



**Ngā Hui a te
Rōpū Kaitohutohu
Take ā-Taiwhenua /
Rural Advisory Panel**

End of Term Report 2016 - 2019



Role of the Rural Advisory Panel

As one of council's engagement mechanisms with the rural sector in Auckland, the Rural Advisory Panel has provided advice to the council since 2011 within the remit of the Auckland Plan on the following areas:

- council policies, plans and strategies relevant to rural issues
- regional and strategic matters relevant to rural issues
- any matter of interest or concern to rural communities.

Panel members (and who they represent)

Cr Bill Cashmore	Deputy Mayor and Franklin Ward Councillor
Cr Greg Sayers	Rodney Ward Councillor
Alan Cole	Franklin Local Board Member
Trish Fordyce	NZ Forest Owners Association
Richard Gardner	Federated Farmers
Neil Henderson	Waitakere Ranges Local Board Member
Vance Hodgson	Horticulture NZ
Steve Levet	Rural Contractors NZ
Craig Maxwell	Federated Farmers
Greg McCracken	Fonterra
Andrew McKenzie	Beef and Lamb NZ
Helen Moodie	Dairy NZ
Roger Parton	Rural Contractors NZ
Wayne Scott	Aggregate & Quarry Association
Geoff Smith	Equine Industry
Peter Spencer	NZ Forest Owners Association
Brenda Steele	Rodney Local Board Member
Bronwen Turner	Western Rural Property Owners
Keith Vallabh	Pukekohe Vegetable Growers Association
Glenn Wilcox	Independent Maori Statutory Board Member

Summary of Topics considered:

The Panel has focused its attention over the past three years on

- Auckland Plan Refresh and Long-Term Plan (10 Reports)
- National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management (6 Reports)

Other significant topics considered have included:

- Auckland Ballance Farm Environment Award Winners
- Emergency Management
- Structure Planning
- Climate Change impacts
- Forestry
- Maori cultural sites of significance
- Regional Pest Management Plan
- Auckland Unitary Plan
- Auckland Transport
- Coastal
- Public Nuisance Bylaw
- NZ food story – Pukekohe
- Resource Consent Compliance
- Fonterra presentation

Panel members considered that their biggest achievements were contributions to:

- Freshwater planning – both in Auckland and the National Freshwater Policy Statement
- The Auckland Plan refresh
- Ensuring the rural sectors views are considered at the appropriate time in the process
- Council's response to the challenges of climate change
- to provide the forum for exchange of information

Conclusion

Concluding comments from the survey responses by Rural Advisory Panel include:

“A key part of the success of this panel and enjoyment of participating in meetings is down to the involvement of Deputy Mayor Bill Cashmore, who does an outstanding job chairing this panel”

“The Panel has been functioning for eight years and has as far as I can establish provided a rural perspective for the Council that would otherwise not have been available. Continuance of the Panel will become even more relevant as we face the climate change and associated issues that will confront the Council”

“The rural farming community is facing an environmental challenge like never seen before. It is top of their worry list and the messages that come from the council are taken very seriously. I guess the main issue is that they are treated fairly in terms of fixing these environmental problems.”