

A plan for all of us

The Papakura Local Board Plan sets out the board's goals for the next three years.

But it's not the board's plan, it's belongs to all of us, because this is our community.

It's a wonderful place we all share, so you get a say in what that plan says.

We have already engaged with communities about the plan, and we thank everyone who provided their input to help get it to this stage. You have come up with some great points and ideas, and many of them have been incorporated into the plan.

Now at its draft stage, you get another chance to tell us what is important to you, if the priorities are right, or if there is something we have not thought of.

A round of consultation runs from 13 July to 13 August.

When that feedback has been considered, a final version of the plan will go to the board for adoption.

It's important that as many people as possible take the time to provide their views.

In the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic there are going to be challenges to be faced, but as we enter the recovery phase, it's important to remember that we are all in this together.

The plan has five key goals, called outcomes. They are:

- a vibrant and prosperous local economy
- a community enriched by its diversity, where people feel connected and lead active and healthy lives
- a well-connected area that is easy to move around
- a treasured environment and heritage
- a partnership with Māori that creates a Papakura where Māori identity, culture and aspirations are embraced.

Those outcomes recognise what people have told us is important to them, with our young people telling us the environment is critical, and Māori challenging us to work together.

The plan sets a direction for the next three years, and is an invitation to partner with us, to take a role in shaping our community. Together we can take small steps that will help us all achieve big things.

Formal consultation can sound a bit daunting, but it doesn't have to be.

You can provide written remarks of course, but you can also provide feedback online, and even on Facebook, though remember if you do, you must use the hashtag #lovelocal for your feedback to be recognised.

Brent Catchpole

Papakura Local Board chair

Go to akhaveyoursay.co.nz/lovelocal to read our plan and find out more