Auckland Issues: report on on-line April 2013 survey

Working Paper 3

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AUT University
April 2013

(1) Introduction: the study

In order to gauge the issues which might be particularly relevant in the forthcoming 2013 elections the AUT SuperCity? Team commissioned a small-to-moderate sample (n=332) of Auckland residents which was carried out on-line by Buzz using their panelists. Quotas for age and gender were set and respondents were confined to Auckland. The data should provide an adequate coverage of the views of Aucklanders, but of course with the limits imposed by having a sample drawn only from not just internet users but those enrolled on the Buzz panel.
Respondents were asked their views on the importance (both to themselves personally and to Auckland) of a range of issues and were probed (for the top 3 issues in relation to Auckland which they mentioned) what was their particular concern, and they were also asked if there were other issues not included in our set (which produced few other answers). In order to probe for the extent to which respondents felt Auckland Council was responsible for issues we asked respondents to rate each issue and finally we asked them to consider issues likely to be relevant into the future so we had a longer term view.

Sections included:
- Demographics: Local Board, Gender, Age & Education
- Questions concerning knowledge of and interest in elections included: awareness of forthcoming election, likely, likelihood of voting, and estimation of interest of other Aucklanders, and likelihood of a high voting turnout.
- Top 3 Issues with open-ended response asked to clarify each
- Personal contemporary concerns about, attribution of Council responsibility for and likely future importance of a set of issues.

The issues listed were drawn from earlier surveys and refined after a pre-test phase in the survey (the 1st 50 responses were reviewed for any indication of ambiguity or that other issues needed to be covered):

- Economy
- Education
- Elderly
- Environment
- Ethnic relations
- Foreign policy and relations
- Health
- Immigration and outmigration
- Housing availability
- Housing design and/or quality issues
- Law and order
- Politics and electoral issues
- Population growth and sustainability
- Social issues
- Public transport
- Unemployment
- Wages
- Welfare
- Youth
- Private transport
- Neighbourhood and city facilities Parks, reserves etc.

After presenting the quantitative results, the answers to the open-ended questions for each of their top three concerns which the respondents gave are displayed to obtain a closer feel for their thinking.
(2) Key Results

Top issues that Auckland was accorded responsibility for included Neighbourhood and City facilities, Public transport, Housing design/quality, Environment, housing availability and population growth/sustainability. Current and further issues received similar rankings with top issues being public transport, law & order, Health, Housing availability the economy, and population growth/sustainability. The rankings and then scores for the list for each of the 3 questions is given in Table 1.

Table 1: Issues – Responsibility, Current and Future

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<th>Rank for Future</th>
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| Question                                                                 | Yes | No  | Not VI | Not I | Neither | Interest | V Int. | Not VL | Not L | 6.6% | 12.7% | 25.3% | 34.9% | 20.5% | 4.5% | 3.9% | 4.5% | 24.1% | 48.2% | 20.2% | 3.0% | 36.9% | 27.2% | 36.0% |}
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|--------|-------|---------|----------|--------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|-----|-----|------|-------|-------|------|-----|------|------|-------|
### Issues: Summary table (In order of asking)

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<th>Auckland</th>
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(6) Rankings of Items for Each round of Questions

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(7) Qualitative Responses: Comments on the Various Issues

**Economy**

Economy is the main issue. The future and prosperity of a country depends upon its strong economy.

Economy first or all else will fail.

Economy is always important... without it the city will go down the gutter.

Economy just needs to be stable.

economy must be boost up.

government needs to pay up its debt and be debt free so that country can improve its own economy and be financially secured for running the country.

higher interest rate.

Hoping economy keys growing to benefit more people with jobs/wages etc.

How to get over the GFC.

I feel that most people are struggling with wage/salary increases not keeping up with inflation.

I think the current council is taking more and more money from us to pay for large 'unwanted' (by ratepayer) projects. Most of us are paying more for other things like waste water and would rather see the money being spent on real issues.

I want to be sure we are not overburdened by stupid schemes.

If the economy is good everything else is relatively good.

If the economy is good more people are employed and everyone is happy.

if we have enough money to pay for all the schemes.

It effects the spending power of my limited income.

Keep prices to a minimum.

Links to everything - better business = better economy = more jobs = better salaries and less unemployment. I contract not through choice but because more organisations take on contractors because of the uncertain economy.

LOW

Maintaining and increasing the viability of Auckland as a global business centre.

making sure that business is booming and providing for employment.

Mismanagement by councils are very costly.

Need to ensure that Auckland has a growing economy so that people can have jobs and can afford Council spending.

Need to ensure wide range of employment options available.

Need to have a good economy to help support growth in Auckland.

need to keep Auckland growing and stop putting impediments in the way.

need to sustain growth.

Nothing happens without a strong economy. It is the driver of everything.

our council is out of control with its spending.

Problem of maintaining lifestyle on fixed or falling net income.

stable economy.

Strong economy equals strong city.

Sustainability.

Sustainable strong economy for Auckland.

The better Auckland does the better we all do and it would improve my husband's business.

The economy nationally is not performing well under current settings and will only change with a change in policies and government party.

The relative lack of willingness for a systematic life-long (retirement capital) savings policy for economic growth acceleration through investment in N Z as a priority at least until excessive unemployment is overcome - achievable through amending the NZSF into a permanent institution.

The state of the economy is not great. Country's debt level is high.

This is reflected in the rating system from which I am stung because I have lived in the area for over 65 years. I also believe that there are areas where large pools of money are not effectively spent. Current economic planning has the potential to broaden the gap between the so called wealthy suburbs and other areas that have huge sums of money spent within it on the basis of lower income.

Unemployment rates in the city. Affordable food pricing and groceries in poorer socio economic areas. Very important for the growth of the city.

We need leaders who ensure the economy is running to its potential. Too much spending or borrowing is detrimental to Auckland's future.

We need to make sure that we are not overspending on council items without getting a return or something that will not help build our economy.
We seem to have a very short term view of things economy and business wise. While the green image is important we need to catch-up with the rest of the world business wise and not be so obsessed with our sheep and cows. We need to explore other avenues to increase wealth as Australia has so successfully done. This does not mean compromise on beautiful NZ.

We should do all possible to make Auckland a business friendly city where companies will want to invest and settle = more jobs.

Where it goes
Where will the money come from?
Without a healthy economy we will no grow as a region.
Without a strong economy it's difficult to get anything done.
without money not much can be done
You need a stable economy to grow.
You need an economy to keep going.

Education

Coming from overseas, I am concerned at the level of written English and maths that I come across in the work place here and from professional people. I really want better than that for my daughter.

I feel that some of our schools are getting too big and that when this is the case it is easy for those students who are middle of the road students to slip through with little attention.

Kids seem out of control, schools should have programmes that engage them at whatever level they are at and give them some direction and hope.

Little planning appears to have been done for inner city school growth, we are in Grey Lynn and the rolls are bursting, where is the huge influx of proposed population growth going to be schooled???

Start buying land and building now.

Maintaining educations standards, zoning issues, affordability
Making sure that all our young, no matter their socioeconomic status, are getting a quality education
making sure youth are getting a valuable education, and taking the means to get it in a cost effective, accessible way
Quality education, resources, teaching. There are major disparities in education across Auckland that need addressing.
Quality of education, available facilities
Schools in the area are woefully inadequate. The teachers are not accountable for bad behaviour, and the schools do not meet educational requirements of the children.

The tail of young, poor, etc. and the preposterous assumption by vested interests that charter schools will successfully address this. I'm also concerned that the increased transporting of children across the city to attend these schools will have unforeseen consequences in increased congestion resulting in further demand for road building.

The low standard of our education in NZ and the arrogant ignorance of the Govt regarding charter schools and the impact that they will have on children already slipping through the cracks, not to mention the unthought-of 'bigger picture', e.g.:

crime rates - i.e.: if Charter Schools are permitted to choose education days/times then youth will be out on the streets at times when most other children will be in school - leaving room for unsupervised youth to develop unsocial behaviour and be groomed for criminal activities.

There are major issues in relation to youth who do not succeed in traditional education settings -- particularly for Maori, PI and migrant/refugee students. While the government is trialling a number of initiatives, many of these do not actually lead to work options. Also, with the push to move level-2 certificate programmes to PTEs students, while being provided with excellent pastoral care at some of these institutions, are not receiving the literacy and numeracy skills they needs, are being kept a step removed from tertiary education and not acquiring the skills they need to succeed in higher education.

Too many kids slipping thru the system. Wandering aimlessly causing trouble, where are the truant officers. Too many teachers getting away with breaking the law, and causing devastating effects on the children.

Without correct education facilities, our teachers are not able to teach properly. Our youth will then stray, which will lead to trouble later on in life. For them and the people around them

Access to quality education for all ages / ethnicities.
Accessibility and choice for my children to go to high quality schools
concerns about charter schools and Novopay
Education breeds understanding
Education costs are changing making it so that some people cannot afford to attend a university.
education is key
Education is the basis of so much. Training people for jobs that are there e.g. engineering.
Education is the key for a child’s success. without it they are doomed
I doubt that's an Auckland issue really - it's the government. But education and the rightist ideology taking over is of huge concern to me.
I have a child and wish to see a broader selection of educational facilities available - particularly in relation to alternative education.

I have special needs children and I feel they do NOT get a fair deal in regard to schooling.

I'm a Teacher Aide working in a decile 10 school - voluntarily. It is a very good school. Most in Auckland are. I volunteer in an E.S.O.L department and I just think every child should have the same right to education as the next - regardless of race or learning ability.

Just all the talk on TV about the education costs - they are concerning kids are the future

Lack of support and options for tamariki to attend QUALITY Maori Medium education - especially in the areas where they live! not happy

Problems that we faced prior to NCEA have not diminished. The current thoughts of introducing schools with unqualified teachers are going down the same road. Our youth of today are going to be ill equipped to correct the errors our current politicians decisions have forced upon them which is going to be a sad outcome for all right education

See this a as an important tool to improve society and the way it operates.

Strong economy needs a knowledgeable skilled workforce

student loans and allowances

That as much remains publicly funded as possible. That student loans are available indiscriminately. That public schools are decile rated. That low decile schools receive additional funding to boost levels and create a better learning environment. That student fees are not increased.

That it should be accessible to each person who wants it and affordable and above all seen as desirable to all groups of people.

That the beliefs of the GERM movement are not implemented. Teachers have too much paper work etc. etc. and they are less able to dedicate themselves to quality teaching. Kids’ education can suffer.

The direction that is being taken by politicians at the moment towards privatising education concerns me greatly. There needs to be a strong focus on equity in our education system.

The high numbers of students and Teacher/Pupil ratios.

The quality of schools in west Auckland is quite poor.

We need to have the schools all providing an equal education system and engaging the students in an education to take them to the future. Not lower deciles having less options. All schools equal.

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**Elderly**

A very vulnerable group in our society today as they age & become frail & needing some support & care. Many of these people cared for family members over their lives as that was the way then. Even worse than the 'dump them in a rest home and ignore them so I can enjoy life attitude is the don't spend my inheritance attitude now developing. I see this as a consequence of the self-reliance message from Milton Friedman's free market economies so prevalent in the 80's that caused so much suffering world-wide. This attitude gave rise to a selfishness and greed that is appalling compared to the values they replaced.

An extension required of the discounts available to Gold Card holders i.e. on rates, water rates, electricity, private health cover

Feel there is inadequate support for elderly, both financial and practical, and very much user-pays

Good rest home facilities. Rest homes accountability for care

I don't think there is enough done for our elderly. Most of them have given their time, talents and taxes to support this region, and some are not even able to support themselves.

I would like to see additional support for their independent living, yet with enough on-site support to lead a healthy, safe, fruitful life.

Lack of council run pensioner villages where the council provides low rent 1-2 bedroom units for older people. not everyone can afford to buy their units

Many elderly people are living hand to mouth, week to week, afraid to use too much electricity in the colder weather as it is at present - because the 'have too much week left at the end of the money'.

Population is growing older (obviously!) But the proportion of elderly is getting higher. With all the failed finance companies etc. and loss of savings, and fairly low pension, a lot of elderly will be struggling.

Rates Too High and getting worse, Not better

The care of our elderly needs to be considered where they are, access to facilities and their safety in the community. A citywide, compulsory discount card for pensioners.

The increasing numbers of elderly across Auckland, particularly those with dementia. NZ statistics state that the predicted number for NZ'ers diagnosed with dementia is set to increase to 2.6% of the population by 2050. This aspect also includes the family members caring for the elderly and making sure there is proper support for both aspects.
There must be more emphasis and support for the aging population, e.g. access to public transport, health facilities, housing facilities like retirement villages with independent living.

Aging population needs more consideration for their continued involvement in life and helping them to be independent as possible. When then is not possible provide suitable care for them.

Cost of daily living increases all the time made so by having to pay GST on everything.

General inadequacy of government funding for aged care providers.

housing and transport
housing for elderly provided by city at affordable rental
Housing for the aged is a requirement.
I am going to become one of these soon so ticked that box
I think more could be done for the elderly in terms of health and housing
I visit some Old folks care homes on the North Shore and am concerned that less care is being taken of the residents over the last few years.

more special care for the elderly
need cheaper housing for the elderly
not enough facilities for elderly care
Obscene profits being made by some retirement home operators

 provision of facilities
That they can still afford rates to live in their homes.
the elderly are not being looked after once retired
the elderly are not given a fair go—we are invisible
Too much lenience given to them. Need to cut down
Where they will be housed? Services available? Transport for them?

Environment

A clean healthy environment means atmospheric and water clarity should meet high standards contributing to a healthy population.

A reasonable effort has been put into this but not enough by far. Water Catchment needs to be part of new building practice, along with Water purification - particularly large apartment buildings and industrial buildings. Solar Power should also be mandatory. All streams need to be closely monitored. Plantings private and public need to

air and water quality, protecting our marine resources
Council can do something here. Real issues like economy, health, education etc. are central govt ones.

Council needs to encourage sustainable living as part of the most liveable city; protect heritage trees and enable these trees to be scheduled across the region

Emphasis must be put on maintaining and improving our environment, e.g. recycling, air and water quality, green spaces.
I don't like the idea of the unitary plan to develop high rise buildings ins suburbs such as Milford. I think it will cause congestion, pollution and overcrowding.

