49% (292,400) between 2000 and 2016. The rate of growth increased in 2015 and 2016, with 42,900 people joining the labour force (a 4.7 per cent increase). In 2016, employment rose and unemployment rates declined to 4.7 per cent from a high of 8.1 per cent.³²

Socio-economic deprivation

Nationally, Auckland has the highest median household income from all sources (\$76,500) but it also has the highest proportion of people with an annual income of \$15,000 or less. 21% of Aucklanders say they do not have enough money to meet their everyday needs. There are distinct patterns of socio-economic disadvantage across Auckland in terms of income, employment and educational achievement (see Appendix 4). The are large areas of deprivation around the Manukau Harbour and poorer and middle income Aucklanders are

²⁷ Future of Sport in New Zealand, 2015, Synergia

²⁸ Auckland Sport and Recreation Strategic Action Plan 2014-2024 Refreshed 2017

²⁹ Sports survey shows low participation in club sports, 28 June 2018,

<https://www.radionz.co.nz/news/national/360646/sports-survey-shows-low-participation-in-club-sports>

³⁰ Future of Sport in New Zealand, 2015, Synergia

³¹ Future of Sport in New Zealand, 2015, Synergia

³² Auckland Plan 2050 Evidence Report: Opportunity and Prosperity, February 2018 (Draft), Auckland Council

being pushed to the region's edges.³³ As well, housing costs have serious consequences for inequality and are a particular issue in Auckland.³⁴

Socio-economic inequality is also interwoven with cultural difference and diversity in Auckland. Significant social and economic inequalities are experienced by minority ethnic groups. Of those people who reported they did not have enough money to meet their everyday need, 34% were Māori and 37% were of Pacific ethnicity.³⁵

Areas of high socio-economic disadvantage typically have less access to all amenities and infrastructure.³⁶ Cost of entry provides a barrier, particularly for Pacific and Māori communities. This is particularly an issue for the provision of and access to sport and recreation facilities and opportunities.

Technological factors

We are on the cusp of a new “automation age” or the “fourth industrial revolution” with recent developments in robotics, artificial intelligence and machine learning. New technologies will fundamentally alter the way we produce, consume, communicate, move, generate energy, and interact with one another. Given the new powers in genetic engineering and neurotechnologies, they may directly impact who we are and how we think and behave. All aspects of our lives will be impacted and altered by technological advances and change.³⁷

Technologies are already altering how people interface and interact with sport and recreation, by enabling highly personalised sporting experiences (through for example, online trainers, smartphone apps, and devices to record and analyse training data). Other changes involve new transport technologies, such as driverless cars, e-bikes, and automated drones, which all have the potential to impact on activity levels. Further, augmented reality could see significant change in working and consumer patterns, reducing the need to travel for work or to shop, which will also affect people's levels of activity.³⁸

Technology is also changing the nature of sport, with the emergence of e-sport as an example. Virtual reality provides a future opportunity to alter the way people experience sport and recreation. Technology also has the ability to alter the way sports organisations operate their businesses and their interface with their customers, through for example, online booking systems.

Technology enables highly personalised sporting experiences, and also new avenues to community connection. It offers the opportunity to support and drive lifestyle choices and to refine technique and tactics at individual, community and elite levels. Yet while technology's reach into sport offers much, it alone will not address the challenges of maintaining and building the infrastructure, workforce and volunteers that underpin New Zealand sport. Technology, for all its strengths, is also at the nexus of the competing market between activity and inactivity, offering a breadth of passive consumption alongside enabling active participation.³⁹

Therefore, while technology provides opportunities to encourage greater participation, it also poses a threat to activity levels.

