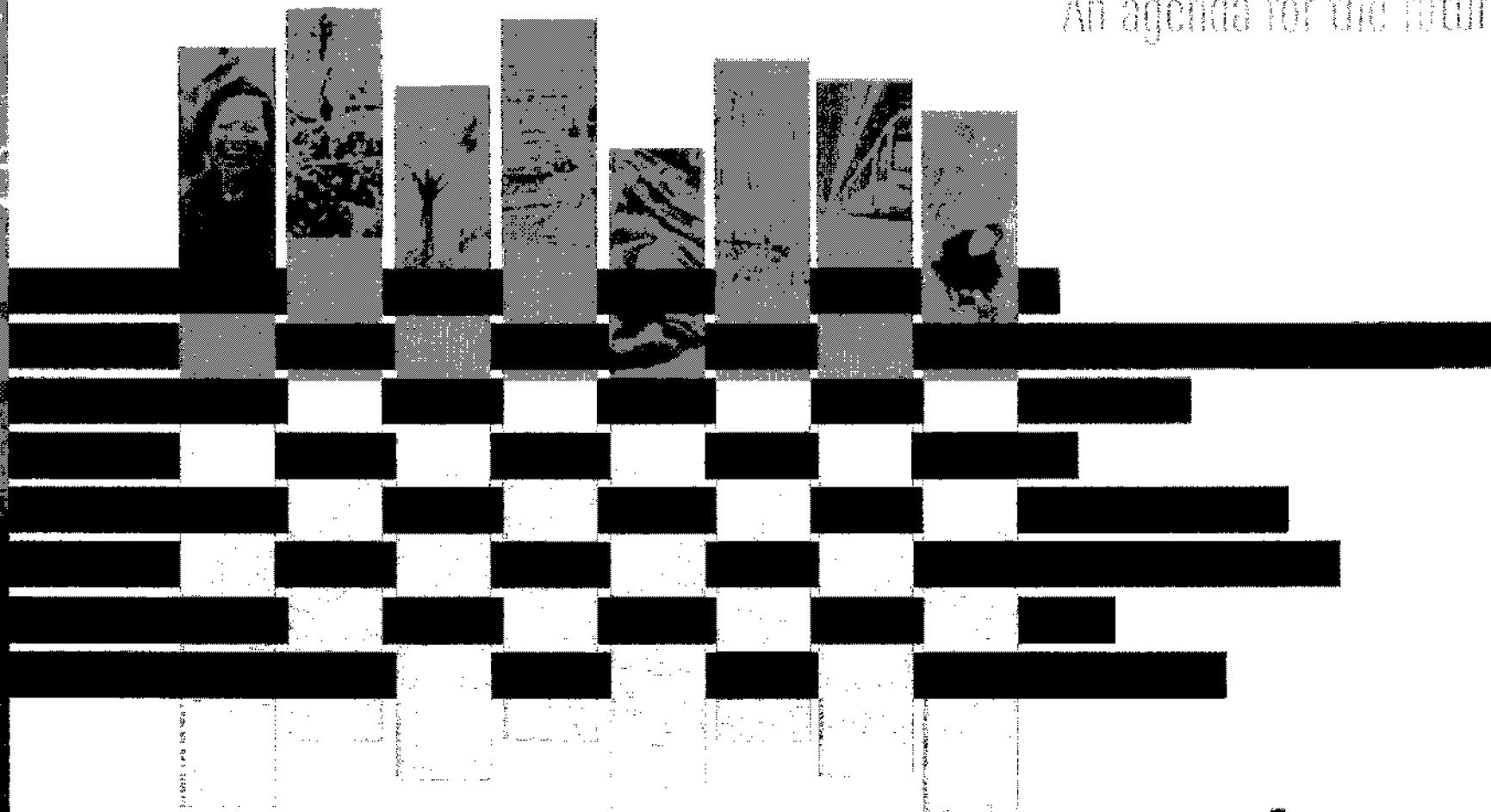


Auckland's Sustainability Framework

An agenda for the future



REGIONAL
GROWTH
FORUM

The Auckland Sustainability Framework has been developed under the auspices of the Auckland Regional Growth Forum.

It is a joint project by all the local authorities of the Auckland region:

- Auckland City Council
- Auckland Regional Council
- Franklin District Council
- Manukau City Council
- North Shore City Council
- Papakura District Council
- Rodney District Council
- Waitakere City Council.