I feel we are not doing enough to protect our waterways, air pollution & there is very little natural habitat for animals
If we build more roads, build on all green areas and pollute our city, it will not be worth living in
It is going backwards. New invasive species and pathogens, central government has abandoned the regions on this.
It's a broad subject that is affected by so many others, e.g., transport, industry, sustainability, overpopulation, etc.
Keep waterways, sea, clean, more marine reserves, stop net fishing in harbour and beaches. Keep planting native trees, maintain walking tracks.

Low Air and water quality, Green areas being lost to roading
Making sure that it is thought about when political decisions are made, so that more than money is considered

Minimising loss of green space due to new motorway, quality sports fields, maintenance of public green spaces

Need for more open space; biosecurity esp. plant pest control in ecological areas; water quality in streams and coastal marine area; state of environment in Hauraki Gulf; over-fishing; loss of wetlands and forest; loss of species such as Maui's dolphins, seabirds etc.; kauri dieback

Pollution and air quality native flora and fauna conservation quality of water in both harbours I don't want to see the port extended

There are several concerning environmental issues that are taking place in Auckland at the moment. For example - The high levels of air pollution, traffic congestion, Huge amounts of Moth plant growing everywhere that the council seems unwilling to do anything about particularly that growing along the southern motorway and main train-line a
Want to keep Auckland as a special place to live where you can get the best of both worlds - nice living standards but good economy in a beautiful city with clean beaches and beautiful parks, bush, forests. Would much prefer urban sprawl than high rises in beach areas.

waste management reforestation public spaces
We all know why the environment is important. Clean and Green is what NZ would like to be, and should be.

We must ensure that people are in healthy environments, that nature is nurtured too and that our carbon footprint is reduced. We need to reduce private car usage and encourage cycling for example. Community gardens need substantial support. The absurd nonsense over charging for planting fruit trees must stop.

We need to do everything we can to reduce emissions, for reasons of both health and climate change.

We need to keep pressure on farmers to keep stock from polluting waterways, reduce street and industry runoff into the sea. Continue to provide regional reserves. Reduce vehicle exhaust pollution in the city and provide charging points for electric vehicles.

Well the environment in general, there are too many trees being chopped down to make way for houses crammed into very small sights. There is not being enough done by individuals to care for the environment either.

With more and more people moving to Auckland, there will be great pressures on the environment, which is already fragile. The desire to increase the size of the container terminal impacts severely on the harbour, which is a unique and beautiful asset to Auckland. If the terminal is build out into the harbour, it will be permanently damaged.

Auckland can’t grow and take the environment for granted damaging it further. It needs to be done cleanly with no added effect on the harbours etc.

Auckland is a terrible polluted city with a poor public transport system. I believe that if cyclists had their own dedicated space on pavements it would make this mode of transport more popular as riding on the roads is a hazard.

Concerned about impact of environment on health and also maintaining green space
Continue to upgrade water systems
Duh… Sort of the basis of life.
I am an environmentally conscious so all environmental issues concern me
I don’t want Auckland to get more compact
I want to know we are building a city which is sustainable beyond peak oil.

Important to our long term survival
Insufficient progress being made towards sustainability and cleaning Auckland up
Long term effects of caring for the environment is very important to keep Auckland as an excellent city to live in

Many areas in our electorate are grubby and un cared for. Often rubbish is dumped on kerbs and grass and footpaths are untidy. Our footpaths are in very bad repair. Shame on you Auckland council!!!!

Minimising the impact of development.
Need clean air and water and as many natural areas retained as possible. Parks and reserves are essential for health and wellbeing. More weed control needed
Need to develop a more environmentally aware culture
Need to ensure that regional parks are kept accessible and unchanged

New Zealand sells itself largely on our environment. Most areas have natural features that are worth preserving and beautifying. The environment certainly impacts on ur lifestyles. Open spaces are need and wind tunnels etc. of high rise buildings merely make a beautiful view to facility cold and unpleasant.

Our city is filthy
Protect environment
protecting the environment and recycling
Protection of public ally owned outdoor spaces
Rubbish was around everywhere.
they need to create a good safe environment for us to live in

Too many products being disposed are made of environmentally unfriendly materials
waterways not monitored properly

Ethnic Relations
It is important that immigrants are not used as scapegoats, as traditionally happens during tough times. In my experiences they are hard-working and eager to be part of the communities in which they live.

nothing
Organizing a few festivals does not amount to integration of the ethnic minority (the non-Caucasian community). Ethnic minority are regularly discriminated on jobs more so with Crown owned institutions. This is despite good qualifications and NZ experience. The staffing pattern should reflect the p

With such a diverse mix of immigrants, the social pressures could (and do) lead to explosive social problems.
Foreign policy and relations
must have good relationship with other smaller nation as well as big guns, so that they have the best of relation, government should not be
We are small but we should be involved in the world around us and build and strengthen relations with Aus, US and other Pacific countries.
refused
Too many foreign investors are coming in with cash borrowed from banks overseas with very low interest rates and buying up property in NZ.
We need to make sure we have the right allies in case of threat of terrorism
Total

Health
A discount, not premium, on private health cover
Also very subpar. GP's not able to follow up with simple problems, Hospital sending people home untreated.
Auckland's health system is failing those most in need, in that care for the elderly, those with disabilities and for mothers and babies in poor areas, does not meet the standard needed to optimally support these groups. Caregivers for the elderly and disabled are paid atrociously low wages and many do not receive the professional development and support they need to care properly for their charges. Thus, vulnerable people can be living in appalling conditions with no redress available. Far too many women are still turning up to give birth having had no previous contact with the healthcare system. We need to develop community initiatives to help address these issues but we also need local and central government support.
Costs need to be looked at, so low income people have easier access
Good healthcare is vital, need access to world class hospitals, a&e's and services/support networks
I know MANY people who come out of hospital sicker than when they went in. Just a few weeks ago a close family member had routine elective surgery at North Shore Hospital and contracted MRSA (super bug resistant to antibiotics) within the surgical wound. HOW can that sort of thing be acceptable??
I want our health services to be first class.
I'd like to see education regarding health issues focussed on, from a holistic point of view. This would ensure cultural, spiritual and environmental needs are covered. e.g. teach people the Maori health ways with plants
Keeping people well informed on their health by way of support and promotion for better living by way of exercise, healthful eating, in an affordable and accessible way. Perhaps channelling funds into private, low or no cost gyms, in addition to the hospital system.
Poor housing leads to poor health and little is being done to upgrade the existing state housing stock. I also have my doubts about the published Health board stats. I expect that they are being rorted.
The hospitals are too full. Also it is ridiculous that you have to pay for an ambulance, especially when Wellington runs a free service.
The rising obesity levels due to the fact that healthy food is just not accessible due to the price. And junk food being at a cheaper price, so by default people will obviously choose junk food.
Too expensive, even with insurance
Too many needy people unable to afford operations and the health care they need. Delays in treating people with cancer. Time on the waiting lists for operations concerns me. Only people with a lot of money can afford private health cover.
Elderly need it most as they get older, yet the cost of cover is not sustainable.
waiting lists too long--Lincoln Rd hospital for example-withdrawn hip surgery I live between New Lynn and Avondale-have to go to North Shore Greenlane Middlemore or Auckland Hospital for treatment
We have poor access to afterhour’s medical care in Franklin. And afterhours parking in Middlemore is TERRIBLE. There are very few parks for A&E and you never know how long you are allowed to park in them. And there are very few parks anywhere else near the entrance. If you have to park long term, you have to park around the back and there is no safe way through the hospital as it is all locked up, so you have to walk right around the outside in the dark, in an area known for crime. I have had to walk, carrying my baby in a capsule, right around the building at 3am to get back to my car. Terrible terrible terrible. And at a time when you are already stressed or unwell.
We need to do our best to maintain environments where Aucklanders can live healthily - not just medically healthy, but mentally healthy and socially healthy as well. I would love to see Auckland become a smokefree city.
While there have been advances made in several areas of improving health services, there are still many that need to be addressed, including in mental health and in services available in West Auckland/Waitakere
will more people coming into Auckland we need to ensure our health system stays on top otherwise it won't be able to cope, its hardly coping now
access to facilities
Affordability of and access to health services
All New Zealanders should have access to good health care. A large city has special difficulties in delivery of care. Always important to be well funded. As a country we are getting bigger and eating less well. WE need to focus on less fast food advertising and more good healthy advertising for fruits and veges. Availability equally to all Aucklanders for services Availability of medical & hospital services Availability to be treated asap in the public hospitals. Better hospital facilities in the west needed. Cheap adequate health care is important to me. The blood clinic in Ponsonby is a joke as it requires private transport to get to it. Concern that an aging population is putting more and more pressure on the public health system. Cost Every needs good health so we need a good health system everyone should be entitled to care Good health = good living. health facilities must be increased Health services are compromised by poor transport access Healthcare is inadequate for children. Total fee healthcare for all children at school. Without proper healthcare they cannot learn. Hospital admissions I bless our health system every day. I'd hate to be overseas in the USA and get hit by a bus. Everyone gets care in NZ. I suffer from chronic pain and my concern with how government treats disabled is very concerning. I'm concerned that government is seeking to erode the human right of health and well-being. Improving health outcomes of Pacific Islander and Maori and populations in lower socioeconomic groups Length of hospital waiting lists. LOW more people need to see chiropractors Need to encourage more whanau to become smokefree Need to ensure top class health for tax payers and their dependants and ensure non tax payers are paying for their own health requirements. Also ensure health workers are financially rewarded not happy NZers overall should be more aware of their health. Overcrowding of emergency departments parking at hospital for disabled people useless people have to be made aware of looking after themselves more Polynesian health issues draining health resources. Prescription payments increased Public system is getting worse. The Aging longer living population and waiting lists at Hospitals The health of children and the elderly is very important and what it costs to see the doctor and get medication must be kept low and assistance given. The health system is failing primarily because the allocated money is going into management - mostly incompetent - rather than into supposedly lower levels such as nursing where it can have an immediate effect The healthier the society the less we have to spend The varying cultures and lifestyles of the highly populated area of the Auckland region means that there a wide variety of the health needs for the community at large...... The waiting times for public health care can be long and there is a huge discrepancy for rehabilitation offered to those under ACC as opposed to those who require rehab for a medical event/condition. However from my experience once you are in the public system you do receive good care. Too long waiting lists Treatment should be available for everyone We have been promised a fully functioning hospital in west Auckland for forty years and Waitakere is now been downgraded again to a small country type hospital. to have to travel 45-60 minutes to your nearest hospital in a place like new Zealand is ludicrous We need our hospitals and medical facilities to be available to all Aucklanders and not be wasting health money on overseas patients.
**Immigration and outmigration**

It seems that all immigrants wish to live in Auckland but that's not desirable, in my opinion. There has to be a curb on immigration if we can't figure out some way to encourage jobs in the rest of the country.

Language barrier, Chinese buyers in the housing market

Stricter controls for immigration, need to employ Kiwis first in jobs.

That we get the right types of immigrants in (ones who can speak English FLUENTLY, and who have qualifications useful to our economy, no matter where they're from) and we stop all our NZ-qualified people from leaving!

There are too many immigrants being allowed into the country. The Govt has recently sold half of the North Island's forestry (and land it grows upon) to the Chinese Govt, as well as the permission that has been granted to China to build and operate a milk powder plant - John Key has been on camera stating that it will make jobs for New Zealanders, this is rubbish! The new owners will bring in their own people, or they will hire their 'own' people already living in NZ. The country cannot afford more immigrants - especially those who have never worked here and are claiming Superannuation!

Too many immigrants coming to Auckland. Elderly Chinese coming here and getting superannuation after 10 years without having to work, their families who sponsor them often go to Australia and that family contributes nothing to NZ.

Immigration policies supporting poor immigrants rather than selecting wealthy ones, the tax take getting spread thinner.

too many people coming in for infrastructure to cope with, driving up prices

We are allowing too many immigrants from Asia (China, India in particular). They are a drain on our welfare system and don’t integrate particularly well in the community.

We are allowing too much immigration that is not in the interests of current New Zealanders. Population growth keeps being talked about as if it is inevitable, as if we can have nothing to say about it, no policy to make, no democracy governing it. Too many people are immigrating especially in the family reunification category who have little to contribute to our country or city, and too many of them are coming to Auckland. There should be policies to discourage immigrants from settling in Auckland. For example, those who settle in Auckland should be less able to bring their relatives in, by deducting points from Auckland residents.

Auckland in particular has had to support a deluge of people ethnically different from the resident population. This has affected housing prices in particular and all immigration should be stopped.

I want local areas to be able to kick undesirables out of the area.

illegal immigrant

Immigration is part responsible for the lack of housing and sustainability in Auckland. Control of numbers of immigrants wishing to live in Auckland may need to be considered to help control the predicted growth in future years. I have no issue with outmigration

Less refugees. We have enough poor people to look after.

Opposition from some bigots

There are too many immigrants being allowed to move to Auckland when the city is not big enough for born and bred citizens. Yet it's not so easy for Kiwis to move overseas if we choose to leave - why is that? Should be equal both ways if NZ is going to keep it's borders open.

Too little control of migrants from 3rd world countries.

Too much immigration into Auckland which is places stress on all public services when we are going to stop I feel like a stranger in my own country

When we get a Chinese Mayor (or Prime Minister) this or next election do not be surprised. Original and English/European New Zealanders are out-numbered in Auckland by various Asian and Polynesian races. Have you come to believe that the burgeoning Pacific Polynesian races are New Zealanders as they are not - or have we encouraged their population explosion by providing comfortable welfare-assisted living? Chinese come her to circumvent one-child-policy. What does that mean? It means that un-monitored population growth can cause a problem. The Government is causing the problem. Why should the Auckland Ratepayers finance this uns

**Housing availability**

Affordability, the new plan

As a basic investment needed for each individual, a basic universal savings rate together with KiwiSaving (and accelerated productivity and earning rates) would go a long way towards widening home ownership potential.

Being smart about where housing is, is not moving all state housing to ghettos, consulting with communities

Enough, cheaper rentals etc.

