

25 August 2015

Stephen Town  
CEO  
Auckland Council  
[Stephen.Town@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:Stephen.Town@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

Dear Mr Town,

I write to you today having listened to Mr. Graham Bodman at the Chairs Forum yesterday regarding the transitional phase of the CDAC team into an Empowered Communities Approach (ECA). I have also received and read his email received today at 1.40pm.

My Local Board has experienced an immediate drop in service levels through our CDAC person taking immediate redundancy. This has resulted in no CDAC support for the Manurewa Youth Council. We have other work streams negatively impacted however the intention of this letter is not to address the detailed outcomes thus far of the process.

I note in Mr Bodman's email of today that the consultation for the restructure has been through seven months of consultation and that 97% of staff members supported part or all of the proposed changes. It is important that we look after our employees and I acknowledge what a difficult time this is for many of our people.

The Local Board Chairs were presented with the staffing cuts resulting from the proposed ECA budgetary reduction at our May Chairs meeting. Subsequently, the Chairs agreed that the Local Board members on the PWP approach the Regional Strategy and Policy Committee at their 4th June meeting requesting a postponement of the 1.6 million savings and associated staff cuts until the 2016/17 financial year to enable a smooth transition for both communities and staff during 2015/2016.

This was not supported by the Committee.

My question for you is this;

*How did a policy change as significant as the Empowered Communities Approach be presented to the Governing Body by officers for inclusion into the Long Term Plan with a 1.6 million dollar budget cut in the 2015/16 financial year **AFTER** the Local Boards had consulted on and agreed their Local Board Plans?*

I look forward to your response regarding this process.

Notwithstanding the challenges my Board will work diligently to ensure ECA is a success. We will partner with our community and stakeholders as we do for much of our day to day work.

Best regards



Angela Dalton  
Manurewa Local Board  
Chairperson

.cc Mayor Len Brown  
.cc Phil Wilson  
.cc Councillor George Wood