The project is in collaboration with central government agencies coordinated via the Government Urban and Economic Development Office.

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Ko te hau o te tangata, ko te hau o te whenua

The vitality of the people, the essence of the land

Over the next 100 years, the Auckland region will face enormous change from global forces such as climate change and local trends such as high population growth. The region has to plan now so it can respond to the challenges and opportunities these changes present. This framework's long term and integrated approach to regional planning will

help ensure that Aucklanders continue to enjoy a high quality of life and leave a positive legacy for future generations.

The Framework is a collaborative effort led by all of the region's councils working with central government, Mana Whenua*, and the academic,

business and community sectors. Importantly, the process has involved the Auckland region's youth in recognition of the project's intergenerational focus. These groups have all worked together to develop a framework that will enable 21st century Auckland to achieve the following vision:

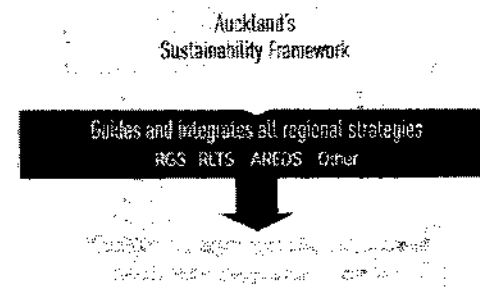
Auckland is an **INCLUSIVE** region, celebrating **KNOWLEDGE, DIVERSITY AND OPPORTUNITY**, working **WITHIN THE ECOLOGICAL LIMITS** of the region to nurture **STABLE AND ECONOMIC PROSPERITY**, creating a region that will be enjoyed

This vision will improve Aucklanders' quality of life by building upon the region's many unique and positive attributes. It will build further resilience and strength to the important social and economic role that Auckland plays in New Zealand and the Pacific, and it will establish the region as a world leader in sustainable development.

The concept of sustainability lies at the heart of this framework. It acknowledges social, cultural, environmental and economic interdependencies and the need to work within ecological limits. It recognises the challenge of long term thinking and planning when rapid change creates an uncertain future. This framework therefore focuses on developing a resilient region that can adapt to change by building strong communities and robust ecological systems, and designing flexibility into our economy, infrastructure and buildings

The Framework also acknowledges Mana Whenua as the first peoples of the region and an intimate part of the ecological and cultural fabric of the region. In response to the Framework and sustainability challenges, Mana Whenua have developed their own sustainability framework through a parallel process. The Mana Whenua framework is an unprecedented regional innovation which is built on generations of knowledge and reflects the world view of the various iwi and hapu of the region. Key linkage points have been developed between the two frameworks, so that they can be used together.

As shown below, the Framework is designed to guide regional strategies and decision-making towards sustainable outcomes.



* Refer to Glossary (p.26) for definition of Mana

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Eight Goals

The Framework is built around eight interrelated and long term goals:

- A fair and connected society
- Pride in who we are
- A unique and outstanding environment
- Prosperity through innovation
- Te Puawaitanga o Te Tangata: Self-sustaining Māori communities
- A quality, compact settlement pattern
- Resilient infrastructure
- Effective, collaborative leadership.

Achieving these long term goals will enable Auckland to take a sustainable development approach to responding to the following forces of change: climate change, unsustainable natural resource use, global economic change, population pressures and demographic change and social disadvantage. This does, however, require changing our current ways of doing things – “business as usual” is simply not an option.

Eight Shifts

The Framework’s contributors have identified the following major ‘shifts’ that must occur in our social values and expectations, and systems and processes:

- Put people at the centre of thinking and action
- Think in generations, not years
- Value Te Ao Māori
- Activate citizenship
- Create prosperity based on sustainable practices
- Reduce our ecological footprint
- Build a carbon neutral future
- Integrate thinking, planning, investment and action.

Each goal’s specific long term outcomes are defined and details are provided about a range of high level strategic responses necessary to achieve each goal.

While existing public sector commitments provide limited scope for additional programmes over the next five years, planned and existing programmes can be reviewed and aligned to this framework and work can begin on longer term prioritised change. Some immediate actions and longer term responses are suggested in this report.

Implementing the Framework

A prioritised set of headline indicators has been identified to track the region’s overall progress towards sustainable development. A more comprehensive set of possible indicators is suggested for each goal and a series of targets will be developed.