Good availability will mean lower prices/rents, less stress for home-seekers, and a more contented population. Ideally most of it should be near public transport

having enough suitable good quality housing for people to rent in most areas of Auckland, especially for the Elderly who don't have equity to afford their own homes or retirement village
I don’t like the idea of the unitary plan to develop high rise buildings ins suburbs such as Milford. I think it will cause congestion, pollution and overcrowding.

It is getting quite ridiculous, and desperately needs sorting. Especially with the amount of people who have now flooded into Auckland, and it is getting worse.

lack of affordable, disable accessible houses

Lack of affordable land supply and new housing; cost barriers to building new housing, consequent rising prices

Land must be released from private ownership for development for the greater good of the residents of the area.....Council must find some way of getting around greedy land owners, and perhaps compulsory purchase at a set hectare rate would solve the problem. The land involved is grossly overvalued.

Many of the aforementioned elderly people, and many others are suffering because there is no way they can buy a home, and also the rents are escalating at an alarming rate because, I assume, there are landlords out there who believe that all it takes is a trip to WINZ and their tenants will get the shortfall required with no questions asked. We know that this is not the case.

Much like our roading, seems to be a case of too little too late being done to cope with demand

Need sufficient, warm, dry and reasonably priced houses to rent/buy.

Not enough rentals..!

Our daughter is back from England and looking for either a rental or house to buy but she can't afford it (even though she managed to own a flat in London) and is currently living with us. I don't know what will happen if she can't find a place - perhaps she'll want to go back to UK or to Australia. She doesn't want to be living with her parents when she's 40!

Since the Christchurch earthquake, Aucklanders have been told there is a 5 or more year waiting list for state housing, more must be done to give poorer people a decent standard of homes.

That there isn’t enough affordable housing available; that the criteria for housing NZ is very difficult to meet and leaves a lot of needy people wanting

The lack of rental properties and the price of them is outrageous - again due to the number of immigrants moving here, taking homes, adding to the traffic congestion means there is less and less for New Zealanders. Most houses for rent I wouldn't put my dog in (and I don't even own a dog).

Thousands of new homes need to build as well as rationalising the current use of state houses e.g. a state house with 4 bedrooms should not just have an elderly couple living there. Single older homes on large sections should have 1,2 or 3 town houses put on them to mop up unused space.

We should all encourage people to live in areas other than Auckland - e.g. Albany, Pukekohe etc. where housing is somewhat cheaper. For many, our present prices are beyond most young people. Immigrants seem to be able to afford housing in the grammar zone thus pushing prices up.

A ludicrous state of affairs has been created in the area as the city is the focal point for all immigrants and overseas investors. The controls on overseas persons purchasing dwellings in N.Z should be prohibited as they have created the inflationary cycle. Their money is worth more than ours and the trend is following similar ones as the English buying in Spain and other EU

All people of Auckland have the right to live in a safe affordable healthy home. There are far too many agents setting up as property managers pushing the prices of rents up.

Build small houses (e.g. 1 or 2 bedroom) to meet affordability

Competition for housing is driving prices up which makes it harder for first time buyers to find something affordable.

Concern of new regulations allowing more multi storey buildings in the suburbs

Cost and availability of cheaper Housing

Council proposals for more density

Currently too expensive

good quality housing is in short supply

good sound housing plans with family focus

High price with uncertain economy worldwide

House prices are rising very fast in Auckland and there is concern for first home buyers as to how they can afford to get in to their first home.

House prices are spiralling out of control

House prices in Auckland are being driven up due to foreigners 'dumping' their cash in property. There needs to be a policy in place that states that if the mortgage isn't from a local bank or if the owner isn't local they have to be living in the house and hold it for at least 5 years.

Houses are so overpriced and unaffordable.

Housing is far too expensive and getting a first house is near impossible

Housing is overpriced and preventing younger families from securing a first house.

Housing is unaffordable for people hoping to buy a first home; Rents are astronomical and unrealistic

Housing needs to be affordable and encourage people to live in houses and not forced to lived in high rise apartments.

Housing prices are rising so much that people cannot afford them on their wages.
Housing prices in Auckland are too high compared with most cities in the world. This must increase the likelihood of a significant adjustment which could have a very negative effect for many that could end up with a negative equity in their homes. I am going to be looking for a house to rent soon and am very concerned I won't be able to find anything affordable. I think it's too difficult for people to buy a house. I'm in a HNZ property due to the safety requirements for a severely autistic child. But getting a home in the first place was almost impossible and only happened once I contacted the media AND Paula Bennett. An average New Zealander should NOT have to go that far for safe housing.

It is almost impossible for first time family house buyers to buy their first home in Auckland unless they have wealthy parents! There is a number of disturbing misrepresentations of ‘affordable housing’ in Auckland both from Auckland Council and from property developers.

Lack of affordable housing is creating a huge imbalance in house prices. Lack of houses for first home buyers and immigrants. Lack of housing means house prices go up - very difficult to buy!

Linked to the economy
More affordable rentals. more high rise apartments More houses at more affordable prices need to be made available

Need for affordable housing. need to build more houses

No problem with infill housing but the types of houses are not made of sustainable material and deteriorate quickly to be an eyesore. State housing soon becomes ugly and needing repair.

Not enough & too expensive
Not enough affordable houses to buy or rent
not having enough housing for the people moving to Auckland

People need places to live and some are too congested.

Prices are far too high. If more houses were available prices would be much lower for young People to buy first house

Prices are going through the roof.
Proposed multi storey buildings and accommodation in the city. Change over to new city has not been clean and has created problems for new home owners.

Quality of housing proposed under Unitary Plan; continuation of poor quality infill; poor rental housing stock; unhealthy housing

Running out of affordable housing.

shortage of housing supply

Substantially affected by net immigration and also overseas speculators being allowed to buy.

The ability for Auckland to grow both inside and outside its current border limitations is critical to this and it is in the councils hands to resolve it

The issues thrown up as the result of housing aspects of the Unitary Plan

The lack of adequate housing opportunities concerns me greatly.

The planning restrictions which have resulted in the outrageous price of land.

THE SHORTAGE OF LAND FOR DEVELOPMENT

There are not enough houses in Auckland for the population that lives and will live here and the councils current intensification will be too slow in solving these issues

There aren't enough affordable houses

There should be more state houses and affordable housing

This is an important and critical issue for Auckland as the population increases and the cost of decent and affordable housing decreases through lack of new constructions and development

To be strong it has to grow and people have a place to live in.

Trying to buy a house on North Shore and the supply is not meeting demand

Unaffordability of houses. - standards of housing

Unaffordability of the housing market; unavailability of decent affordable rental housing which is a result of the previous point

We need more houses

We need more housing to keep people moving to Auckland. Without them the city won't be able to build the infrastructure that is needed to keep it growing.

Where the apartments are likely to be situated

Will there be enough housing for lower income groups?
Housing design and/or quality issues

- Too much low quality crap out there. Is it too much to ask for a warm, dry house to live in?!
- Council have come up with some worrying ideas, building big apartments hopefully they will be quality.
- Currently, Auckland City and the idiot mayor we have in power, have no idea of the concept of overall planning. With this rubbish Unitary Plan, they have taken their crayons and drawn arbitrary lines over the city and called it a plan. There are innumerable examples where beautiful heritage properties have been bulldozed.
- Denser housing is the only way to go, however we need to ensure that housing is comfortable, and that it's something people WANT to live in. Accessible communal space, and the size of each apartment NEED to be part of the regulatory process.
- Generally poor standards that cause people to be very anti-apartments. I think apartments are a reality if city living but we don't need so many poorly built, small boxes with no amenities or sense of community.
- I don't like the idea of the unitary plan to develop high rise buildings ins suburbs such as Milford. I think it will cause congestion, pollution and overcrowding.
- In the past, council has made a right arse of the whole building / permit scheme. This needs to be changed radically (ideally removed from council oversight altogether), as I have no confidence in council's ability to get it right in the future.
- Leaky homes, high density housing
- Look around Auckland and see extremely badly designed, ugly high rise apartments and office blocks everywhere. This must not continue as they are ruining the look of our city. How council allowed these to be built is a mystery. Better designs and higher quality housing throughout Auckland city is must for the future.
- making sure that families have healthy homes that are damp or mouldy that can cause illness, SUBSIDIES for leaky homes
- The council's undertaking to fast track aspects of the Unitary Plan, particularly high rise development while likely quality comes second.
- The leaky home issue has to be addressed - so many of them on North Shore. Don't know what the answer is but with the housing shortage, we should be trying to improve the weather-tightness of them and get those that have had no problems so far to be certified as safe.
- The Type of houses built out there, are they good quality and using good quality materials in a sustainable way.
- There are too many box shitty apartments that are tiny & not appropriate for living. If apartment buildings are being built, each apartment should be a lot bigger than they are currently being built at (note the Aura Apartments on Cook St). Also, we need more attached townhouses rather than huge houses on sections. mor
- Too many leaking buildings and shoddy housing is still being built, new houses are popping up all over the place around here, then scaffolding goes up and the roof ends up being covered in white sealant, it's just poor workmanship
- Auckland's new houses are generally large and horrid. The malls are low level and sprawling. Developers should be encouraged to build beautiful sustainable buildings which make us proud to be Aucklanders.
- Built environment adds a lot to people's quality of life and the impression this city makes to the world which in turn is important for Branding and tourism.
- council lets them build crap
- Council/its insurers continue with an adversarial attitude toward accepting Council liability for leaky homes
- Ensuring building methods avoid leaky homes without being so pedantic as to jack up housing costs to no purpose ensuring that the design of new housing and the development of suburbs and town centres is of high quality enhancing the natural advantages of the region
- Having design that is appropriate o the character of neighbourhoods. Quality is key to so many issues such as health and welfare.
- Including town centre/streetscape amenity
- It is important that new higher density housing is well designed and well situated for public transport. Development must not be dominated by developers profit and we cannot afford anymore leaky buildings.
- leaky homes fiasco
- Nowhere to build a house. Subdividing to too expensive.
- Ongoing problems with leaky buildings and substandard construction
- Poor quality and design housing is adversely affecting the health and wealth of Aucklanders.
- Resolving leaky building issues,
- Some of our housing inspectors should be got rid of - why do we have leaky homes - partly because of negligent council staff. Plus lots of very ugly apartments get passes. All very concerning.
- Stop building all these cheap housing developments which turn into slums
- The government should be controlling the quality of the house built and should be able to control builders.
- The houses they live in need to be good quality. Fixing up stuff ups should not be a growth area.
- There are too many homes being discovered that are leaky
- Too many 'slum' areas
- Too many low quality houses built and motivation for cheap housing with developers seems to be profit.
**Watertight building issues and responsibilities of Council**

We don't want a repeat of the awful apartment designs of the past. We're creating future ghettos.

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**Law and order**

Anarchy will abound without law and order, we all need guide lines to adhere too.

As the City grows there will be increasing social issues as is very apparent overseas....we require a solid, mobile and effective police presence.

General law and order, feeling safe in my neighbourhood and keeping it crime free.

Goes kind of together with unemployment, as if the unemployment rate is low than crime will also be kept lower.

Good and enforceable policies around Law & Order are necessary to ensure a nice place to live.

I admit speeding in a motor vehicle is against the law, however so is Burglary, Assault, Armed Assault & Robbery, Rape, and Spousal Abuse. How about Law & order concentrate more on the latter lawbreakers. We should not have to wait for 4 hours for the police to arrive for a robbery/burglary when you can ea

I think that we have too many Maori and pacific islanders imprisoned, and there are too many blue collar crimes where, if they have the money, they manage to receive lesser sentences than others, who have committed similar crimes. E.g. fraudsters who are given home detention while others are imprisoned.

I want my children to be safe, I want more Police out patrolling our areas rather than waiting to nab someone and give them a ticket. More accessible Police Stations - my local closes at 430pm, what a waste of time.

I want to feel safe, I want to know my children are safe and I want to know my house is safe in my own neighbourhood. It is our right not to be afraid.

Increasing police presence in neighbourhood, increasing mandatory minimum sentences, crack down on tagging and youth gang related crime.

Increasing crime, risk of ghettos under unitary plan, crime from low wages and no work and too many people on the benefit. More work on prevention rather than the ambulance at the bottom of the cliff earlier intervention with families that are high risk of entering the penal system. Helping families and communities to stop child abuse, and youth violence and crimes.

Number one concern. The punishment needs to fit the crime. Judges need to get much tougher.

our streets are not safe at night, the police spend all their time on paper work, too lazy to solve crimes like theft and robbery.

Provide the police, fire and especially the ambulance services to have the budgets required to enable them to deal with the issues of the community. Not a fan of arming our police, but they require more staff & training to equip them to deal with all forms of maintaining Law & Order of our country.

some laws need to be changed, e.g. graffiti, if the police know who’s tag it is should be able to charge them, also more facilities to charge and punish under 16s, if they are old enough to do the crime, they are old enough to do the time.

South Auckland is becoming more dangerous. It looks messier, there is more tagging and vandalism. There are more stabbings and people take no pride in the area anymore. Nice families are moving away.

The P scourge and synthetic cannabis fuelling crime (and illness), plus gang involvement in crime.

Too much wealth wasted in partying on illegal and expensive drugs. It seems to be too easy to cheat the welfare system.

Tougher sentences for child related crimes, no second chances anymore for some crimms, it is not a safe place to live anymore, and why not?

Without Law and Order, problems will arise.

Abuse of alcohol and the consequent behaviour. Lack of penalties for the behaviour that results from binge drinking

Already a victim of violent crime

because of high unemployment and alcohol policies there seems to be a lot of crime

Care and protection of law-abiding citizens

Child abuse and aggravated robberies

Crime is an issue in most parts of the city

Crime is still on the rise around here and the number of people standing around the court house each morning is growing and the presence of the police on those days is obvious. I walk up town for our daily walk with my baby and its sometimes a scary place to be.

Crime needs to continue its downward trend and more officers are needed.

Criminals have the quality of lifestyle

Ensure safety and wellbeing of NZers. We are too lenient on offenders and it is not safe to walk about in a lot of our communities.

