

02 April 2024

Official information request 8140013353
(Please quote this in any correspondence)

William Foster

By email: fyi-request-26025-3e869feb@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Mr Foster

Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

Re: Section 17A reviews

Thank you for your email dated 07 March 2024, in which you requested information about Local Government Act Section 17A reviews undertaken by Auckland Council since 2017. The specific details of your request and our response are below.

May I please have a list of all the Local Government Act 202 Section 17A reviews undertaken by AC since 2017, indicating which ones have been completed and which are still being undertaken. Please also indicate for each review whether the outcomes, reports, and conclusions are available on public request.

In March 2017, the Finance and Performance Committee approved the Value for Money Programme to undertake service reviews throughout Auckland Council and the council-controlled organisations. A multi-year programme was developed with final recommendations for each review presented to the Governing Body on a staggered approach.

In 2020, the Emergency Budget included tactical service reviews that were required to meet urgent savings targets. A range of measures were implemented including reductions in discretionary expenditure, capital expenditure deferrals, temporary reductions in operating service levels and asset recycling to mitigate the impact of this revenue shortfall as well as the unprecedented drought situation. The Value for Money team was established during this process to support the tactical service reviews and asset recycling targets.

Since 2020, the Value for Money team has continued to identify, assess, and deliver on service reviews across the Auckland Council Group. As part of developing the Long-term Plan 2024-2034, the Value for Money team is strategically identifying service review opportunities that will ensure cost-effective services for current and future residents and ratepayers and enable compliance with S17A requirements.

Completed reviews with the recommendations implemented include:

- Three Waters (stormwater, wastewater, water supply) [Finance and Performance Committee meeting held on 6/11/2017 - Item 9 Value for Money Section 17A Review Programme - Attachment Three Waters Value for Money \(s17A\) Review Report 2017 \(aucklandcouncil.govt.nz\)](#)
- Domestic waste [Finance and Performance Committee meeting held on 6/11/2017 - Item 9 Value for Money Section 17A Review Programme - Attachment Domestic Waste Value for Money \(s17A\) Review Report 2017 \(aucklandcouncil.govt.nz\)](#)
- Communications and engagement - [Finance and Performance Committee meeting held on 6/11/2017 - Item 9 Value for Money Section 17A Review Programme - Attachment Communications & Engagement Value for Money \(s17A\) Review Report 2017 \(aucklandcouncil.govt.nz\)](#)
- Investment attractions and global partnerships [Finance and Performance Committee meeting held on 6/11/2017 - Item 9 Value for Money Section 17A Review Programme - Attachment Investment Attraction & Global Partnerships Value for Money \(s17A\) Review Report 2017 \(aucklandcouncil.govt.nz\)](#)
- Procurement [Appointments, Performance Review and Value for Money Committee meeting held on 7/06/2018 - Item 10 Value for Money \(s17A\) Review programme - Attachment Group Procurement Value for Money \(s17A\) Review 2018 \(aucklandcouncil.govt.nz\)](#)
- Information and communication technology [Appointments, Performance Review and Value for Money Committee meeting held on 6/12/2018 - Item 9 Value for Money ICT review - Attachment ICT Report \(aucklandcouncil.govt.nz\)](#)
- Customer services [Appointments, Performance Review and Value for Money Committee meeting held on 4/04/2019 - Item 8 Value for Money Customer Services Review - Attachment Customer Services VFM review - overview \(aucklandcouncil.govt.nz\)](#)
- Financial services. [Governing Body meeting held on 27/06/2019 - Item 9 Recommendation from Appointments, Performance Review and Value for Money Committee - Value for Money Finance Review - Attachment Original report to the Appointments, Performance Review and Value for Money Committee 6 June 2019 - Value for Money Finance Review \(aucklandcouncil.govt.nz\)](#)
- Pools and Leisure Services [Agenda of Value For Money Committee - Thursday, June 16, 2022 \(aucklandcouncil.govt.nz\)](#)

Further information about the progress on the service reviews as at the end of council terms can be found in the reports below:

- September 2019: [Agenda of Appointments, Performance Review and Value for Money Committee - 5 September 2019 \(aucklandcouncil.govt.nz\)](#)
- June 2022: [Agenda of Value For Money Committee - Thursday, June 16, 2022 \(aucklandcouncil.govt.nz\)](#)

The latest update on the services review was in November 2023 and can be found here:
https://infocouncil.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/Open/2023/11/20231114_ECPCC_AGN_11541_WEB.htm

Decisions relating to the information that is being released to you were made by **Ross Chirnside, General Manager - Strategic Programmes.**

You have the right to complain to the Ombudsman if you believe we have not responded appropriately to your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you have any further queries, please contact me on 09 301 0101 quoting official information request number 8140013353.

Ngā mihi



Amanda Pillay
Privacy and Official Information Business Partner
Governance Services