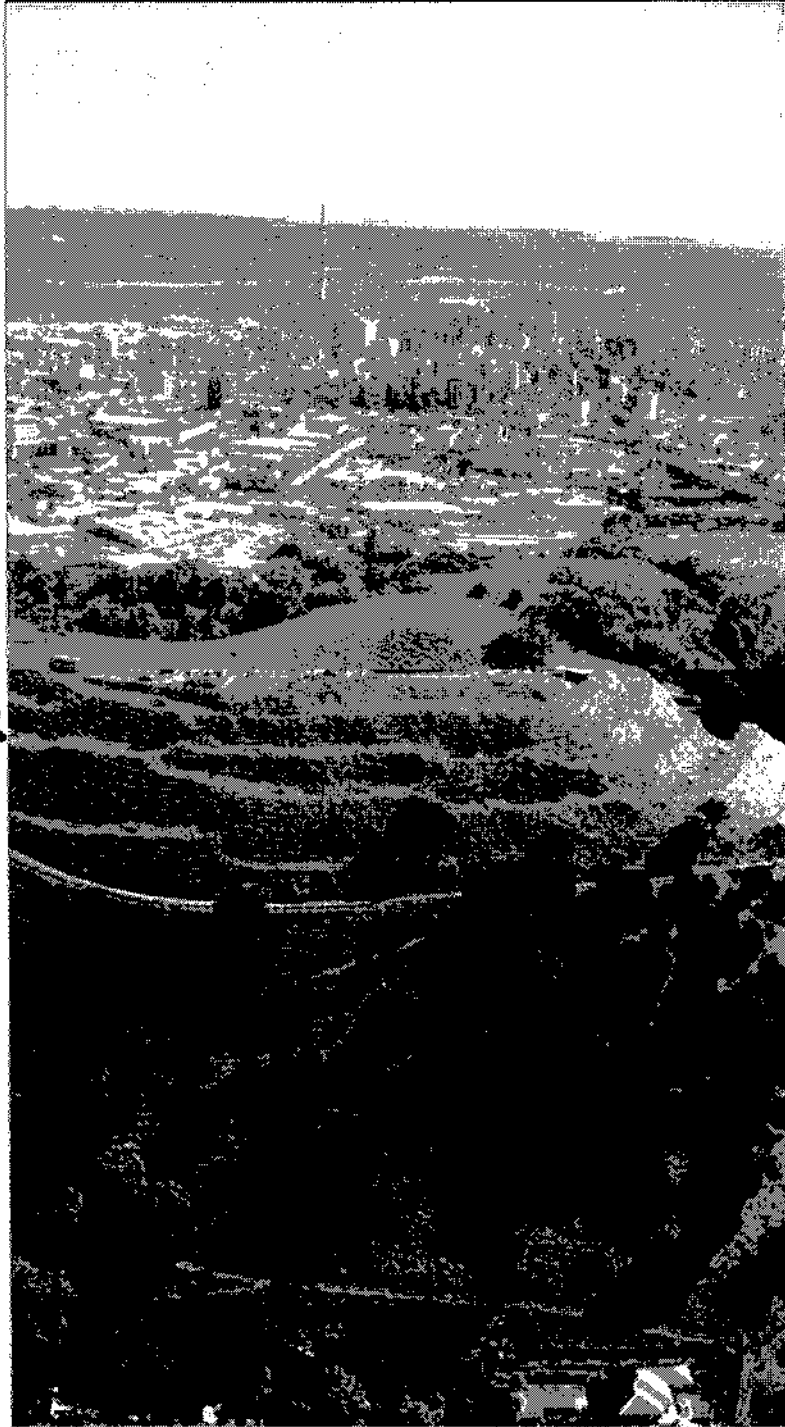
An implementation toolkit has been developed to apply the Framework to strategies and decision-making. The methodology and tools will facilitate alignment of strategies and plans, guide them towards the sustainability goals, and make any tradeoffs and synergies explicit.

Achieving a sustainable Auckland will require a change in direction, policies and behaviours. The Framework highlights several fundamental issues that need to be debated and resolved. These include how the region should build a carbon neutral future and the extent that change should be brought about by policy intervention versus market forces.

There is no denying the enormity of the journey that lies ahead. Implementing this framework will require active commitment and involvement from all levels of government, Mana Whenua and the business, rural and community sectors.