Get criminals off the street. Violence and theft and damage of people’s property are areas of most concern to me.

Got to make Auckland a safe place to live and bring up a family. We have the environment just need to balance that with a law abiding society.
I want the local board to spend most of their time on maintaining law and order in their jurisdiction. Important in managing the masses for mutual benefit.

It is important that the public areas of the city are open to all citizens without any concern for personal safety. In this respect drinking appears to be the major problem at certain periods in the city centres.

It is promising to note that crime is slowing but we need to ensure that it is not short funded.

It is the responsibility of the govt. to maintain Law and Order. To curb crime rate govt. should make strict laws and heavy punishment for those who do criminal activities

It is one of the basics of a good lifestyle.

Lack of confidence in police & justice system

Law and order is often overlooked with the emphasis on other issues which really don't matter that much if you can't live safely in your own area and travel around your neighbourhood.

Making Areas safe for people to travel and enjoy their neighbourhoods.

Many of today's youth don't seem to have any respect for property or people. We seem to be breeding a generation of gimmee gimmee people. Too much publicity for wrong doers - almost seem to laud them at times. Good news doesn't sell papers or encourage people to watch news bulletins.

more cops
more obvious police presence in known trouble spots.
more police on the beat
more police walking the beat and keeping the crims under control
Need a bigger police force to clean up the crims that are operating in our city.
need stronger penalties for burglary
Our law is too soft. The people that get sentenced are not sentenced for long enough.
People need to feel safe when out walking and in their own homes.
Safety essential for people to feel safe & for criminals to know they will be caught.

Safety or going out at night shouldn't be a problem but feel it is.
So it is safe to work around in Auckland day and night.

Strong police presence
Successive governments shirk this issue and the police are drowning in paperwork and undermanning. No one seems to have the guts to fund them properly so it's always a Band-Aid situation

That it should be seen as available to all groups of people and that it should be understood by all ethnicities.
The sad inability to cope with violent street crime.

There is no sustainable comprehensive law and order policy
This is a broad concern. Law and order is important and needs to be a priority for any elected official.

Too much crime
Too Much Crime
Too soft on crime

Upholding standards so that law abiding people can live without fear
Want to be safe in the streets and at home. Want my family and children to be safe.
We are sick of the police helicopter waking us up at night and continuing for sometimes and hour. We live in a reasonably affluent suburb and the crime rate is not particularly high so why the noise?
We have a right and need to be safe in our city.
We have been broken into and there have been a number around us - the city centre at night is a disgrace
We need additional Policing resources in Auckland to manage growth

We need local police involved in each community -- a reduction in alcohol outlets and increased communal fun activities around suitably interested and competent ethical people.
we need plenty of police on the ground to do a good job
we need to go back to separate traffic police and get more regular police doing policing and stop getting rid of the older experienced officers just because they get paid more

Politics and electoral issues
Feel the quality of the people standing for election is low and the whole arena they work in is bullying and petty. Wish there was an upgrade there!
general interest
Politics are leaches
Population growth and sustainability

Adjustment of infrastructure to deal with population growth, the sprawl of Auckland city, planning for high density living.

After economy, population growth and sustainability will determine the quality of life for the inhabitants.

Again, we need to encourage people to live in areas north, south east and west of the main city. Maybe try to get the government to offer incentives to people to live elsewhere other than Auckland city.

All new growth areas need well thought out plans like roading, sewerage, transport, medical & schools. On top of that, affordable housing and be careful not to create slum conditions.

All the forecasts are about population growth, but no-one seems to be asking do we need it and/or do we want it?

Auckland has many beautiful places - the Harbour islands, the coast and the Waitakare ranges. We need to grow but in a way that protects our natural assets so we can all enjoy them for year to come.

Auckland is expecting a further million people and our infrastructure won't cope, starting with reading but also water and sewerage.

Auckland is growing and developing at a huge rate and the transport is not even beginning to keep up. New areas seem to be developed without any thought about how people will get in and out of that area. Silverdale and Albany are effectively Brand new towns and yet the transport provisions seem woefully inadequate. The Park and ride car parks are full by 7am already, and there are no buses that I could take from Torbay that would either get me to Albany Bus Station or to my place of work in Grafton in in a reasonable time. Therefore, I have to drive and my work journey now takes between an hour and an hour and a half everyday unless I were to leave before 6:30am or after 10am. I don't want to spend 10 hours plus driving each week. If it continues to get worse we will move to a city that has decent public transport. I never thought I would miss the tubes and trains in London - but now I realise how great it was that as long as I was in the city - I never had to use my car.

Auckland needs more people to make this a Real and sustainable city. A large part of the population don't understand that in order to be able to afford the infrastructure they would like to see, then we simply need more people.

Auckland population growth is out of control - housing, transport and services can’t keep up.

Can Auckland sustain the rate of growth that is currently happening? If not, how do you restrain growth? Can our current infrastructure handle the rate of growth that is happening?

Growing too fast, and infrastructure is not coping.

Growth needs to be encouraged, and intelligently managed without resorting to Not in my back yard mentalities.

Having the infrastructure to accommodate or keep pace with population growth; transport, essential services, some form of integration of ethnic groups with the rest of the population rather than some groups taking over some areas of our City (causing some big problems in Europe)

I believe Auckland has a positive immigration policy and population growth plan without the infrastructure or policy to sustain it. I absolutely am opposed to high density housing as a solution. While this might not deter some immigrants and potentially offer cheaper housing, this is not a lifestyle choice for many Aucklanders. Auckland and its immediate surrounds have significant unemployment, rather than bring in workers from overseas why not give incentives to employers/businesses to move to areas of high unemployment or employing those who are currently unemployed. Rather than concentrating on transport for the inner city, consider faster, more frequent and reliable trains from outer Auckland e.g. Pukekohe, Tuakau. Look to other major cities e.g. London for problems with high density housing and the long term effects of unsustained population growth and immigration. Auckland simply cannot afford it.

I don't have a problem with the population of Auckland growing, but I completely agree that we need to intensivise not just make the Auckland area bigger and bigger. Part of allowing for population growth is better public transport, more apartment living, thinking about how to deal with sewerage and waste water issues, thinking about how to maintain communal open living spaces.

I have no issues with population growth, I do have issues with continued sprawl and the resultant traffic issues. The northern motorway at rush hr is already a nightmare.

I think that Auckland should not aim to grow too much bigger, as the traffic and public transport issues will never be solved, as not enough money is in this country to support it.

It is only an assumed projection that the population of Auckland will explode and no one knows exactly what the figures will be. No local government has the right to be planning for 30 years ahead. The council's job is worry about waste water, maintenance of the roads and footpaths and care of the parks and reserves. LEAVE EVERYTHING ALONE.

Like it or not, new immigrants should be encouraged to live in smaller cities or towns, especially those who can set up appropriate businesses. This should assist current businesses to stop folding and schools to stay open. Immigration department should be quite strict and have the ability to match up identifiable businesses with these small towns.

Making sure efficient plans are sought with the forecast of Auckland population growth i.e. drainage transport, environment, waste management, roads.

Needs a national policy to support regional growth, not everyone comes to Auckland; inability for infrastructure such as transport and wastewater to cope with population growth; we are not coping now and it will only get worse. Loss of green spaces and trees with intensification.
Overpopulation in Auckland worries me as I do not want to see too many high-rise buildings. Just how many can we squeeze into the city? Is the council thinking about how the population growth is going to effect the services they provide? How should we plan our future looking long term? What happens to air quality if we remove more green space to make more houses?

That it is not just accepted that Auckland growth is inevitable and nothing can be done about it, but rather, seek ways to incentivise population growth in other parts of the country and don't let people relocate to Auckland if there aren't enough houses for them here. Ensure that all new developments are truly sustainable - no more ad hoc developments, narrow roads, leaky buildings, allowing housing without infrastructure etc. etc.

That population growth should be managed in such a way that Auckland does not sprawl too widely and that enclaves do not become pronounced. A mixing of all types of people should be the aim as far as possible.

The future for our/my neighbourhood, direction of building up or wide.

The more we provide the more uptake there will be. Immigrants do not have to live in Auckland. Why are we catering to immigrants instead of New Zealanders who have paid for the facilities and infra-structure? What are the immigrants contributing - lots of adults and children with disabilities into the education and health systems and specialised housing needs - is this for the Council or the agreeing government to manage? The more suitable we make it the more will come, not paying their way.

We are faking economic growth by simply growing the population and spreading the public goods such as roads, beaches, schools, parks etc. more thinly. I don't want to live in a compact overcrowded city, cheek by jowl with my neighbours. Auckland will not be a pleasant place to live anymore.

We do NOT need another million people in Auckland, or certainly not before the existing problems of overpopulation are solved. First fix the infrastructure and create a workable public transport system. We don't want high rise living, make them go to other towns.

We need to be able to sustain more people coming into Auckland in the future from health, to housing, to all the resources this will use. Why is it a given that we are getting another 1M people in the next few years? If it is such a problem, control the influx and then many of the supposed issues will not happen.

Am alarmed that the infrastructure being able to cope with population growth does not seem to be a priority with the present Council. They seem to be concentrating on putting more people into smaller spaces.

Auckland already has a third of NZ's population & quite frankly we are finding it not so easy to maintain. So if our population increases how is Auckland going to sustain it's economy?

Auckland can't just keep spreading out without jobs being more localised to where the spread is. Auckland is growing so fast - I want to know the infrastructure is not shortsighted.

Auckland is growing so we need a unified plan to cope.

Auckland need to be able to cope with growth and work with central government and industry to spread the population.

Cost management. Minimising Council interference.

Encourage the migrants to other centres. We already have a sufficient number of people in Auckland. The next requirement which obviously is not mentioned is how long before Mangere purification plant can manage. It has a finite population capacity as per the original agreement and this should not be exceeded or the harbour will be polluted. Time to look elsewhere to manage wastewater not dump in the Manukau.

Enough in Auckland already

Excessive growth for Auckland's existing infrastructure

Growth is a nasty word in relation to population growth seems to create the major pressure on infrastructure Housing affordability and availability. Housing/infrastructure/traffic needs to be managed to cater for the significant additional residents Auckland wants/needs.

How Auckland grows and the infrastructure around that

How big should Auckland get? how should we plan our future looking long term

I don't want Auckland to get more compact

I think it is crucial for everyone to become aware and engaged in sustainability and not just be concerned about short term gains and population growth puts a lot of strain on sustainability.

insuring Auckland doesn't get too big for its infrastructure

Is the council thinking about how the population growth is going to effect the services they provide.

Just how many can we squeeze into the city?

Need to contain the growth of Auckland without limiting city's potential.

Overpopulation in Auckland worries me as I do not want to see too many high-rises or spread of the city outwards.
Prevent Auckland from swallowing up farmland and becoming too big. Need to allocate a green belt and no expansion beyond that. Auckland cannot provide public transport for the area now without it growing further out and spreading further.

Ridiculous to allow so many migrants to arrive without suitable housing.

Same--can't take more than the environment can cope with.

Similar to above -- growth is inevitable but needs to be thoughtfully accommodated.

The city cannot go on growing and development of high rise housing will destroy the pleasant living environment of the city. There should be serious attempts to limit migration into the city and industry should be encouraged to go elsewhere - there is no need for company head offices to be located here.

The focus of Auckland should be to intensify while maintaining a fair balance on an economic scale.

There will always be pressure on growing families to find ways to live that prevent crowding but don't cost too much.

This is predicted to grow alarmingly and Council must have plans in place to handle this growth.

too many people coming into Auckland and unitary plan to fit them in and making me pay for upgrading services for people before they have arrived.

too many people now.

Urban sprawl is an issue.

we don't need more people in Auckland.

we don't need more population focus should be immigrants have to go to other cities.

We need to cap the number of people in New Zealand at around 5 million. Auckland no more than 2 million.

Where are we going to house all these people??

Social issues

child abuse, neglect, poverty.

Family breakdown, dishonesty, lack of respect, a sense of entitlement, etc

I work with disabled, but also have an impairment myself. I notice that this current govt is not very supportive of disabled. Their services are not very accessible and I've known of stories where bus drivers will drive past people in wheelchairs cos it's just too hard.

I'd like to see the social issues widely covered that relate to New Zealanders as a whole. For example refugees who come here, to be helped to integrate better into our society, so that they don't form little cliques and live independently from Kiwis.

Probably related to education and employment, but things like community, honesty, hospitality and general courtesy seem to be of lesser value. Also, what proportion of police time is spent on traffic duties as opposed to actually dealing with criminal activities?

Social issues are wide spread, children hungry, terrible living conditions, abuse by family members both physical and mental just to name a few - there needs to be more support out there and action being taken at local level.

Suicide, obesity, post-abortion syndrome, major health issues such as obesity, poor dental care and environmental issues that impact the holistic and social wellbeing of society.

The current (worldwide) economic climate is causing many people to lose their jobs and one of the backlashes of this, apart from the 2 scenarios above, a true sense of despair which in turn leads to family violence, drinking/gambling to excess etc.

The gap between have and have not makes everyone vulnerable to health issues - overcrowding, and to crime. A range of housing should be in every area.

The sense of safe communities is to a large extent non-existent in many communities, including in the West where we live.

While this is largely due to crime and criminal activity, it also has wider implications for inclusiveness of people in their community and discrimination in a number of areas.

Auckland Council rely too much on National services and do not take responsibility for local social issues.

Balance amongst the needs of various parties to ensure unemployment and alienated / disengaged sectors of the community don't become criminal elements. More prevention initiatives that come from a greater depth of understanding rather than from assumptions and prejudice. Facilitate personal development and empowerment and break down 'victim thinking' - teach people how.

Child poverty and the impact of current economic decisions on families concerns me.

Crime and ways to decrease it. Penalties should be harsher for some criminals. Drug problems are a scourge on society.

Poverty issues need to be addressed rather than increasing politicians' salaries. Give some of that money to the families and kids in Sth Auckland but under guidance or else that will be used as drug money as well.

Drunken behaviour of youth.

economic disparity between social classes and the effects it has on the community.