³³ The Auckland Plan 2050

³⁴ Auckland Plan Evidence Report: Belonging and Participation, February 2018 (Draft), Auckland Council

³⁵ Auckland Plan Evidence Report: Belonging and Participation, February 2018 (Draft), Auckland Council, referencing Quality of Life Survey 2016: Results for Auckland (Technical Report 2016/043), Auckland Council

³⁶ Auckland Plan Evidence Report: Belonging and Participation, February 2018 (Draft), Auckland Council

³⁷ The Auckland Plan 2050 (Draft)

³⁸ Long Term Strategic View, 2017, New Zealand Transport Agency

³⁹ Future of Sport in New Zealand, 2015, Synergia, p.23

Environmental factors

Environmental changes

There have been a number of key environmental changes in the Auckland region, of which the most notable is in the freshwater and marine environments. The background report supporting the draft Auckland Plan 2050 reports as follows.

- In 2017, a national modelling program run by the Ministry for the Environment found that 23% of Auckland rivers had 'fair' water quality for swimming (as measured by faecal contamination).
- Auckland lakes performed better with 34% having 'excellent' water quality and 57% having 'good' water quality.
- Faecal contamination also affects beaches, with 16 beaches permanently closed due to poor long term water quality.
- Nutrients in freshwater and marine environments also exceed guidelines in parts of the region, especially in areas of particularly high rural land use where fertilizer is extensively used.
- There are also issues with sediment, heavy metal runoff, algal bloom, and wastewater overflows.⁴⁰

Poor water quality has the potential to significantly affect and restrict sport and recreational activities.

Another area of environmental concern involves the closure of access to the forested areas of the Waitākere Ranges Regional Park, and 10 higher-risk tracks in the Hunua Ranges Regional Park.

Climate change is also an issue for sport and recreation. As well as the direct impacts of sea level rise, a warming climate will also change weather patterns, bringing more rainfall and extreme weather events.⁴¹ This is likely to have a particular impact on outdoor sport and recreation activities, particularly traditional sports which rely on outdoor facilities during the winter months.

Facilities

Auckland continues to grow at a fast pace. This has resulted in a number of gaps in the network of community facilities and infrastructure, which means some communities have lower levels of accessibility than others. The current level of funding available for sport and recreation in Auckland, primarily through Auckland Council, is insufficient to meet demand and maintain levels of service.

Rapid population growth will increase pressure on existing social and community infrastructure, which will be exacerbated by a shortfall of funding and constraints in land available for the development of new facilities. This will not only place significant pressure on existing facilities, but will also negatively affect sport and recreation organisations, which will struggle to access facilities.

Evidence is emerging that underspending on facilities leads directly to lower participation levels. As well, sport and recreation operating spend has a direct and significant correlation with participation levels.⁴²

⁴⁰ Auckland Plan 2050 Evidence Report: Environment and Cultural Heritage, February 2018 (Draft), Auckland Council

⁴¹ Long Term Strategic View, 2017, New Zealand Transport Agency

⁴² Submission to Auckland Council, The Auckland Plan and Long-term Plan 2018, Active; ACW Auckland City Report 2018, Portas Consulting

Under-provision of facilities is most acutely felt in South Auckland, which has a high proportion of Māori, Indian and Pacific peoples. These communities will be hit the hardest, reducing accessibility and participation, and adding to the levels of obesity amongst children and adults in these areas.⁴³

A prioritised approach to planning and development of new facilities has been proposed.⁴⁴ More efficient ways to manage facilities are also required. However, under-provision of infrastructure remains a significant issue.

Land use and urban form

Development across the Auckland Region, as guided by the Unitary Plan will result in a changing urban form and impact the provision of sport and recreation facilities across the Auckland region. The Unitary Plan will help Auckland meet its economic and housing needs by determining, among other things:

- what can be built and where
- how to create a higher quality and more compact Auckland.