Making progress will not always be easy – or comfortable – but it’s a road well worth travelling for the sake of Aucklanders, New Zealanders – and the planet.

The Auckland region



Blessed with a temperate climate, natural resources and access to trade, the Auckland region has attracted human settlement and commerce for a thousand years. It is a coastal region, bounded by the Waitemata, Manukau and Kaipara harbours and formed by a volcanic landscape, bush clad ranges and fertile plains. Today it is home to more than a third of all New Zealanders.

Auckland's lifestyle sets it apart from other international cities. Its cosmopolitan centres, within easy reach of beaches and open space, increase Aucklanders' quality of life and provide a sense of regional identity. It draws expatriates home and is a compelling attraction to migrants.

Auckland's local Mana Whenua and our growing mix of cultures has created a fusion of identities distinguishing the region from the rest of New Zealand. At the same time Māori and Pasifika cultures provide an international point of difference.

As this country's only city-region of international scale, Auckland plays a significant social and economic role in the nation's prosperity. This role will continue to grow with much of New Zealand's future population and economic growth expected to occur in the upper North Island.

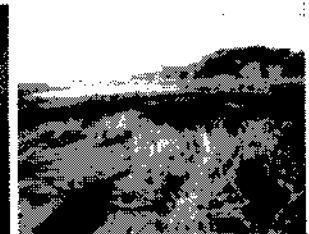
The way in which the region develops will be critical to Aucklanders' long term success and quality of life. Just as previous generations' efforts have shaped the region, the decisions made today will create an enduring legacy. Many current challenges, such as climate change

and population growth will have physical implications for the region and will influence where development occurs, what gets protected and the type of buildings and infrastructure that gets constructed.

The Regional Growth Strategy has already identified the need to minimise sprawl and encourage compact development. Work has begun and will need to continue to focus future growth in integrated centres of higher density, mixed use development connected by high quality passenger transport.

Regional decision-making will also need to reflect the interdependency and role of rural and urban areas in the region's sustainability. Rural areas are important to the region's overall health and wellbeing, offering a contrast to urban lifestyles while providing a thriving rural economy.

What we decide now will shape future Auckland. Our task is to ensure that the Auckland region remains a desirable home, where people lead rich and satisfying lives, for generations to come.



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The Framework's sustainability concept

The concept of sustainability which lies at the heart of this framework is expressed through:

- Anticipating future challenges and opportunities
- Working within ecological limits
- Acknowledging social, cultural, environmental and economic interrelationships
- Learning from the past, enhancing Auckland's current wellbeing, and creating a positive and enduring legacy
- Developing a resilient region that can adapt to change by building strong communities and robust ecological systems, and designing flexibility into our economy, infrastructure and buildings.

Mana Whenua world view

The Mana Whenua view of sustainability is anchored in a world view built on an holistic philosophy that recognises, values and treasures everything's and everyone's interconnectedness.

Stories, traditions, philosophies and values passed down from generation to generation underpin this world view. These traditions have combined to shape the Mana Whenua world view and their understandings and relationships with the natural world and act to reinforce the various relationships between the land and people and will continue to do so for the present and future generations.

In response to the Framework and the sustainability challenges, Mana Whenua have developed their own sustainability framework through a parallel process of engagement. Key linkage points have been developed between the two frameworks, so that they can be used hand in hand. This framework will be used as a regional integration point for the various Mana Whenua groups of the region as well as between Mana Whenua and the public sector. In reviewing and developing major strategies it is envisioned that decision-making is undertaken in a manner that:

- Recognises Mana Whenua as the indigenous people of the region
- Accords value to Te Ao Māori
- Gives due effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi
- Contributes to Māori needs and aspirations.

A fuller outline of the Mana Whenua framework and process is found on pages 35-37.

