

PACIFIC ADVISORY GROUP

2014-2015 Annual Report

***Tālōfa lava, Taloha ni, Bula Vinaka, Kia Orana,
Mālo e lelei, Fakalofa lahi atu and Warm Pacific Greetings from
the Pacific Advisory Group.***

Purpose

The purpose of the Pacific Advisory Group is to:

- Advise Council on how to help grow a great City, where Pasifika peoples thrive and contribute to Council's priorities.
- Bring knowledge and extra insight into Council about how the different needs of Wellington's Pasifika communities can be addressed in the context of Council's roles and priorities.

Group Composition

The Pacific Advisory Group (PAG) consists of 15 members from 8 Pacific Island communities. Membership demonstrates the diversity of Pacific peoples as a multi ethnic group residing in Wellington.

PAG Members as at May 2015

Samoa

Anthony Leaupepe
Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako (Deputy Chair)
Meremine Auelua

Fiji

Ledua Taucilagi
Sai Lealea (Chair)

Cook Islands

Kimi Higginson
Merio Marsters

Tuvalu

Silika Kofe-Pouofenua
[vacancy]

Tonga

Alapeta Faletau
Rev. Siofilisi Latu Ta'ufo'ou

Melanesia

Leina Isno

Niue

Dr Alvin Mitikulena
Nicole Rex

Micronesia

[vacancy]

Tokelau

Herbert Bartley
Sharon Samasoni

Council appointed members

Councillor Paul Eagle
Councillor Sarah Free

Membership and Meetings

The Pacific Advisory Group is currently carrying vacancies for a Tuvalu, and Micronesian representative on PAG.

Under the Terms of Reference review in 2014, positions for a Melanesian and Micronesian representative were added. The aim of this was to provide a Melanesian and Micronesian voice to the diversity of PAG. PAG invited Leina Isno from the Vanuatu community to represent the Melanesian community.

The Pacific Advisory Group met 12 times in 2014/15. The agendas and minutes of these meetings have been uploaded to the Wellington City Council's website.

The meetings have been well attended and member's contributions have been valuable.

Terms of Reference Review

The review of the terms of reference was carried out in 2014. This was to more clearly reflect Council's expectations of how advisory groups will work. This included outlining the process to finalise annual work programmes. The new terms of reference includes clarification of expectations of officers, Advisory group members and councillors.

PAG was pleased to be a part of this review. The updated terms allowed the PAG to add valuable contribution to the Council procedures and to assist with advice to both Councillors and Council officers in the early development of work at Council.

Annual Work Programme

The Annual Work Programme sets out the priority work areas for the year that Council seeks involvement and early engagement from PAG.

As part of the 2014 Terms of Reference Review, a new process of agreeing a work programme between officers and the Pacific Advisory Group was instituted (see Appendix One).

PAG has contributed to those key priority areas as well as assisting Council on other policies and projects as they have arisen. PAG are pleased with this new process which has given good direction to the work of PAG and we look forward to reviewing and setting the new priority areas for the next year of work.

Pasifika Action Plan

One extensive piece of work that was carried out this year was the Pasifika Action Plan (see attachment two). This document will guide the Council when engaging with the Pacific community and help the Council understand the needs of Pacific communities and ensure they are represented in policy development and planning.

The Action Plan is a living document that will guide the future work of both the Council and PAG. A key element of the Action Plan is alignment with the strategic priorities of the Council as set out in its planning documents such as the Long Term Plan.

It is proposed that the Action Plan is reviewed annually with input from members of Pasifika communities

Activity

As well as the regular monthly meetings, PAG activity from May 2014 to May 2015 has varied from the public events, community initiatives, to contributions to Council consultations.

PAG also provides the opportunity to discuss issues and topics relevant to Pacific communities. The meetings also allow members to receive presentations from outside groups keen to engage PAG and their communities. Major events and activities in Pacific communities are also able to be tabled and shared by members during the meetings.

Events

Pasifika Forum

The Pasifika Forum is scheduled for the next financial year. PAG are working to finalise key topics and the details for when the forum will be held.

Pasifika Festival

Attendance at the Festival was around 10,000 people and feedback on the day was very positive from both participants and visitors. PAG took the opportunity during the Festival to promote the new members as well as other Pacific communities from Melanesia and Micronesia.