The Unitary Plan implements the Auckland Plan's development strategy. To achieve sustainable development, Auckland's continued high population growth needs to be matched to a range of accessible, quality housing and employment choices. The Unitary Plan's emphasis is providing for growth in existing and compact urban areas which are served by efficient, safe public transport. Growth in rural areas will be supported by two satellite towns – Warkworth and Pukekohe. The Development Strategy provides the direction for where and how we will live, recognising that achieving a more compact Auckland will require generational change over 30 years. Further, by adopting a 'place-based' approach, the Development Strategy focuses on delivering quality outcomes by aligning investment in areas of change where the majority of growth will occur.

Transport

Auckland Council and the Government have developed an aligned strategic approach on transport through the Auckland Transport Alignment Project (ATAP). This report provides advice on recommended transport investment priorities (called the "ATAP Package") for the 2018- 2028 decade to reflect the Government's and Auckland Council's shared direction for transport in Auckland. The ATAP Package guides statutory planning processes, including the Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP) and the National Land Transport Programme (NLTP).⁴⁵

The Auckland Transport Alignment Project (ATAP) study provides a framework for this investment. At the same time technology is changing rapidly and the expectations of customers, from how they are communicated with to how they pay for services and even the role of public transport and road network performance, is evolving at a fast pace. Ongoing growth brings great opportunities and much progress has been made over the past 10-15 years to support Auckland's evolution into a modern, world-class city. This includes a sustained increase in investment for transport and a willingness of Aucklanders to change the way they live and travel.⁴⁶ However, congestion remains a significant issue, particularly where cross-Auckland travel is required. As a result, travel distances and difficulties with congestion form a very real barrier to participation in sport and recreation.

Use of public transport has tripled since the mid 1990s, the city centre is New Zealand's fastest growing residential neighbourhood and, most recently, Aucklanders are rapidly

⁴³ Submission to Auckland Council, The Auckland Plan and Long-term Plan 2018, Aktive

⁴⁴ Auckland Sport Sector: Facility Priorities Plan 2017, Auckland Council, Aktive, Sport New Zealand

⁴⁵ Auckland Transport Alignment Project 2018, NZ Government & Auckland Council

⁴⁶ *ibid*

taking up cycling where quality infrastructure is provided. Despite this progress, the sheer scale and pace of growth, a history of under-investment and insufficient housing construction means that Auckland still faces significant transport and housing challenges. The transport challenge is not just one of congestion, but also poor travel choice beyond private vehicles, especially in lower income areas.⁴⁷ This has an impact on accessibility to sport and recreation facilities and opportunities.

The Auckland Plan recognises the critical role of transport in delivering a successful Auckland. ATAP reflects shared Government and Auckland Council view that transport investment decisions must deliver broad economic, social, environmental and cultural benefits to Auckland by providing safe, reliable and sustainable access to opportunities, including easily connecting people, goods and services to where they need to go, providing high quality and affordable travel choices for people of all ages and abilities, supporting and shaping Auckland's growth and creating a prosperous, vibrant and inclusive city.⁴⁸

Over the past three years, Auckland Council and the Government have worked together to develop an aligned strategic approach to the development of Auckland's transport system for the next 30 years. In 2016 a recommended strategic approach was agreed, based on three integrated components:

- Making better use of existing networks
- Targeting new investment to the most significant challenges
- Maximising new opportunities to influence travel demand.⁴⁹

Walking and cycling

Walking is by far the most popular form of recreational physical activity for adults, with 88% of Aucklanders walking as a form of physical activity, and 67% doing so at least once a week in 2017.⁵⁰ Fitness and recreation are the main motivators for Aucklanders to walk.⁵¹ Cycling is also a popular recreational activity, with 14% of Aucklanders riding at least once a week in 2017, with recreation and exercise the most popular reason for cycling.⁵²

Walking and cycling, particularly as a way of journeying to work, provide a strong source of recreation. However, in Auckland not many people use their bikes to travel to work, school, shopping or many other daily activities. In 2013, walking and cycling accounted for about 6 per cent of commuting trips. There are various factors influencing this.