I am concerned about the amount of suicides in NZ and I think it needs to be addressed and steps taken to identify and support people at risk.
Public transport

A fast, efficient cost effective systems will reduce the city's carbon footprint and reduce the demand for more and expensive roading

A regular and reliable public transport system is essential to stop the strangulation of movement on our major arteries at peak hours. The encouragement of rail by all means e.g. park and ride centres, lower fares.

Auckland is growing and developing at a huge rate and the transport is not even beginning to keep up. New areas seem to be developed without any thought about how people will be getting in and out of that area. Silverdale and Albany are effectively Brand new towns and yet the transport provisions seem woefully inadequate. The Park and ride car parks are full by 7am already, and there are no buses that I could take from Torbay that would either get me to Albany Bus Station or to my place of work in Grafton in a reasonable time. Therefore, I have to drive and my work journey now takes between an hour and an hour and a half everyday unless I was to leave before 6:30am or after 10am. I don't want to spend 10 hours plus driving each week. If it continues to get worse we will move to a city that has decent public transport. I never thought I would miss the tubes and trains in London - but now I realise how great it was that as long as I was in the city - I never had to use my car.

Auckland is very poor regarding public transport. Whilst it likes to think of itself as an international city, it is more like a third world slum. Obviously modelling the city on LA has been a disaster. There is an over reliance on private transport.

Better public transport would relieve some of the congestion around the city at peak times, saving everyone time and money.

Better public transport, increased reliability and frequency

Better public transport, means more people will use it, so less cars on the road.

Bus lanes slowing down the flow of transport, motorway on-ramp traffic lights causing grid lock on arterial routes, bad traffic light phasing to name a few. Auckland's transport is s**t!

Buses all come together then nothing for 30-40 minutes-sometimes buses go straight pass if there are more than one at a time or they are in a line of traffic sometimes they just don't turn up like the train-unfortunately they don't always go where I need to go.

Central rail link, extra Harbour crossing, and rail link to airport are needed sooner than later - a major priority

Doing well could do better!!!!!!
either doesn’t run on time OR doesn’t run at all, or those stupid machines are broken down bring back the ability to buy a ticket on the train at least

Feel it is good and needs nurturing, not more arbitrary decision making at the top. The councillors should spend a month in the public system before they make any further decisions. They cannot possibly accommodate every person's needs.

I am concerned about the possibility of rates being increased again to cover the cost of transport and roading. As rates are worked out according to property value and a lot of properties close to the city centre are valued highly then those home owners will be paying more for transport costs whilst not having to use transport or roads for long distances, this does not seem fair to me. Whilst a road toll would seem fairer and more in line with a user pays scheme it too will have a carry-over effect with transport companies passing costs onto consumers. I live close to the railway but was shocked to find that it is cheaper for my daughter to bus to school rather than catch the train, I had thought that the aim was to get vehicles off the road. I believe it is also cheaper for those in west harbour/hobsonville to catch the bus rather than the new ferry which also doesn't help to relieve road congestion.

I fully support rail to the airport, North Shore, and extending underground rail. Also ferries to seaside suburbs, dedicated cycleways to separate cyclists from traffic. Public transport should go to where commuters want to go, to have central undercover bus/train transfer hubs. Warkworth and Wellsford have no public transport to Auckland. Warkworth is only 19 kms on from Waipera.
In Rodney, practically non-existent

Increase ferry destinations and services. More reliant buses, have a realistic transport on the Whangaparaoa, buses.

Issues with buses not arriving when they are scheduled to arrive, disappearing from the tracking board when they are supposed to be due.

It is totally tragic, and if people don't want to, or can't afford to live in the city then travel is an absolute nightmare. When I moved to NZ 10 years ago, I had to learn to drive as you cannot get anywhere without a car. And now that I do drive, it takes me 2 hours sometimes to drive into the city if I leave anywhere between 5.30am and 8am. Greville Road is a joke with two lanes, then back to one, then two at the bottom, no easy access into the T2 lane, a bus lane but no one can get a park to get on the bus. Madness!!

It's not yet integrated, not enough linking up to go where you want easily without large wait times and not enough in weekends. The inner city rail link is money that could be better spent on other parts of the network I think.

Just get on and do it. Robby (Dove-Myer Robinson) was right - we needed light rail 30+ years ago. I'm not saying that light-rail is the panacea, but we need to bit the bullet and invest in our infrastructure. Don't give me that b-s about we can't afford it either. Maybe if that idiot mayor stopped wasting money, and stopped his self-promotion (what do they say about short people?) then we would have millions upon millions of dollars to start with. And don't just give the job to a bunch of consultants. That will waste more money than the entire job should cost in the first place!

Lack of a reliable, cheap and citywide public transport system.

Let's get a second harbour crossing (tunnel) to the North Shore - I do not have access to trains or the northern bus way. Need more frequent buses? Need seating under shelter at Albert St, Central bus stop (outside AA)

Making Public Transport efficient and attractive enough to encourage people to make the shift to public from private transport.

Need for rail link through all major centres on the North Shore from the CBD to Orewa

Many people need their own transport to get to work. Obviously in time when we have a bigger population in NZ we shall be able to afford to have public transport to get people to work, but we are already paying high taxes and to tax us more would be too hard.

More insight needed for Public transport planning. It should be for long run. Plan for Auckland, not for Downtown only. It's time to develop more satellite cities around Auckland and have high-speed trains and good bus services to towns like Hamilton, Orewa, Manukau Henderson etc.

Moving in the right way. The North shore shows the way as to what we can do.

Need rail loop through the city, bus routes need reorganising and times synchronized between routes - e.g. 3 different buses at a stop in 5 minutes then no more for nearly an hour

Need the new rail loop ASAP, then push new lines to Pt Chev and Howick, then North Shore via tunnel.

Needs to be kept as low cost as possible. There is a cycle - increase fares to cover loss, so then less people use it, so the cost goes up again...

Not enough, doesn't go to enough places, cost, capacity is insufficient especially rail and park & ride.

Only by creating a world-class public transport system serving the whole of the metropolitan region will we solve the American problem of roads clogged with cars.

People don't use Auckland's public transport system because it's inefficient. We need more train lines, a new way to connect across the harbour and affordable transport costs to reduce the mess that is on our roads everyday.

Poor planning when bus stations were put in, insufficient carparks (should have built up) leading to people continuing to use their cars Also more extensive timetables are necessary

Pricing, availability, routes.

Prioritise public transport, especially completing the inner rail loop, over private cars and motorway development

Provision of an effective public transport system that serves the needs of genuine Aucklanders, not bureaucrats interested in the 'CBD'

Public transport is shit. It's getting better, but more work needs to be done

Reduce spending on roads, spend more on making a proper frequent reliable cheap public transport system.

roads not upgraded and maintained more roads needed for increased amount of users

Terrible, not on time buses that run infrequently. Buses that do not take you directly to a location.

The bus system needs to be improved. More people are travelling by bus but not much effort is made to accommodate them e.g. suitable shelters (a shelter that will actually shelter them from rain, wind sun not just something that looks nice). People who are bus patrons should be the ones to decide on these matters.

The trend for PT is promising with increased trips and halving of headways on many routes in my area. However until we get to the stage where boarding and exiting are seamless and drivers don't sell fares buses, won't be able to stick to timetables. My observations in Geneva 1994-2002 showed that though the ticketing system changed from paper tickets to plastic cards, they maintained validation prior to boarding saving countless dollops of time enabling timetables to be met.

There needs to be more focus on increasing the number of buses, their frequency and reliability

To get Auckland moving fare better we need cohesive public transport. Ferry, bus, train should be available under 1 ticket and we should have a night bus service. Look at Sydney, Melbourne, London as models.

Total lack of transport locally, Franklin residents are penalised by non-availability of day passes.
We have no weekend trains from Pukekohe, and not enough trains during the week. At least half of the weekday users are in retail so would have to work at least one weekend day. And the shortfall would be made up by shoppers. I won't take my children to the city on the train, because if I miss a train, I will be stuck in town with small children. It would be a disaster. I would LOVE to be able to take the train up on weekends! We have little to no parking by the station either, and cars litter the surrounding streets. It's a mess.

We need regular services, not only into the CBD, but to other suburbs. These need to be frequent, cost effective and run on time.

We need to have a system established that gets people moving, not just now but in the future.

Where to begin!!!!!!! This is a huge problem in Auckland that will have ongoing major problems for us in tourism, lost work hours and the danger that certain areas including the central city will just die.

Will the public transport improve so that everybody, including elderly and disabled people can make use of better public transport

Years ago, the decision was made (rightly or wrongly) to favour motorways over public transport. Therefore it is stupid that we are still arguing over finishing the motorway system - complete it. THEN concentrate on public transport.

$400 million per year for the next 30 years!!!! That's roughly $400 per Aucklanders per year on top of current council costs. NO!!!!!

A good public transport system running 7 days pw efficiently. a reliable system

A vast improvement from a few years ago but needs to be more input from the public not just the planners. Government needs to fund the rail loop.

All great cities have a great transport system

All that money on the inner city train routes!!! With the outlying areas still not serviced well.

Are they ever going to get this right? We've been getting promises for sixty years but no one seems able to bite the bullet and actually get it implemented. C'mon folks.

AT are useless.

Auckland has been procrastinating about its public transport issue for decades. We need practical and timely solutions.

Auckland is becoming gridlocked

Auckland is clogged with traffic and I can’t see it getting better. Great cities of the world have great public transport - I would love this for Auckland!

Auckland is virtually gridlocked now - see what happens when it rains - and most of the future plans such as a new harbour crossing will do nothing to alleviate that. The proposed City Rail Loop will not contribute in the way it is being promoted. Money from that would be better served going into water transport

Auckland needs better transport. Especially an underground rail network

Auckland needs to keep moving for the economy to be strong. The environment also benefits from more efficient public transport. Both rich and poor benefit from a great public transport system.

Auckland transport is trash

Auckland's transport is a mess

Auckland’s public transit should be cheaper and faster. There is no excuse for Auckland having the highest rates of most major world cities.

BAD

Bus and train services scheduling and punctuality is still poor.

Buses are restricted as much as private cars are. No freedom for public transport while our roads are clogged. Pay for driving cars in business areas. Need for car free areas.

Congestion

Cost and punctuality

Cost v efficiency

Critical to get started asap on Govt funded electric inner-city rail loop. Balance of funding from POLL TAX- not from increasing rates for ever-suffering rate payers.

Driving into Auckland has reached crisis point and is affecting the economy. Auckland is also so large that transport links to outer areas is very poor.

ensuring that public transport becomes the first choice for commuters and for getting around the region

Every major city I've been to has an excellent rail system. At the very least we need another way out of Britomart. And a rail system to/in the North shore and to the airport. Our focus on roads and petrol-driven busses is short sighted and irresponsible.

Feeders to the motorways are a serious problem. New transport hubs planned do not have a public parking facility putting pressure on local streets and parking for schools.

Get people out of cars and into public transport to help get rid of congestion on the roads

Getting about will have to be with public transport and it desperately needs improving - rail throughout is needed.

Getting public transport that works!!!

Getting the city loop rail operating and integrating all forms of public transport.
good city transport needs to go hand in hand with housing development e.g. not point building 4-storey blocks of flats in Belmont if Lake Road is the only exit.

Have something that works and is reliable! Use of a lot more small buses/vans to take people in to major transport hubs on routes where large buses are uneconomic or on roads that are not easily travelled by large buses (e.g. Waitakere ranges area!)

Hopeless system. CRL is essential but no panacea. Buses are useless as they clog the roads

I might be using public transport in the future and I don't want to pay for something that isn't working.

Inadequate and unreliable

Increase public transport to reduce congestion
Increased congestion on motorways.
is the life blood of the city - strangle it and die
It is critical to create an integrated cost effective and user friendly public transport system
It is not rocket science. Public transport can be cheap convenient and safe. Why not here? I choose where I live based on access to trains. I don't think I get value from Auckland Transport even though I strongly support it in principle.

it is poor now and needs to be better
It's just insane.
It's not particularly wonderful and it's not cost effective
Keeping the public transport system development going regardless of politics
lack of and expensive

Link & loop everything. It is impossible to get to & from one side of Ak to another.
Local availability of feeder transport to North Shore busway.
making sure there is lots of convenient public transport
More needs to be done to encourage use of public transport and increase efficiency.
More public transport and making it harder and more expensive or those using cars need more and it needs to be at a reasonable cost
Needs continued improvement to stop the city choking to a standstill.
Needs major investment to make it more usable and reduce dependency on cars.
needs to be improved for the good of all
none within walking distance
not being good enough at the moment
Not enough & when the do come they are packed so you can't get on
Not enough resource being committed to the next harbour crossing and the need for a rail link from the north shore. (Too much emphasis on Len Browns train set!)

Not frequent enough

Our small population size for our area make public transport a nightmare in terms of availability and cost. But the issue has to be addressed so that we reduce reliance on private vehicles. Making CBD Auckland less of an employment area would help also.

People need better reliable public transport to be able to get places without relying on cars so much...

proper access for all to public transport

PROVIDING BETTER PUBLIC TRANSPORT FOR AUCKLAND

Public transport costs have risen.
Public transport in Auckland is an absolute shambles
Public Transport is already a major problem and Council must act now even though it is much too late.
Public transport is underused due to poor timetabling and at time routing issues. Transfers only work if the public system is integrated seamlessly and one line or route connects to the other that you might need to use.

Railway loop and extension a necessity.
Really need to be addressed. Not enough and regular Public transport. Needs to be affordable as well
So many more people would use the Park and Ride northern busway instead of their cars if there was somewhere to park.
Many people need their cars at the Park and Ride as they go to other activities before going home.
So you can work just a block to get a train or bus.
That we can create an efficient public transport system that will take us into the 22nd century
The government's lack of willingness to support and pay for CBD rail link and other PUBLIC transport initiatives in Auckland. The outdated pro-roads stance that has been shown worldwide to not be the solution to transport issues.
The problem is lack of decent transport. They need to change the times for the trains.
The rail loop needs to go ahead so that we can have a better train service.
The recent changes to the bus schedules have been a nightmare. And trains that run on a weekend? Forget about it!
The worst public transport I have ever seem.
There is a lot of debate on public transport in Auckland that has been going on for over 40 years without much progress being made. Something has to be done as gridlock traffic is happening in the city areas earlier and earlier all the time.