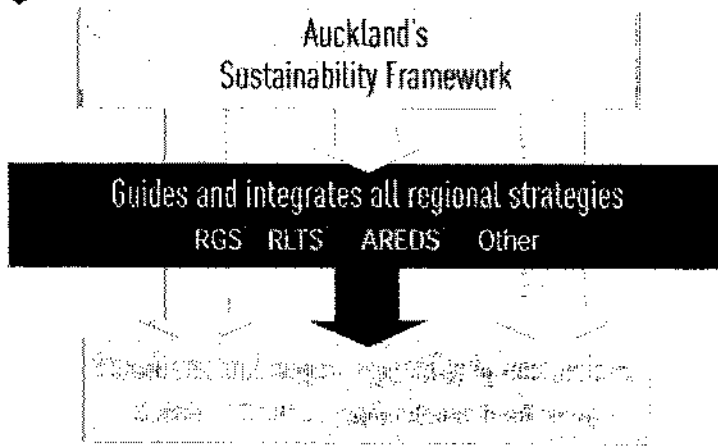


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The region's councils have worked in partnership with central government agencies, and collaborated with Mana Whenua and the academic, business and community sectors to create this long term sustainability framework. This framework is designed to align short term investment and action with long term social, economic, environmental and cultural outcomes. As shown in the diagram below it does this by:

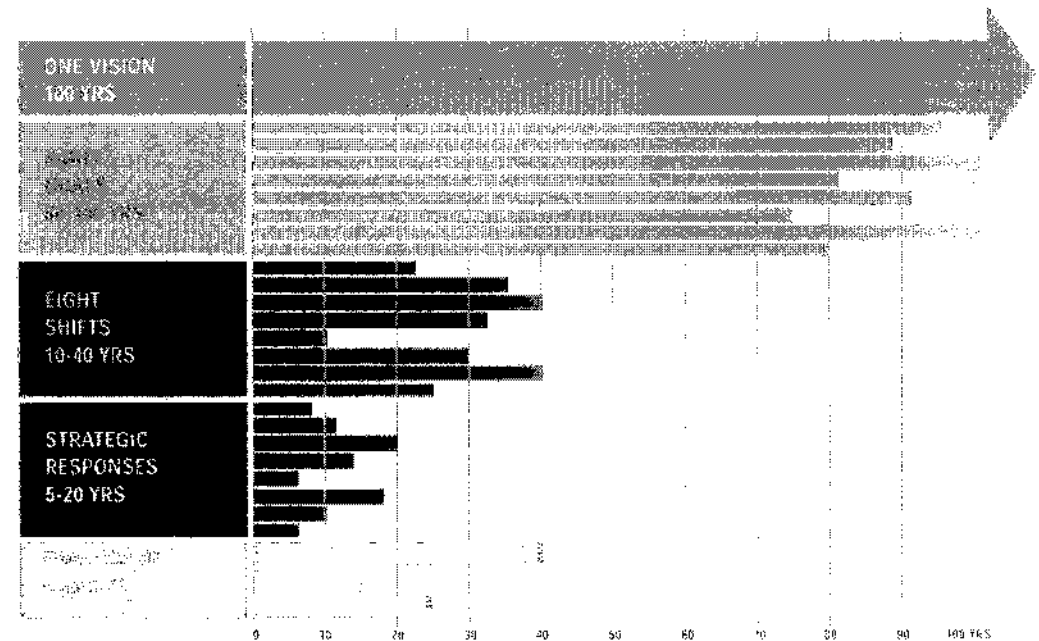
- Guiding and integrating current and future strategies and plans that affect the region
- Providing a tool for reviewing and developing regional strategies so as to ensure they deliver sustainable outcomes and have anticipated forces of change.

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RGS: Regional Growth Strategy, RLTS: Regional Land and Transport Strategy, AREDS: Auckland Regional Economic Development Strategy, LTCCPs: Long Term Council Community Plans

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The Framework's 100 year vision and long term goals facilitate effective long term planning and allow for ongoing review of challenges and responses. It is flexible enough to allow for the fact that some shifts, especially those that challenge current societal norms, could take a generation to achieve. It also accommodates shifts that could be achieved within a decade and suggests a number of short and medium term strategic responses. A range of measures is proposed to track the region's progress towards the sustainable development of the region. Although these measures will be refined over time, they should remain largely unchanged so as to track long term trends.

The Framework weaves together Auckland's interrelated aspirations – the vision and goals with the shifts and the strategic responses needed to achieve those aims. The Framework helps identify potential synergies or trade-offs between different strategies and plans.