- Concern for children's safety on the road has seen the number of primary school children who walk and cycle to school plummet in the last 25 years
- Scale and pace of growth is having an impact on the street environment. Street environments that are unpleasant and unsafe have the greatest impact on more vulnerable road users. Shortfalls in the physical environment are the most obvious deterrent to walking and cycling.
- Pedestrians on Auckland's urban roads account for nearly a third of road fatalities, one in six reported injury crashes, and a quarter of the social cost of road crashes.⁵³

⁴⁷ *ibid*

⁴⁸ Auckland Transport Alignment Project 2018, NZ Government & Auckland Council

⁴⁹ *ibid*

⁵⁰ Auckland Sport and Recreation Strategic Action Plan 2014-2024 Refreshed 2017

⁵¹ Active New Zealand: The New Zealand Participation Survey 2017, Sport New Zealand; Measuring and Growing Active Modes of Transport in Auckland, June 2017, Auckland Transport

⁵² Measuring and Growing Active Modes of Transport in Auckland, June 2017, Auckland Transport

⁵³ Measuring and Growing Active Modes of Transport in Auckland, June 2017, Auckland Transport

⁵³ Auckland Plan 2050 Evidence Report: Transport and Access, February 2018 (Draft), Auckland Council

Auckland Council is investing in creating a safe cycling network, although this is in its early stages. However, “there has recently been a significant increase in investment, generating unprecedented growth in the number of cyclists where improvements have been made”.⁵⁴ For example, in 2016 Bikes make up 9.4% of inbound morning peak traffic via Upper Queen Street.⁵⁵

Governance factors

Funding

Auckland Council is Auckland’s lead agency in the provision of sport and recreation facilities. However, it is facing a massive shortfall in capital funding of around \$400 million for sport and recreation facilities over the next 10 years of its current Long Term Plan. This under-investment will have a significant long term impact. There is also pressure on other funding sources with, for example, the current sinking lid policy on gaming machines in the Auckland region. Under-investment in sport and recreation facilities and services is a poses a considerable strategic risk.

Legislative

New Zealand’s legislative environment brings challenges for the sport and recreation sector. Legislation such as that relating to health and safety, is arguably making it harder and less attractive for smaller providers to hold events, given the cost of compliance.

Partnerships

There are a wide range of public and private sector providers. These include national regional and local sports organisations, local government organisations, schools, health boards, and private sector providers. The Auckland sport sector has been working together to develop a partnership and collaborative approach to facilities planning and supply.⁵⁶ However, the sheer number, diversity and boundaries of organisations which have a role to play in encouraging participation in sport and recreation provides significant challenges. A shared understanding is needed between these providers of the opportunities to be gained in collaboratively planning and delivering social infrastructure.

Opportunities arise for greater collaboration not only within the sport and recreation sector, but also between public sector agencies and corporates. Attracting talent in a competitive market requires businesses to be more innovative in the benefits they offer, such as gym memberships and funding of employee recreational activities, like social sports teams. As well, employers are becoming much more aware of the benefits of physical activity to employee wellbeing and productivity. As a result, there are opportunities for a greater degree of partnership between public sector sports agencies and the private sector.

Amalgamation

There is some evidence of a trend towards amalgamation of smaller sport and recreation organisations and local governing bodies into much larger organisational structures. This trend is likely to bring with it benefits and disadvantages. While it may well create efficiencies, improve financial viability, and bring a more professional management and governance structure, it also risks losing local knowledge, community connection and ownership, and may discourage volunteering.

⁵⁴ Auckland Plan 2050

⁵⁵ The Auckland Cycling Account: A Snapshot of Cycling in Auckland in 2016, Auckland Transport

⁵⁶ Submission to Auckland Council, The Auckland Plan and Long-term Plan 2018, Aktive

6. Key Themes

The strategic context and environmental analysis suggests the following key themes for the purposes of sector engagement.

Choice: The need for greater sport and recreation choice as a result of growing diversity and lifestyle trends.

