

YOUTH CONNECTIONS

Across Auckland

- Auckland Council's Youth Connections Across Auckland project is about working with young Aucklanders to ensure that they all have a plan and direction for their future.
- The key principle is that local champions connect schools and young people with opportunities in employment, education and training.
- The project is designed to complement the work of central government departments, such as the Ministry of Social Development and the Ministry of Education.

"We're ambitious, but we know by working collaboratively with partner organisations we can make a big difference to Auckland's young people."

- Penny Hulse, Deputy Mayor

Objectives:

- to ensure all young people leave school with a plan and a direction that will help them meet their potential
- to provide local leadership and solutions to local issues and communities
- to encourage the business community to take a leading role for the future of their workforce
- to work collaboratively with Auckland's young people, schools, youth programmes, employers and central government agencies.

Deliverables:

- Local board youth employment champions
- all school leavers with a pathway into education, training and employment
- business community involved in work experience, employment and development opportunities
- school leaver tracking and reporting system
- collaboration among stakeholders
- robust evaluation programme.

Project Funding:

- Tindall Foundation, Auckland Airport Community Trust, Hugh Green Foundation, Auckland Council.



YOUTH CONNECTIONS ACROSS AUCKLAND

Local Boards Operating Youth Connections:

- Mangere-Otahuhu
- Maungakiekie-Tamaki
- Otara- Papatoetoe
- Puketapapa
- Whau & Henderson-Massey
- Hibiscus & Bays
- Papakura
- Rodney
- Kaipatiki

Steering Group:

- Chair: Penny Hulse - Deputy Mayor
- Auckland Council
- BEST Pacific Institute of Education
- Auckland Airport Community Trust
- Te Wananga Aotearoa
- The Tindall Foundation
- Ministry of Social Development
- COMET Auckland
- SPANZ – Secondary Principals' Association New Zealand
- Employers & Manufacturers Association
- Careers NZ
- M.I.T.E. – Maori into Tertiary Education
- Mayors Taskforce for Jobs
- Hugh Green Foundation
- Local Board Champions
- C-Me Mentoring
- ATEED

Youth Transition Sector Stakeholders:

Social Sectors Leadership Group, Employers, Business Associations, Te Puni Kokiri, TEC – Tertiary Education Commission, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs, Ministry of Economic Development, Foundation for Youth Development, ATEED (Auckland Tourism, Events and Economic Development), Workchoice Trust, Department of Labour, Migrant Services, Office for Disability Issues, Office of the Children's Commission, Ministry of Youth Development, Ministry of Justice, Work and Income, Committee for Auckland, Chamber of Commerce.

FAQ's

- Auckland Council is a member of the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs, whose focus is youth employment and engagement in local communities.
- A large number of school leavers will need support moving on to further education, employment or training.
- Auckland Council's Youth Connections Across Auckland project is about working with these young people to ensure that they all have a plan and direction for their future.
- The project, based on principles from the successful youth connections work done in Otorohanga and championed by the Mayor, Dale Williams, is tailored for the specific needs of each participating local board area.
- The key principle of the project is that local champions connect schools and young people with opportunities in employment, education and training.
- School leavers will be tracked throughout the year.
- Youth Connections Across Auckland will compliment the work of central government departments, such as the Ministry of Social Development and the Ministry of Education.
- Auckland Council is working with the Tindall Foundation, Hugh Green Foundation and the Auckland Airport Community Trust, with support from the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs.
- There are ten local boards across Auckland involved in the project. Tindall Foundation are funding for four local board areas of Auckland. They are: Whau, Henderson-Massey, Mangere-Otahuhu, and Puketapapa. The Auckland Airport Community Trust is funding the Otara-Papatoetoe Local Board which falls within its area of benefit. Auckland Council is funding the Maungakiekie-Tamaki Local Board. The Hugh Green Foundation is funding the Papakura Local Board.
- The Local Boards of Hibiscus and Bays, Kaipatiki, and Rodney received a donation from The Tindall Foundation and have funded the project from limited discretionary funds.
- The project is being championed, driven and developed locally for the local community that each Local Board represents.
- Approximately 74% of school leavers across Auckland leave school with NCEA level 2. This percentage varies considerably throughout the local board areas, with some as low as 59%.
- Recent figures indicate that 17.2% of Main Benefit recipients are under the age of 24 years. This rises to 28.5% when looking at only the Unemployment Benefit.
- The NEET figure for Auckland is 23,800 or 10.4% at June 2013. We think Auckland can do better.
- The Auckland Plan, a key region-wide document, envisages a transformational shift in the prospect of children and young people, as well as a strong and sustainable economy.

Find out more:

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► **Find out more:** www.youthconnections.co.nz