100 YEAR VISION

GOALS

- A fair and concerted society
- People in who we are
- A unique and outstanding environment
- Prosperity through innovation
- To Pihawaitohu e te tangata
- A quality, compact settlement pattern
- Resilient, pleasant region
- Productive, collaborative, leadership

CHALLENGES

SHIFTS

- PUT PEOPLE AT THE CENTRE OF THINKING AND ACTION
- THINK IN GENERATIONS, NOT YEARS
- VALU E TE AO MAORI
- ACTIVATE CITIZENSHIP
- CREATE PROSPERITY BASED ON SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES
- REDUCE OUR ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT
- BUILD A CARBON NEUTRAL FUTURE
- INTEGRATE THINKING, PLANNING, INVESTMENT & ACTION

STRATEGIC RESPONSES

IMPLEMENTATION TOOLKIT

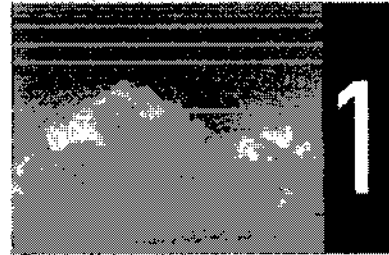
- assessment matrix
- focusing questions
- specialist assessment tools
- scenario planning

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Five sustainability challenges for the Auckland region

Traditional ways of planning for Auckland's future are becoming less effective against a backdrop of rapidly increasing global interconnectivity and increased rates of change that the region will face over the next 100 years.



Responding to CLIMATE CHANGE

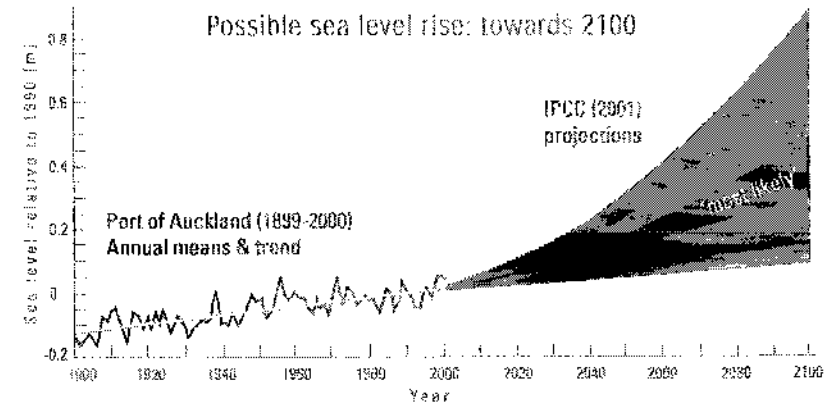
Decision-making models need to shift from specific predictions of what the future holds, to an approach that manages uncertainty and adapts to changing circumstances. Auckland's sustainability challenges will continue to evolve and addressing them in a sustainable manner requires central and local government to work together, continuously monitor developments, and adjust their planning and implementation accordingly.

As the Framework is put into effect, decision-makers will need to make some difficult decisions. Achieving a sustainable Auckland will require a change in direction, policies and behaviors. The Framework highlights several fundamental issues that need to be debated and resolved.

Climate change may result in more extreme weather and sea-level rises causing flooding, coastal inundation and erosion problems across the region. Planners and decision-makers will need to address this risk to coastal and low-lying infrastructure and development. Furthermore, higher temperatures may create public health issues such as the introduction of tropical disease and agriculture and ecological issues from biosecurity incursions.

Within 45 years, up to 200 million people worldwide are predicted to be permanently displaced due to rising sea levels, flooding and drought.² Auckland and New Zealand may face increased pressure to accept more migrants given that, by comparison, this country is likely to have fewer climate change problems. This challenge creates a number of ethical questions around the imperative to respond to the needs of climate change refugees while at the same seeking to protect our own sustainability.

Addressing climate change will require Auckland to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as part of New Zealand's overall response to its commitments under the



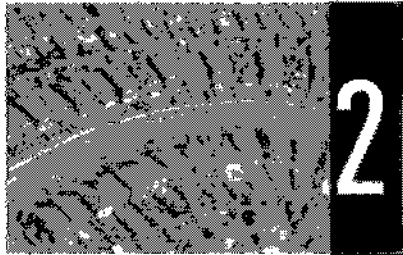
Source: Ports of Auckland Ltd, J. Hannah (Univ of Otago), NIWA

Kyoto Protocol agreements. However we do not yet know how we would build a carbon neutral future, by when, or what this specifically would mean for the economy and for Aucklanders' lifestyles. Steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions will create challenges for agriculture, transport and energy generation.

New opportunities may emerge; for example, Auckland could be well placed to reshape agricultural production so as to capitalise on warmer temperatures and increasing water scarcity in Australia and elsewhere.