There should be more dedicated bus lanes.

Traffic jams

Transport is a big issue and the council is wasting billions of dollars on AMETI for a road that goes for a kilometre to relieve traffic. All it does is create congestion at either end of this new road in Panmure. In 30 years time we won't have roads and trains like we do now. There will be bigger and better transport. Maybe the council should look outside the square. A prime example is a you tube clip on straddling buses in China which not only allows cars to use the road but also can take 1200 people at a time on a bus that fits over the current roading system. Have a look at it. It is brilliant.

Upgrading the public transport system and making it more accessible is paramount. We are asked to use public transport instead of private vehicles but the infrastructure is not in place to encourage it's use. We don't have much - one bus every 2 hours.

we need a better public transport system

We need better public transport
we need some

We need the comfort of more trains which are much faster than our slow uncomfortable buses. Time gets wasted collecting fares on buses. Ferry services could be increased

We need the inner city rail loop and other similar services. E.g. a rapid train to the airport.

We need to back up the council on their plans to improve this.

We need to have an effective and affordable system to move people around without causing more environmental damage and degradation.

We need to improve the trains and bus services to make more people who can use it want to use it

Weekend trains to Pukekohe needed.

Unemployment

Auckland is spread out. It is one of the world’s smallest cities in terms of population, yet one of the largest in terms of area. Public transport hasn’t a hope of serving (say) 80% of the population. Conversely, if there is insufficient parking in the CBD, more people will consider public transport desirable.

GET THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM UP AND RUNNING PROPERLY, BUT ensure integrity of road network for private transport as well.

I need my car to get work as I go from the office to on-site visits. I need a council who is not going to penalise me for using my car. We need councillors who can come up with better ideas to manage Auckland’s transport than, taxes, taxes, tolls, and more taxes. I mean I could come up with those!

Improving Auckland’s roading system, reducing speeding drivers in residential areas.

people need to be able to go from A to B in their cars without too much delay

Sick of the roadworks in progress taking years to complete. Then trying to charge Aucklanders for the public transport system - what a joke? I never use it so why do I have to pay for it. I will pay my dues in Road taxes, fuel taxes to cover roadworks and developments of Roads/Motorways but not public transport.

Taxes on those that use a car, unfair on those who using a car is a necessity i.e. those with dependent children, disabilities etc.

Too much wastage on public transport when clearly Auckland is the home of the private car - lifestyle, areas of work and small population drive this....

While the council focuses on Public Transport it is slow and frequently not convenient for people, therefore need to have good public transport. I currently walk to work, but in my previous job commuting by car took me 30 minutes. If I took a public transport it would have taken 90 minutes and this was in old Auckland

A private car is needed to do almost anything that is not in the CBD and its a nightmare trying to get around Auckland in any sort of traffic

A third of the population of New Zealand lives in Auckland. Surely it would be fair to get a third of the national budget to finish and improve our motorway system.

Funding public transport by clobbering the motorist concerns me.

have to go private as too expensive to use public and not frequency I require

I guess this means more roads - but if we got the public transport right it should reduce the use of private transport

I spent 55 minutes this morning travelling along Te Atatu Rd to get onto the motorway because other drivers were going down the back-streets and clogging up the roundabout ahead of me. Get this sort of shit sorted. (It only took 15 minutes into town once I got on the motorway)

I want the local board to keep out of the way of private vehicles and private passenger services.

IMPROVING ROADING
Need better roading as I dislike my 2 hour commute each way - when it usually takes 40 minutes?
not enough roads
public transport changes are disrupting private transport
Quality of our roads is not good
Roads don't cope
Too much traffic!
Traffic congestion needs to be improved
traffic jams / flows being effected by badly organised traffic systems/ Lights
We need more motorways
we need to discourage single driver on our motorways

Wages

Again, too many immigrants are coming into NZ and working for overseas owned businesses - businesses may be bringing their companies to NZ but they are also bringing their own people to run those companies! The Govt promised 170,000 jobs - since they have been in Govt there have been more than 7,000 jobs lost and more than 170,000 people have been recorded as leaving NZ!! John Key wants DPB parents to return to work for minimum 15hrs per week - we can't because there is no work to return to!!! A mother, who has previously had a career and is well qualified, cannot even get a job in a shop! If you don't have 'shop experience' then you can't even get shop work and if you have a C.V. of 'higher' experience then you are not accepted to work in a shop because the employer believes that you are not suited to the position! The National Govt has destroyed our country!!

Keeping the unemployment rate low will assist to keep benefit payments lower and will help everybody in the long run, personally I also feel that people on a benefit should receive less and should be forced to work more forcefully to keep unemployed benefit pay-outs lower

should have own industries where employment are created, educating all at their cost which is not small amount but not providing them of work is a selfish part of government and authorities in concern of taking money from students and not doing more for them to be employed. d

There is no concrete plan to diversify businesses and prepare for the future. This is already telling on current level of employment. The official’s figures do not reflect real unemployment amongst all age groups. Quality candidates, seeking professional engagements, very often find such openings overseas.

This is another worldwide issue, with the brunt of austerity measures hitting those who can least afford it. Whatever happened to compassion & charity from those who could afford it towards those who had fallen on hard times? E.g. a real hand up & not a hand out, person to person out there in the community?

Unemployment is very high, that can be seen in the case of homeless people.
Where are all the jobs we were promised. Personally have applied for dozens, with no luck, and not many bother to let you know you are unsuccessful. Bring back NZ made, create more employment.

a root cause of social problems
Apprenticeships need to be reintroduced and not all people are academic and therefore drop out. Some people are good with on the job training, Cadet Max which is backed by the Chamber of Commerce gives an opportunity to young ones that could fall through the cracks.

Auckland needs to generate more jobs and not just in the service industries. Youth unemployment must be addressed as it has a high costs to the community in the short and long term.

Crime and families
I am extremely capable but cannot get a job due to over qualifications and age (>50). It is equally hard for the young.

I want my kids to have a future
idle hands lead to crime
Intergenerational unemployment and unable to get employment because there aren't the jobs.
It is very hard to find a job.
Lack of jobs available
More available jobs will take stress out from welfare system
More jobs required
Not enough jobs for everyone at the moment
not happy
People with jobs make for a healthy economy

There is an insidious rise in people who are poor - because they don't have regular employment. Most self-employed people (who are not counted as unemployed) are living below the breadline because they are unable to earn enough. This has a major impact on the whole economy of Auckland

There's a high unemployment rate in NZ. We also need to attract/retain quality people in NZ
Too many adults who are unemployed simply because it is easier. Unemployment is the main cause. The people should know that they have bright future in their own country.

**Welfare**

More about the uncertainty of work in this current market. As a person who is unwell, I worry about keeping my job, although my boss is pretty good, I don't think he knows how to deal with me. The wages are good for the office job, but my other job as a support worker is lower than the office job. Again, this shows what is considered more important in this world. Our wages are too low and contribute to emigration and loss of talent, not to mention make life difficult for those that stay. Lowering taxes would improve the economy.

Wages need to be higher, even for jobs with the Council!

Well that's obvious isn't it,... prices go up every day, milk, bread, all sorts of foods, gas, power, you name it, it goes up, but wages stay the same, and are far too low per hourly rate in my opinion. WE shouldn't have to work a combined 80 hours a week to meet our bills.

without wages increasing, people cannot spend which in turn hurts our economy, everything is rising faster than wages and sooner or later, something will have to give.

Aren't going up as much as inflation

Higher to meet living costs.

Higher wages would be good for me as my husband been battling to get his business off the ground

It's hard for an average person to be able to sustain a decent level of living and afford to buy a house with the current wages.

Many people on poor wages

Match the continuing inflation rates

minimum wages must be increased

need more consistency with wages across the board

Not high enough compared with living costs

Not keeping up with cost of living

People need a decent basic wage to be able to meet their commitments

Relates to above - wages need to follow inflation but never do

Salaries not increased at par with inflation

That all businesses are required to increase wages to coincide with inflation. That living costs do not outweigh the current average wage.

The average Auckland wage is not enough for people to live on. Prices need to come down or wages need to go up.

The cost of everything is rising in Auckland but wages aren't keeping up with this - living is unaffordable.

There's never enough.

too low to live within our means & care for children & education

Wages are not increasing as the price of living increases.

Wages are too low to be able to afford a house or other items. Living week to week is not enough. Higher wages means more money to spend with retailers and builders/plumbers etc

**Youth**

As with health, plus providing relief and support for families in rental properties. Sharing low cost access to worthwhile services in medical and living services.

The Council must ensure that ALL residents of Auckland City are cared for, not just the rich sector with the built-in lobbying ability it already has.

We must bring about support for those lowest income (20%) earners of our community. Few people choose to be unemployed.

We must create employment and the state of disrepair of land beside railway lines, for example, could be tu

Lack of consideration for welfare

Overall welfare of whanau and children living in poverty

There are too many families living in poverty and poor housing.

Welfare abused

Welfare is draining this country and beneficiaries choose welfare as a lifestyle in many cases. The country and therefore each city could do so much more for its people if it wasn't doling out welfare in unbelievable increments.
Private transport

Auckland’s youth population continues to grow without learning essential life skills and many have an attitude of everyone owes me without learning what they owe our city.

High youth unemployment rates are leading to many young people becoming disengaged from society and finding unhealthy outlets for their frustrations. They are promised that education is the answer but many of the available courses, while costing huge amounts of money, do not lead to employment. We need to have a serious rethink about how we tailor education to meet workforce needs.

Increased intervention with at risk youth, social messaging to inspire youth to be the best they can be.

More opportunities for young people to be mentored, attend life skills programmes such as Discovery for Teens (I have worked as an adult volunteer several times on this programme - www.discoveryforteens.co.nz - and have seen AMAZING transformations!!). More partnerships with the business community to give young people a sense of creating a future rather than just idling through their time.

Our youth seem to lack the respect of yesteryear but also lack the support of the family unit. Many of our youth are raised in single parent families where the parent is still a child themselves. Youth suicides are far too high, there are too many ending their lives because they believe there is no one there for them.

That youth facilities will be provided. Adequate counselling facilities provided in schools. That incentive is provided for ongoing education. That streets are monitored and that systems are put in place to help parents cope and decrease the potential for violence in homes. That wages are paid adequately to youths based on type of work, not just minimum wage.

Youth hanging about = problems, they need direction and all other skills

A future

is the future of the city

keep youth off the streets

Shortage of facilities for youth including public transport in Franklin

Neighbourhood and city facilities Parks, reserves etc.

Already a big issue with parks being removed for motorway extensions. Sports grounds for kids are becoming few and far between. Where will the children play? These decisions have far reaching consequences.

Good living standards means nice parks to enjoy, safe walkways, good recreational facilities available to all.

Green spaces, communal areas whether parks or centres are critical for building and maintaining healthy communities. Beauty is important for people’s sense of safety and wellbeing in cities.

It is things like playgrounds, bike ways, parks, libraries, community halls and local festivals that help make a neighbourhood pleasant to live in. When residents go out and use them it adds to a sense of community and belonging and encourages purchase of local produce.

More parks and reserves for public use, keeping Auckland’s streets clean and safe

Neighbourhood and city facilities are essential to having a vibrant city where people’s mental and societal health and nurtured.

Libraries are a key part of these facilities - they are the great equaliser.

Protect and enhance regional parks as a distinct jewel in Auckland’s crown, particularly the Waitakere Ranges (meet obligations under Heritage Act)

This is for the ‘health’ of the city. Having good parks and reserves allows people to relax and gain fitness, etc.

Usable new public reserves need to be acquired as reserve contributions instead of cash, as has happened in Warkworth, hence the shortage of sports grounds in Warkworth

Without green areas communities have nowhere for recreation, for family enjoyment, for exercise, and enjoyment of open spaces.

A city can never have enough of these and it is the duty of the council to ensure we do and that these are safe for all

A lot of our parks are covered in graffiti highly littered (some don’t even have bins) and in disrepair.

Absolutely critical to create neighbourhood viability. In particular access to quality sporting and recreational facilities

Auckland council are only interested in revenue

Core Council role

For mental wellbeing of all citizens

Free well-managed public spaces provide a much-needed way for stressed out people to recharge and come back to reality. This is literally a vital necessity.

Greenspaces at risk!

I don’t really like cities but Auckland is lovely because of all the parks etc. which helps distress and is good for the birds etc.

Important to maintain facilities and provide more as the population grows. Also important to not spend money on facilities that are not needed/do not provide great social return.
In the new subdivisions around us there are 'green spaces' compulsorily left by the developers. Too often these are useless pieces of ground - steep or very wet. They can only be looked at. Parks

Keeping up the good services already established for these facilities.

Maintain and improve parks and facilities

Maintain and preserve green areas in neighbourhoods. Get sports fields up to suitable standard so that they are usable most of the year around.

making sure that these facilities are developed to complement the residential and employment growth and that Councils support is equitable on a population level and for all activities and sports

Need to balance funding with these against raising taxes etc too high

Need to be maintained and added to as the population increases.

Need to keep bush areas.

No point living here without good facilities

There needs to be more money spent in a more even and consistent manner spent on parks

These add to the quality of life in the city.

These are vital to the heath of the community and I believe that currently there is good care being taken and want to see this continued.

these must not only be kept up but added to

They have to be there for people to use and managed so they stay in a good state

this keeps up the community

To be a truly liveable city green spaces need to be preserved for family recreation and sport.

Where you live is important and we must have good facilities to make Auckland an attractive and liveable city.

As promised three years ago, it's time things like rubbish collections were standardised around the city. This doesn't mean (as with other things), that the most expensive model is implemented around the city.

Auckland as an amalgamated city is performing well, well below the way it did when we were just Waitakere. These issues need to be addressed right across the board. Libraries no long repair and maintain audio books (against staff wishes). There is massive wastage in public works (I regularly watch a Council man cut a large swathe of grass with a weed eater when it can be done in a tenth of the time with a lawn-mower). Issues phoned in to Council are not addressed until stronger steps are made to enquire why.

Better protection of Heritage, old buildings. There are some beautiful examples across Auckland, they should be protected.