Equity: Promoting fairness and inclusion for all, with a particular focus on target populations that are under-represented in participation in sport and recreation. Equity also recognises the importance of providing accessibility to sport and recreation choices, including from geographic, economic, and social perspectives

Resilience: Providing flexible approaches and delivery structures to respond to the needs of a changing and growing society (including technological changes and advances), recognising that multiple approaches will be required and that these are likely to change significantly over time. It also recognises the need to ensure ongoing sustainability of funding, governance structures, services and facilities, and the physical environment, in order to promote a wide range of sport and recreational experiences

Partnerships: Providing a coordinated public and private sector regional approach to the planning and delivery of sport and recreation, recognising Aktive's regional leadership role. This includes exploring a full range of public and private sector partnerships.

Appendix 1

About Aktive

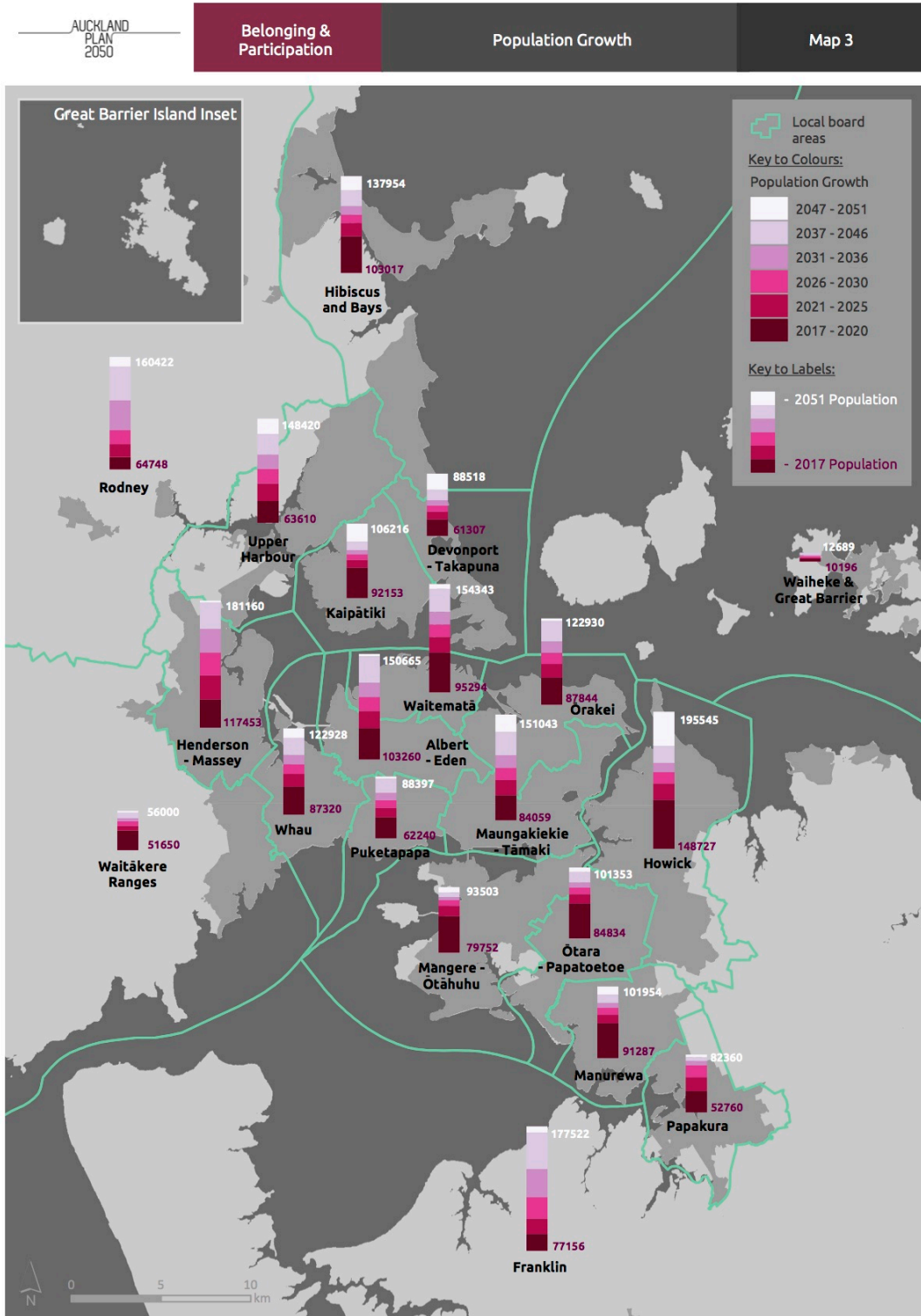
Established in 2013, Aktive – Auckland Sport and Recreation (Aktive) is a charitable trust established with the vision of making Auckland the world’s most active city. Aktive works with and through a number of key partners to fund and deliver sport and recreation projects throughout Auckland communities. A key strategic partner of Sport NZ, Auckland Council and major grant makers and funders, Aktive invests more than \$11m per annum in a range of delivery partners, organisations and projects that will get more people recreating and playing sport across Auckland. It provides leadership for the Auckland sport and recreation sector, while Regional Sports Trusts leverage their expertise and connections to deliver programmes and capability services to their communities.

