

**VIC
CRONE
FOR MAYOR**

MY PLAN TO TACKLE

RATES

WASTE

& DEBT



BUILDING A WORLD CLASS AUCKLAND

We need to build a world class Auckland where all our families can live, work and play.

To do this, Auckland Council needs a clear vision and strong, fiscally responsible leadership. With 20 years' business and governance experience, that is the leadership I will provide.

We need to invest in critical infrastructure, deliver core services better, reduce waste and ensure ratepayers get value for money. We need to do it in a coordinated way.

I will balance keeping rates as low as possible with critical infrastructure investment to build a world class Auckland featuring an efficient council, a smart, integrated transport network and more affordable housing.

My plan will ensure Aucklanders can afford to live here, raise their families here, and enjoy the lifestyle our city offers.

Vic Crone


KEEPING YOUR RATES LOW

I know that ratepayers are better placed than the Mayor and Council to spend their hard-earned money. That's why I'm committed to keeping your rates low, leading a fiscally responsible Council and investing in the critical infrastructure our city needs as it grows. As your Mayor, I will:

Cap the average rates increase at 2 per cent annually for all residential ratepayers, over the next three years.

Last year ratepayers faced an average rates rise of 9.9 per cent, with some areas seeing increases of over 15 per cent.

My plan will keep rates as low as possible for all residential ratepayers and enable critical infrastructure investment to continue.

This policy will include a review of the Uniform Annual General Charge and the Interim Transport Levy.

CUTTING WASTE & REDUCING SPENDING

I'm committed to reducing waste and targeting spending so the Council delivers better services and value for money for Auckland ratepayers. Success should be measured by the results we achieve, not by how much money we spend. As your Mayor, I will:

Deliver at least \$500 million in savings through cutting waste

My plan will find savings of at least \$500 million in back office waste over the remainder of the 10-year Budget, whilst protecting frontline staff, services, and key capital investments.

I will change the Council's culture of waste by introducing a stronger financial transparency regime, opening the Council's books and imposing a Mayor-led Line-Item Review programme.

I will target efficiencies in procurement, end duplication and cut back office waste.

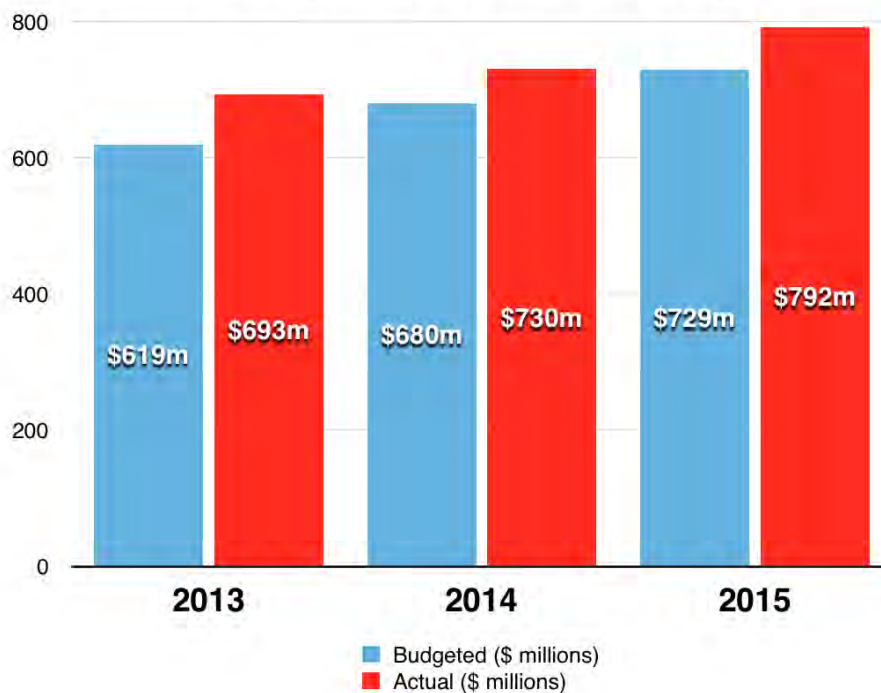
I'm committed to reducing back office staff numbers and staff costs, while improving frontline Council services.

Reduce staff costs by 5-10 per cent

The Super City was supposed to deliver a more efficient and more connected way of managing Auckland. Our current leadership has not followed through with that vision.

Auckland Council's staff numbers have grown out of control, and in each of the last three budgets the staff cost line-item has blown out by more than \$50 million.

**Auckland Council Group Staff Costs
(Budget and Actual 2013-2015)**



My plan will reduce staff costs by 5-10 per cent over the next three years, representing savings of approximately \$40 to \$80 million. This falls within the plan to deliver \$500 million in savings across Council.

This reduction will be achieved by capping Council staff numbers at current levels and delivering back office efficiencies. My plan will protect frontline staff and frontline resources. It's essential that Council works smarter and more collaboratively with a focus on delivering outcomes.

This plan will also address the size and scale of management structures across Council and review staffing duplication.

GETTING DEBT UNDER CONTROL

Council must not burden future generations with debt and neither must it burden current Aucklanders with high interest payments.

Auckland Council has committed to spend no more than 12% of income on the interest generated by debt. While interest rates are currently very low, we need to take action to get our debt under control.

As your Mayor, I will:

Pay down debt faster than currently forecast


We need to pay down debt sooner. I will use surpluses that exceed budgeted projections (once confirmed), for the next three years to:

- Reduce debt levels by making payments in addition to the debt management plan.

Aim to keep debt repayments on interest under 12% of revenue

I will ask Council Management to confirm analysis that even minor changes in interest rates will mean Council is breaching the 12% interest payments to revenue cap in the outer years of the Long Term Plan.

I will instruct Council Management for an updated debt management plan to reflect the potential for interest rate changes overtime.

A scenic view of a coastal city with a harbor, viewed from a grassy hillside. The sky is blue with some clouds. In the foreground, there is a large orange banner with white text.

VIC CRONE FOR MAYOR

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