Council allowing NZ Housing to sell people's land to other people, and in the same point not caring they're taking homes away from poor people and giving it to wealthy people. It seems to be a feeling that the rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer.

Council demolishing Housing and not replacing it. It is very well for the Council to claim more housing is needed, but if so it should at least replace the housing stock it demolishes. The council is part of the problem!

Council MUST attend to core services before anything else. Our sewerage system needs millions, but it is not as glamorous as a new art centre. In other words, priorities need to be examined carefully.

Councillors and Local Board members have to be smart about issues. I've been to many local board meetings, and too often there are a few members (and councillors at hearings) who complain a lot, get off topic, think they represent the community's views when they don't, are very closed minded towards their own agendas/interests and don't understand strategic planning. To summarise; Councillors and local board members, please be open minded, forward thinking and constructive - don't give an opinion on a matter without providing helpful, informed advice/ an informed opinion.

Cut back on the number of employees within Council, including managerial....we are a small city in a small county....we must stop pretending we are up there with New York, Sydney and London. We never will be.

Dog licensing - this should be transparent and fair. Please do not ask law abiding and considerate dog owners to subsidise those who cannot be bothered to register, desex or socialise their animals.

Education - Novopay has a lot to answer for. Teachers and schools are unsettled because of this ridiculous situation, and the children are unwitting pawns (as are the teachers!)

Feel the city is becoming unliveable. Queen St is not the only place in the city and in the suburbs, trees need chopping, roads need signs and fiddling with the rubbish collections is just time wasting in my opinion.

Get rid of 90% of the 2.00 shops. Bring back good businesses.
Government funding to schools. I'm a Teacher Aide working voluntarily, because schools just don't have the budget. I have literally been to over 40 schools with my CV, had 2 interviews & was given 1 job. Then let go before given my hours, because of funding being pulled.

Health care needs to be more readily available, especially to youths that can't rely on their parents

Heritage - loss of heritage buildings and sites, cultural sites of importance to Maori. Loss of the character of our old suburbs.

Hi-rise dwellings. 1. Tinakori (?) St (South end) in Wellington has magnificent low-rise, high-density housing. 2. Browns Bay (for example) could take high-rise dwellings on the South side, under the cliffs, without discommoding anyone - just get rid of the low-rise commercial units taking up this space.

High rates, debt and wasteful spending I'm sure are concerns to the whole community.

Housing costs keep rising, leaky homes are a major problem

How rates spending is given to groups like the arts, but cuts are made to more essential services

I am STRONGLY opposed to any public money being used for the proposed music and arts centre in Glen Innes. This project needs to be done privately, or not at all. I will NOT be voting for any candidate who will use ratepayers' money in this inappropriate fashion: it is not the business of local government to provide entertainment, but to enforce the law, and protect the innocent from harm.

I think Auckland Council needs to something about alcohol and the serious harm it has on society. What we see happening in the Auckland CBD late at night on weekends isn't acceptable. The amount of abuse that we see as a result of people becoming inebriated is also a major problem that the city council needs to take a strong stand on. If areas have a liquor ban in place, then enforce them.

I think that the council should concentrate on providing core services to its community and butt out of issues such as education and welfare, leaving these to central government.

I'm not sure how prevalent it is but there is the risk of immigrants not fully integrating into NZ society, creating potential for future racial issues.

If any council plan goes wrong or wrong doing, the councillor or person who is responsible for that should be liable to pay it back. Just like the Plastic Waka and the cloud. The tax payer's money should be refunded and the people responsible to implement them should pay that money.

Infrastructure - roads, sewerage, public transport, etc.,

Infrastructure. If population density increases, where will children go to school?

More regular public transport, especially rail, going into more suburbs e.g. Blockhouse Bay etc.

Need to build apartment 'resort' complexes in suburbs for housing. Have lived in one in Singapore and they are fantastic - house a lot of people and they all get to know each other. Must be quality - not slums. Swimming pools, playgrounds etc. within complex. Fantastic!

Need to purchase new regional parkland, as mitigation for land lost to new housing

New Lynn: all the millions of dollars put into the main street and it is dangerous! the road markings cannot be seen at night. The lights at memorial and gt north randomly turn on and off, distracting drivers not expecting it while driving through

Particularly in the west there is a need for more swimming facilities, particularly as the city has introduced free entry for those under the age of 16 years. It is patently obvious that no thought was given to the extent the West wave complex would be overcrowded by this change in policy. In south Auckland I believe there are up to 8 pool complexes to cope with the change.

People elected are good at making the right decisions, and are team players

People need to understand what Council does deliver to the rate payers, from the ground up. Not just the regulatory role. Do people even understand the day to day stuff anymore?

Price of food in NZ, having to pay GST on Fruit & Veges is a cry. Why can Australia do it but not here?

Propose high rise plans for housing. We have already sufficient dogbox apartments and from what I have seen overseas when travelling end up as slums. It is time to control the population to a given number that the Area can supply housing for. The more crammed in the more food required etc. And this is a finite amount of land to supply vegetables, meat etc.

Rates - I strongly believe that the rates burden should not fall only on the shoulders of property owners. There has been a huge increase of cost responsibilities falling to councils that has maybe moved away from taxpayers under the government. I think everyone in an area should pay for the services not just landowners. With huge Auckland property prices it is no longer the case that rents cover rates, they just don't and the tenants should be paying as per the London system of council tax, every person in a property could be charged a set rate.

Rates where we subsidise Manukau and Henderson while not being able to afford living in the house we have lived in for 27 years. Thanks for nothing! In-laws in Manukau now have house devalued to lower rates (to suck up) and now can't afford to move to retirement village. Once again thanks for nothing.

Rates! The Council promised not to raise rates, but they have and they will continue to do so.

Rural Auckland is becoming far too encroached by suburbs, houses need to go up not out

Some form of incentive for people to live near where they work, possibly by having zone tolls on motorways and major arterial routes. Encouraging businesses to have glide time for staff to reduce congestion on the roads through heavy peak periods

The escalating cost of living in Auckland, we have a young family and are finding it harder to live within our budget.
The grossly unfair rating system so that older established areas closer to the city centre which have very little money spent on them or facilities close by such as pools, sport grounds, parks with decent children's equipment etc.

The libraries seem to be abandoning their core functions of providing public access to good literature and research facilities. Classics are never on the shelves, and there are often long waiting lists to get them. When you search for a popular book in the online catalogue there is a long list of AV resources before you finally get to the actual book, which usually comes last in the search.

The middle class family in NZ normally has both parents working Full or part-time and still struggle to get by whereas dependants of the state are given hand-outs, free health and benefits left, right and Centre while we struggle to keep ahead of mortgage repayments and other bills.

The outer areas of Auckland, recently included, are not generally recognised by wider Council as being as important as the more central city areas. In other words rural/urban areas do not get the attention they deserve and expect.

The size and cost of Council staff, when most of us are tightening our belts, rate increases seem uncontrolled......

UNEMPLOYMENT: Why do we not have those on the unemployment benefit having to work, even if it is mowing elderly lawns, painting graffiti fences, cleaning up our streams and waterways? Making a contribution...... not just taking a hand-out

Vandalism, litter - need stronger penalties and deterrents.

Wastage of rates on functions, non-events and feel good ideas

Welfare- WE NEED TO STOP LETTING THOSE PEOPLE GET THE DOLE WHEN ALL THEY DO IS SIT AROUND ON THEIR ASS AND SPEND THE TAX PAYERS MONEY ON GAMBLING, ALCOHOL, SMOKING, BOY RACER CARS ETC.

What happened to the Roading Infra-Structure that ARC worked on? What are the roading 'plans'?

What is with the parks that have taken up to two years to finish in Pukekohe?! Is it bad design, or bad planning? Pitiful.

Yes, Len Brown spending so much of our high rates for his public relations, bloody ridiculous, should be held accountable

Yes, the site lines for the volcanoes in Auckland need to be left for all to see our iconic volcanoes which make Auckland different to many other places. I believe that there is legislation to that effect, but it must be made mandatory.

Youth - youth offending is on the rise. Young people are growing up with a sense of entitlement and no desire or pressure to take responsibility for their actions. As a result there is increased street drunkenness and disorder, assaults, property damage, vehicle crime and many, many other issues.

Access to good health care

Accountability of public leaders

Beneficiaries taking the piss

Breakdown of community - reduced interactions between neighbours and tendency to avoid getting involved in anything outside one's own section - lack of awareness and support for each other.

Broken promises relating to maximum increase/maximum decreases in rates over 3 year period following Akld local body amalgamation being reduced in their 2nd year

Cavalier wastage of ratepayers money with no REAL public input

Civics education in schools to encourage local body voting and nation-wide voting

Community gardens. It's easy to lose touch with your community when living in a city. Communal space is very important and will help keep us all safe.

Continual rate increases that are above the rate of inflation

Cost of local government too high

Council expenditure and apparent lack of control

Criminal

Cutting founding of DOC

Education is vital if we're to survive in the world today. Even Australia has higher standards than we do for gaining qualifications. I'd like to see people NOT coming here because they can't get into Australia to learn English. We need to raise the bar on this issue.

Elderly

Electrification of train lines seems to be taking forever

Epsom always gets new footpaths. Why?

Ever-increasing rates

Government's fraudulent behaviour

Health System - Invest more in Education & Health then what we currently do. These two issues will determine the state of NZ in the future

High prices of building consents
How about councils stick to core business? Rate rises over the past decade are way out of line with inflation and general increases in wages. Also consider those on fixed incomes.

I don’t care of other issues for now

I think raising tax on petrol is perhaps the economically most effective and fair way to reduce private car traffic.

I want to know that Auckland is going to be a safe and enjoyable place for my daughter (and son if he decides to come back to NZ to live). We need affordable housing and spaces for recreation - parks and clean beaches.

Inability to surely negotiate a two party power system.

Increasing green space to match increasing population density.

Insufficient rest home spaces for the elderly or unwell (as in Alzheimer’s for example)

It is time local politicians took a leaf out of national politicians and made more contact with the public. Many of them are just not known to the community.

Keeping students interested and occupied.

Lack of empathy and care the community has for the environment - especially motorists

LGBT concerns

Low voter turnout in Local Body elections

Lowering traffic volume in Auckland

Mental Health

Need more cycle ways that are not on the road that we can use to commute to work?

Noise pollution. This is an increasing problem as people show less and less respect for their neighbours. If an increase in 'infill' housing comes about this problems will be intensified.

not happy with the health care system

Nothing that springs to mind

Obesity is an epidemic. Obese people use too much of the health resources. Fill up hospital beds Diabetes is a massive problem.

Our current Mayor

Pedestrians are treated as second class citizens. They don't get priority at traffic lights and there are not enough pedestrian crossings. The city does not encourage walking.

Pollution in beaches and rivers

Price of housing... It's difficult for an average person to be able to buy a house.

Protect built heritage in the city and protect coastal villages from development.

Rates

Rates are too high because we have to pay GST on them which is a tax on a tax. rates are too high cut them

rates increases

Replacing aging infrastructure

Resolving the problems with charges for water services.

Rising costs of facilities since they took over

Roadworks are haphazard. Mt Eden rd has been dug up in the same areas twice within the year. Utility co should be informed so they can do work required at the same time.

Rubbish bins not being collected on day when told to put them out. Do not want to pay more for such a bad service.

Safe roads for walkers.

See selection of issues I rated as important on a previous page

Should be a rate reduction for bush protection areas.

Sustainable waste processing.

That council run entities like watercare are not working like a monopoly and keep prices as low as possible and not run as a cash cow.

That transport should reflect where people wish to go as far as possible. The interconnection of all forms of public transport should be continued and made as smooth as possible.

The amount of money wasted by the council on unimportant things.

the attitude to denser housing in inner suburbs

The economy needs to be kept a watch on so we van create more jobs etc.

The future of the Waitemata harbour. The Port's plan to reclaim land and further narrow the harbour must not go ahead. Using waterfront land for container storage is wasteful and ugly. There is an 'inland port' and also we need a NZ wide port plan rather than the current competitive model which is plainly not producing good outcomes.

The growth of large sports grounds in high residential areas. Eden Park in particular is having a detrimental effect on the neighbourhood. It is trying to expand in an area with no capacity to cope.
The high level of welfare dependency.

The houseboats on Waiheke that have been there for many years have been asked to move on and leave and I believe they should stay.

The intention of Council to have Developers contributions (money) go out of the area is very unfair to those living nearby. It should be spent locally.

The largest populated areas end up dictating who becomes Mayor.

The North Shore will very soon become entirely gridlocked if a second crossing across the harbour is not built.

The people not being listened to. It appears that once a decision has been made they are railroaded.

The port - I'd like to see port facilities moved to Tauranga/Whangarei.

The rush to have the submissions in for the Unitary Plan and for council decisions to notify by the end of August. Crazy and unfair to residents who need to learn and understand how the plan will affect them.

The social welfare system. I think that the rules and restrictions on the welfare need to be increasingly stricter and watched over more closely.

The state of Queen Street. Many years ago it was a thriving area now seems dead and full of empty shops or shops selling cheap and shoddy goods. Not a good introduction for tourists.

The unitary plan has more going for it than against it. Let us not allow it to be talked to death. It will be impossible to please everybody but let us not lose sight of the basic concepts e.g. varying size centres.

There are too many politicians that cost the country too much money.

Too much emphasis on cycle lanes and public transport that is not going to happen.

Transport

Transport issues - public transport in Auckland is a joke and near impossible to get to a destination on time if you have to use the motorway AND it's raining!

Treating each area of Auckland as if it were the same - each area has very different demographics and needs.

unsure

Use of Metrowater as a stealth form of rates

Wastage of money on events and trade trips which is not the council's job.

waste management

Watercare needs to be stopped from charging people for the wastewater they use to water their gardens -- this is not a wastewater cost to the system and gardening is an occupation that provides exercise and healthy food for many people.

We should shy away from a ‘nanny state’ mentality where we are told what we must/should do. Make beneficiaries accountable for what they receive.

We were told that the super-city was going to be of less cost to rate payers. That is not happening and I feel there is a lack of accountability by councillors and staff. Why does Len Brown need such a large team of ‘Spin Doctors’?

welfare is unsustainable

Within a one kilometre range of our house there are 5 liquor outlets which is a major over kill.