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2 Doing more with less

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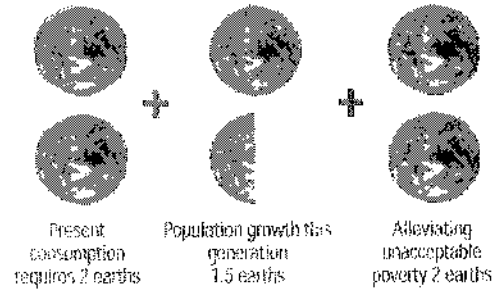
- In 2005 the population of the world reached 6.5 billion. Some predict it will peak at 9 billion by 2050. ^V
- In the past half-century the world has lost one quarter of its topsoil and one third of its forest cover. ^{VI}
- International estimates of when oil production will peak generally range from 2020 to 2050.
- World energy demand will expand by more than 50% between now and 2030. ^{VII}
- It is estimated that as many as 48% of the world's projected population will live in water stressed river basins by 2025. ^{VIII}
- It is predicted that the world's fish and seafood populations will collapse by 2048 if current trends in habitat destruction and over-fishing continues. ^{IX}
- Electricity consumption in New Zealand has more than doubled since 1974 and could double again over the next 20 years. ^X
- New Zealand's oil consumption has increased by 91% over the past 20 years. Oil is the largest single source of energy in New Zealand, at 52%. ^{XI}
- Aucklanders collectively drive approx. 22 million km per day. This is equal to driving round the circumference of the earth 548 times. ^{XII}

One of the 21st century's biggest challenges involves finding a way to reduce material consumption, use resources more efficiently and to use renewable rather than non-renewable resources. In part, resource efficiency and waste reduction can be achieved by radically improving technology and processes, requiring changes in production patterns. It will also involve changing consumption patterns such as rapidly reducing our reliance on carbon based fuels (and therefore on cars) and developing a more compact urban form.

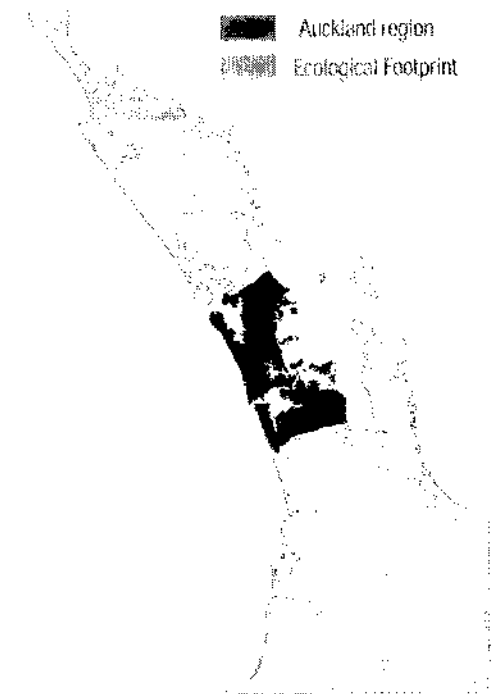
It will not be easy to achieve significant behavioural shifts at an individual or organisational level. The region needs to determine to what extent market forces will respond to sustainability opportunities and challenges and to what extent additional policy measures will be required. One consideration is the limited timeframes we may have in which to make these shifts.

In doing more with less, care must be taken to ensure that measures to moderate demand patterns (e.g. through price changes or prohibitions) do not excessively burden those who are already vulnerable, and who are financially unable to shift their demand.

The world current consumption rate will require 5.5 earths within our lifetime ^{III}



Our challenge is that we have only 1 earth!



Auckland's ecological footprint is 4.8 times the region's land area. An ecological footprint is the land needed to support Auckland's consumption.

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Capitalising on GLOBAL ECONOMIC CHANGE

New Zealand must undergo economic transformation over the next two decades if we are to capitalise on the opportunities arising from increased globalisation, and the economic rise of China and India.

Cities drive economic growth, therefore such a transformation is critical for Auckland as it is New Zealand's only urban economy that can realistically be an effective global marketplace competitor. Yet Auckland's and indeed New Zealand's small size within the global economy, and our distance from major markets, make us particularly vulnerable to global change. Auckland's challenge is to identify and develop a strong niche market role and to ensure adequate human, infrastructure and capital resources are developed to create and strengthen this position.