Aktive developed its first strategic plan for the period covering 2015 – 2020. This was reviewed in 2016 resulting in some changes to the plan. An operational strategy “The Auckland Approach to Community Sport” is in place to support the strategic plan.

The Aktive board and CEO, aware of the fact that changing demographics and technology are rapidly altering Auckland and the way we live, have determined that a longer term strategic direction is required. As a result, Aktive is seeking to “look up and look long”, taking a 20 year view that will support its ongoing strategic investment and decision-making for sport and recreation in Auckland. To achieve this, Aktive is embarking on a strategic planning programme to develop its strategic direction for the next 20 years, through to 2040.

Appendix 2

Population Growth



Appendix 3

Sport and Recreation Participation by Gender

The 20 most popular sport and recreation activities participated in over 12 months by gender

Men 		%	Number of men participating
1	Walking	46.8	744,000
2	Fishing	29.2	465,000
3	Cycling	28.4	451,000
4	Swimming	27.0	430,000
5	Equipment-based exercise	23.2	370,000
6	Jogging/running	20.3	323,000
7	Golf	15.0	238,000
8	Tramping	11.2	178,000
9	Football	10.5	167,000
10	Hunting	9.7	154,000
11	Canoeing/kayaking	9.5	151,000
12	Cricket	8.7	139,000
13	Touch rugby	7.3	116,000
14	Basketball⁵	7.2	115,000
15	Snow sports	6.9	110,000
16	Rugby	6.8	109,000
17	Tennis	6.6	106,000
18	Shooting	6.2	99,000
19	Surfing/bodyboarding	6.2	98,000
20	Table tennis	6.0	95,000

Women 		%	Number of women participating
1	Walking	72.2	1,245,000
2	Swimming	33.1	570,000
3	Equipment-based exercise	21.7	374,000
4	Cycling	21.6	372,000
5	Jogging/running	18.1	312,000
6	Pilates/yoga	16.6	287,000
7	Dance	14.1	243,000
8	Aerobics	13.4	231,000
9	Fishing	10.5	181,000
10	Tramping	8.3	144,000
11	Netball	8.1	139,000
12	Callisthenics	7.1	123,000
13	Canoeing/kayaking	6.9	119,000
14	Tennis	6.0	103,000
15	Snow sports	5.5	95,000
16	Aquarobics	4.9	84,000
17	Golf	4.6	80,000
18	Exercising at home (other)¹⁰	4.4	75,000
19	Exercise classes (other)¹⁰	3.8	65,000
20	Badminton	3.6	61,000

Appendix 4

Deprivation