Work for welfare systems -

Other 2

And the roading plans we had were all cancelled when Auckland took over. The link from Manukau Rd to Golding Rd would have been fantastic, as it's a huge round trip to get from one road to the other. Would have cleared up heavy traffic from the main town centre. And the money was already there to be spent! Thanks a lot Auckland!

Auckland City Transport - I don't understand why it costs so much when you're trying to get Aucklanders to stop using their cars. I have been forced to use public transport, as I had to sell my car due to financial difficulties, but it has been a nightmare some days to use public transport.

Better employment options for older people to help in voluntary, semi-voluntary and paid positions. There is a wealth of talent out there that are not dollar-driven but could make immense improvements.

Bring back local councils, get rid of super city. Papakura is getting 18 story apartments really!! My mother's beautiful house of 55 years is getting demolished to build apartments really!! What about her?

Bus Station outside Lynmall is wicked in the winter not much shelter at all. Very cold and very wet Bus station outside Transport centre cold and wet. Rail stations-NEW LYNN-NEWMARKET very cold and very wet I don't know about others-at least we do have a waiting room that I'm very grateful for.

Council spending on entertainments. In a time when many people are struggling to pay council rates, it is not appropriate for the council to fund so many ‘free’ events.

Despite the volume of staff, repeated requests for information can be ignored for months....
Halls, Venues etc. Management - be open about this and advise any sale of assets and any other new uses. Advice regarding Council selling buildings and land and what is happening to the funds and why are they selling?

Health - We are now coming into Winter, with yet another rogue Influenza problem looming. Many people are unable to avail themselves of preventive vaccine because they can't afford to pay doctors' fees. Rheumatic Fever is also razing its ugly head again ...

I am concerned about the proposals for multi level housing, I feel strongly that children need space to move about and play in and I am concerned that we will end up with a situation like England where children are less active and spend more time indoors than out, this will contribute further to the obesity issues that we are already experiencing and put additional strain on our health services. Whilst I am sure there will be designated play areas most parents would be reluctant to let young children go there unaccompanied and therefore these would probably only be used during the weekends as most afternoons after school parents are trying to prepare meals and don't have time to take the kids to the playground down the road, it is much easier to tell the kids to go outside and play in their own yard whilst you prepare dinner. We have always prided ourselves on being an outdoorsy nation and I feel we are giving that up to become more like the European countries which I feel is a huge mistake.

I am concerned that it seems to have taken a very long time for Auckland Council to have brought themselves together into one entity. There are still many aspects of council services that are divided according to the previous city policies. I would also strongly support a mayor who would do everything he/she could to unite the various parts of Auckland. The people of certain wealthy suburbs still have significant disdain for people living in less plush suburbs. People are people, and should be respected as such.

I would be interested in hearing the pros and cons regarding land and buildings being leased - say for 100 years or maybe 150 years, and then the freehold would revert to New Zealanders.

I'm not happy at the way infill housing has been imposed on us with no warning and no chance to vote on such an important change to our living environments. Who wants to part of a city of boring apartment blocks? That is why we live in NZ. It is further removing the habitat and doing more to drive tuis, wood pigeons and fantails away that were so plentiful and such a pleasure than cats ever did. And I'm not happy about the change from never touch a tree no matter what policies (way too much control) to the the current open slaughter on stand after stand of trees (too little control) entirely changing the character of our neighbourhood. How about a happy median attitude here that allows for common sense?

Love to see our public transport systems equal Australia’s, particularly Melbourne. As a recent visitor to their city, I was greatly impressed at their user friendly transport systems. e.g. the multi transport Myki cards, the frequency of transport and the safety for passengers, & cover for weather

Make available detailed information on the costings for the justification of the city rail loop. Don't patronise us with glossy bland figures to justify the city views. If your planners are worth their salt their figures should be robust and able to withstand close scrutiny.

Mixing it up. We can't segregate our communities, push the elderly outside the city, build housing support in the back blocks, and create immigrant ghettos. We have to be able to integrate the whole community.

Population growth is useless when all you get are little useless kids born by useless parents on the dole who can't raise a child THEY ONLY HAVE KIDS TO GET MONEY FROM THE GOVERNMENTNZ should be more like other countries, if you're poor with no job and money, you're screwed

Roading and Motorways... Sick of the traffic in Auckland, and I can't use the public transport as the buses don't come as regularly near our house.

Roading and transport.....we really must start looking at tolls on roads into Auckland....all motorways in and out of the city. In addition, reduce the number of commercial vehicles over 5 ton entering the city during the rush hour periods, and reassign them to hours in-between. Although extremely costly, an up to date city rail system, such as those abroad, should be planned for....it will be the only way traffic will be reduced in the centre, allowing the banning of private vehicles in the City Centre. New Zealand needs to get over the 'I must park my car as near to my destination as possible' syndrome.

Rubbish collection - West Auckland still has plastic bags - unhygienic, easily torn on the street and dangerous for collectors if there are jagged edges etc.

Street parking. In my street because several young people have purchased houses and then have up to five flatmates with cars, cars are parked on both sides of the street. If a fire engine had to come etc. my section and home it would not be able to. Similarly if I need an ambulance it could not turn into or exit out of my drive at particular times especially at night. It is not annoying when cars park over the pavement in front of garage doors for the night. I use a pushchair to walk my grandson with disability and at times we have to leave the footpath to get around a selfishly parked car.

Street prostitution, it's all very well to have all these meetings and things out in South Auckland and to have things documented in board minutes etcetera but at the end of the day, residential and prostitute health is being affected by council inability to follow through.

The red tape and time it takes quite often to get, simple building consents; the cost of getting simple building consents

The spending of the council is out of control. Debt is a big problem.

Too many people have not known about the meetings held to inform about the Ak Unitary plan. Our area does not get the local paper delivered, nor does it get The Aucklander delivered. I found out about the meeting by chance on the day it was held. No one else I have spoken to knew it was on.

Transport - just getting around Auckland is getting more difficult, especially for older people. I hate driving over the bridge for anything, such as medical appointments (from North Shore) because of parking difficulties.

a world-class theatre/opera house complex
Better protection for heritage buildings
Casinos
CBD beggars need to be cleared off the street and taken to a WINZ office to be assessed
Cost of housing and what seems to be ever increasing rates.
Cost of local government
Councillor’s wages. An 8% rise! What a cheek.
Eating habits.
Elderly
Electricity prices. we should not have to pay more for it when we use more than an industrial user does but they get it for half the price
Excessive rates increases
Excessive spending by council
For preparedness for Volcano or whatever we need emergency kits but though is lot of info is not always clear what is needed in the getaway pack or the at home emergency packs.  Could a video be made of a family packing their packs and what they put in them and why and sent by email to all or to libraries?
GST and Tax. The Govt promised not to raise GST but they did and they continue to try to find ways to tax on taxes
Hard line on synthetic drugs
Horse Excrement all over the foot paths
How can we reduce land banking in the town centre (and elsewhere)? Why do we have knocked down buildings being using as car parks? - Such a waste of valuable land and a blight on the landscape.
Infrastructure that meets the current and future demands.
large over grown trees on the kerb that have been planted by the council but NEVER GET TRIMMED even after us asking many times.
law
Len Brown is such an arrogant dickhead - if noone stands against him it will be a catastrophe.  He is buoyed along by his non rate paying poor lefties thinking that the wealthy will pay for whatever hair brained scheme he dreams up.  His pay is far too high.
Make more park area in the tank farm - like Sydney next to the Opera House.
More investment in stewardship and leadership programmes to ensure the right people end up in management roles.
More parks
not so happy with the education system
Our heritage buildings are inadequately protected. Council staff and planners have too much vested interest in real estate values continuing to rise.
Overpaid employees at the council who serve no purpose.
Parking - need lots more FREE parking close to the main transport hubs so that people can actually use them.
Planning for a second harbour crossing must be given priority.  A rail tunnel may well be the quickest way to ease congestion and give the North Shore a modern public transport alternative.
Planning should be for New Zealand and should not be short sighted.  for example all the railway lines and tram lines were taken off and now plans to bring them back
public transport
Rate rebates for properties with bush clearing restrictions
Rates
Rates increases
Rates!!!
Review housing New Zealand benefits and make them short term
road works
road works at Waterview affect traffic right up to the Titirangi border 12ks away. This is going to be going on for a few years. it is absolutely appalling that a usual 12 minute trip to work takes 60 minutes
Safety through law enforcement and community policing
See selection of issues I rated as important on a previous page
Some foods and some public services should not have GST charged on them
That affordable housing for the lower economic group of elderly should be continued.
The amount of young individuals on Benefits - taking my tax money when they are perfectly capable of finding paid work but are too lazy.
The government needs to come to the party in supporting the basic concepts and avoiding endless sprawl.
The vast waste of student and tax-payer money on vague tertiary education.
The wastefulness of our current Council
there is a need for open spaces and corridors e.g. the Oakley Creek is the only long waterway in the city and it is now blocked off by the SH20 project and the crossing before New North Rd.

Those that have worked hard and contributed to our society should not be penalized by their life savings and homes being used for aged care when others that have never worked nor contributed but merely sucked the welfare system continue to get cared for.

Too many cars

Too much bureaucracy

Too much involvement in activities which should be the responsibility of central Government

Too much talking about things and never doing them

Want fewer malls and sprawling commercial/retail developments that take life away from urban villages and centres.

waterfront development

We don't need another harbour bridge.

We need to concentrate on developing community initiatives to meet the huge issues related to drugs and crime in parts of Auckland. These are issues that lead to dysfunctional communities and the alienation of youth -- one of the results being NZ's high youth suicide rate.

Why is west Auckland still paying for rubbish collection and why doesn't it have a free inorganic.

Also for the government to target the youth for employment versus the older folk like me. The youth are physically more able to carry out whatever tasks are required in menial roles, than older people. They are also more prone to committing crime when they are bored and have no focus.

Bring back the Movie Centre in NEW LYNN New Lynn needs a big swimming complex like Henderson

Competence in the council. I try to get local jobs done and Council says see transport, transport says see Watercare and so on.

Watercare increased charges and dropped service and pretend people wanted monthly billing (yeah right)

Dog control is pitiful. I live just along from Grey Lynn Park and there is disregard for on leash laws yet each time I call dog control they take them about an hour to get there. They tell me when they do manage to charge someone flouting the law the council often waive their fine. I don't want dogs running up to my children and pooping all over the place, it is disgusting yet the dog owners have the rule of the place. The Council needs to get serious and commit more funds to this problem or else get a provider in who can do some serious control not just log calls.

Ensuring that hospitals such as Waitakere Hospital are provided with assistance to make them a full unit, rather than losing core services to other hospitals. West Auckland needs a full service Hospital.

Good, frequent and affordable public transport

Health. The Govt promised to increase the standard of health and dental care in NZ – it has become worse, not better. It is against the Human Rights Act to withhold the necessities of life, yet the National Govt has allowed medical costs to increase and waiting times to lengthen - the standard of medical care is dropping because many medical staff are leaving the country to find better wages!

I applied for a job at Council once and they asked if I supported the views of the Mayor. Whether I support them or not, I am allowed to have my own opinion and it should not affect whether I get a job with Council or not. There is a lot of red tape within the Council and faulty systems that make it difficult for Auckland residents.

Make those dole parasites work for money! Get them to sweep the roads, scrape gum off sidewalks or clean public toilets!

Need for more open space, parks, swimming pools

Need to embrace modern technology council meetings streamed live, real time questioning of council lets etc.

People having to pay for services even though they don't use them. For example - a senior citizen in my neighbourhood pays rates for 2 properties yet doesn't utilise the rubbish or recycling collection for one of these properties, yet council has told her she still has to pay for it.

Public Transport - Jeez! Don't get me started, or I'm likely to forget that I'm a 'lady'!

Real need for a high speed train service to Hamilton and other cities just like Wellington or any other world class cities.. this will solve the housing problem also. The bus fares are too high.. one stage is almost same as a litre of petrol.. you must be kidding.. Nowhere in the world, we have this rate...

The building resources are dodgier than ever. So much stuff swept under the carpet. People hired on who they know, not what they know. Back stabbing and under handedness. Who is in charge of this mess? So many people want out of council. Thank god my husband managed too. The council has turned out to be as big a mess as people thought it would be.

The fact that the council thinks up ideas and then tells the public what they propose to do, rather than asking the public what they want and then working on a project to incorporate these ideas. Don't waste so much money on draft plans knowing that they may well not go ahead. The time frame for submissions is ridiculous and the public needs to have plenty of time to think and plan for what they have to say. The future is not in a hurry. Why is the council?

Too many SEA's are pine trees or gorse, and the owners do not know that they have an SEA over their property.
We should celebrate the problems we don't have like extreme political partisanship, guns and crime. We are blessed in New Zealand.

Britomart Historic Precinct - protect this from Mr Cooper's multi-storey hotel and any other modern building in our only 'Heritage Precinct.' Embrace it as a heritage precinct.

Conserving heritage areas/buildings/trees

Could our schools be used for two sessions a day? Thus obviating the need to have more buildings being built.

council accountability to its ratepayers

Credit for the effective library system is definitely due.

Crime

Design standard for buildings of all kinds including shops and factories.

Development of the entertainment sector to attract tourists

Environmental issues - old cars on road spewing out dangerous pollution.

Funding for the Arts in particular for the Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra so that the orchestra can have some certainty about its future and the players who contribute so much to this city can be paid a living wage.

Get people out of their cars. Use the buses.

Horses being ridden at full gallop up foot paths

How come berms get mowed in MT albert by the council but not in west Auckland!!!

How to afford rental accommodation when on superannuation.

Local police stations often closed too early in the day and week ends

more jobs needed

Rates

Rates!!~!!

See selection of issues I rated as important on a previous page

Taxi drivers being taught the road code about not using horns between 11pm & 7am. Just because they have to be awake doesn't mean everyone else has to be! Police it!!

That early childhood education and care should be accessible to those who want it.

Too many people on benefit and taking advantage of the welfare system. Need much tougher rules.

Too much spent on Maori consultation

Transports and The road issues around the long waits and queues