The Framework raises the question of what a sustainable economy will look like. For example, the export focus of the Government's Economic Transformation Strategy and regional strategies are driven by the need to provide export oriented growth opportunities for businesses that would otherwise be constrained by the domestic market's limited size. Yet oil shortages or carbon pricing could seriously threaten the viability of some current, bulky, low value exports, and drive up the cost of imports. More work will be needed to assess the possible impacts of such issues, and the best strategic responses.

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Managing population growth and DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE

Auckland's population is expected to grow by the equivalent of the Wellington region population by 2026, based on consistent population growth trends of 1.5 to 2% per annum.

Although positive from an economic development perspective, such growth will put enormous pressure on the region's environmental quality, rural land, open space and physical infrastructure. It will also change how we live, what our communities look like and our lifestyle choices. The region will need to accommodate this growth in a way that creates positive social, cultural, economic and environmental outcomes.

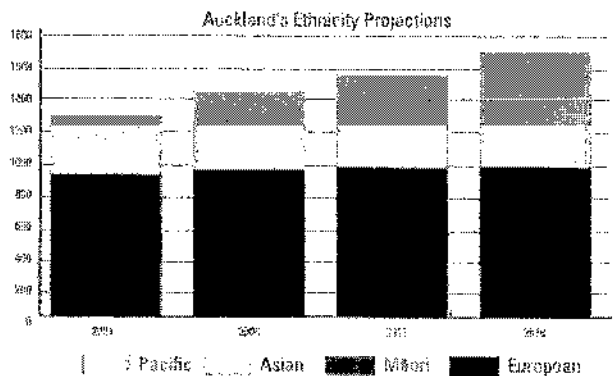
There may be increasing uncertainty around the rate and nature of Auckland's population growth. Both global and domestic factors will influence the rate and nature of Auckland's growth and the potential for shocks such as climate change migration will require the development of a greater range of scenarios for regional planning.

Auckland's population will also become more diverse. Rapid change to communities' ethnic and cultural composition will create challenges for maintaining social inclusion and shared values and aspirations throughout the region. This issue also has strong implications for public awareness of and support for indigenous people's rights and Treaty of Waitangi outcomes.



Addressing DISADVANTAGE

These challenges highlight the need to ensure diverse communities are interconnected to form a cohesive regional community.



Source: Statistics Now Zealand (2009), Subnational Ethnic Projection.

By 2025 there will be more people over 65 than people aged 16 years and under. The ageing of Auckland's population is predicted to affect demand for health and aged-care services, labour supply and housing. The region will need to be able to adapt to these changing needs and will need to find ways to maximise opportunities for young and old to fully participate in society.

The Auckland region must address disparities in opportunities and incomes, particularly for the most disadvantaged people living in the most disadvantaged communities. Decreasing access to affordable housing, poor health status and educational failure has resulted in endemic problems in some communities, particularly Māori, Pacific peoples and some recent migrant groups.

At the same time disadvantage has a geographic dimension, resulting in concentrations of relatively poor people in what are becoming quite deprived neighbourhoods. Such concentrations are likely to undermine sustainability efforts and potentially threaten the region's economic prosperity and social cohesion through long term social polarisation, and antisocial or criminal behaviour.

This prospect raises questions around how the benefits of economic growth are shared and around the extent of economic/social polarisation that is acceptable. The ongoing challenge is how to lift incomes across the board, reduce social/economic extremes and prevent the region from having geographic areas of deprivation.

ANS

Ko te hau o te tangata, ko te hau o te whenua

The vitality of the people, the essence of the land

This shared 100 year vision provides long term direction for the region. The vision reflects the aspirations of the Auckland region's Youth Voice, acknowledging the up-coming generation's role in creating the future.

Auckland is an **INTERCONNECTED COMMUNITY**, celebrating **KNOWLEDGE, DIVERSITY AND OPPORTUNITY**, working within the ecological limits of the region to **NURTURE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROSPERITY**, creating a region that will be enjoyed ...**FOREVER**.

Achieving this vision requires implementing the following eight interrelated long term goals:



GOAL	GOAL	GOAL	GOAL	GOAL	GOAL	GOAL	GOAL
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
A fair and connected society	Pride in who we are	A unique and outstanding environment	Prosperity through innovation	Te Puawaitanga o Te Tangata <small>self sustaining Māori communities</small>	A quality, compact settlement pattern	Resilient infrastructure	Effective, collaborative leadership

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