PAG has set up a Pasifika Festival Subcommittee to start the discussion around the 2016 Festival and identify lessons from last year and previous year's festivals. PAG would like to ensure:

- there is a good balance between cultural activities;
- an ability to showcase Pacific identity; and
- the promotion of those elements in today's contemporary and diverse environment.

More input by PAG into the organisation and planning of the Festival is also to be explored as part of the discussion.

Submissions and Advice

During the year PAG has been providing advice and input into a number of areas that included:

- 2015-2025 Long-term Plan
- Gambling Venues Policy
- Pacific Community Policing
- Wellington Regional Governance Proposal
- Living Wage
- Council Housing
- New Zealand Flag Consideration Project

Community Support and Initiatives

PAG members have also been involved in community activities that included:

- Cyclone Pam Relief Effort.
- WWI Commemoration held at Parliament.
- Pasifika Language Weeks. PAG members are keen to actively promote their language weeks to the Council.
- Participating in Art events around Wellington.
- Tasty Thursday at Te Papa.
- Power Up – enabling Pasifika students through Education.
- Siapo.

Aspirations and challenges for the year ahead

Pasifika Fale

PAG continues to advocate and explore how this dream can be realised in partnership with the Council.

Pacific Councillor

PAG identifies that Pasifika representation in Council is of great importance; a Pacific Councillor is a long term goal for PAG.

Executive Leadership Team (ELT) Member attending PAG meetings

To work more effectively with Council, PAG would like the opportunity to engage directly with senior executives of the Council during its meetings especially over key topics of interest to them.

Remuneration

PAG are seeking an increase in the meeting fees to be on par with other pacific advisory groups around the country.

Council Support to Advisory Groups

There is a need for a more stable and longer term advisory support for PAG from Council to ensure continuity and close ongoing engagement.

Pacific Forum

Engagement with our pacific communities is key in the work that PAG produces. PAG members are disappointed there has been no opportunity for Council to engage directly with their communities to provide two way feedback on work by Council in promoting Pacific communities. It is hoped there will be opportunity for this in the new financial year.

Acknowledgements

The PAG has valued the continued contribution of Councillors Eagle and Free to its work and deliberations. Both have been strong advocates and allies over a number of issues considered by PAG during the year.

The PAG has valued the continued support and services provided by Council Officers in the past year. In this regard, we wish to acknowledge the service and contribution of Martin Rodgers, who has since left the Council.

The PAG would also like to acknowledge those Councillors and Council Officers who seek to encourage greater participation of the Pacific Advisory Group, and Pasifika people in the decision-making process of Council. Our work would not have been possible without their support and commitment in the last year.

Appendix One: Annual Work Programme 2014-2015

October 2014

Chair – Pacific Advisory Group
Wellington City Council
101 Wakefield Street, PO Box 2199
WELLINGTON 6140

Dear Chair

Re: Letter setting the Work Programme for the Pacific Advisory Group (PAG) Purpose of this letter

I am writing to you as the Chair to clarify the Council's priorities and outline my expectations for your Reference Group over the next 12 months.

PAG is part of Council and I know that your group wants to contribute in the best possible way to our City. This letter will help focus the work of the group early so that you can add greatest value and that Council officers can engage with you at an early stage and in an effective way.

PAG's work over the next 12 months

The City Council has recently finalised our Annual Plan (AP) and is working on drafting the Long Term Plan (LTP). It is important that the work of PAG align with the priorities of the AP and LTP.

We want you to bring your experience to the group to help solve problems and find solutions for the work streams below. This is consistent with your group having deeper and more-ongoing involvement with the work-streams of greatest priority to the City.

Key priorities	Expected PAG input
Strengthening connections between Wellington's Pasifika communities and Council	Deepening and expanding your group's networks to increase Pasifika people's understanding of and ability to participate in Council's processes and decision-making. Specific focus areas will include increasing links with Church congregations (through Ministers) and increasing links with Pasifika youth.
Advising Council on how to better engage Pasifika Communities	Help officers develop engaging events, activities and communications material to engage Pasifika communities on key priorities for Council, including how Pasifika communities can contribute to growing the economy, affordable housing, health and environmental challenges facing the City.

<p>Home Energy Saver Programme – A programme to help home owners and residents save on power bills through reducing energy consumption.</p>	<p>Help identify how to effectively deliver this programme to customers (particularly Pasifika communities), including how far this programme should reach. For example, what are some practical options for households reducing costs and energy consumption? How far should the programme go (mainly focus on advice or also on repair)?</p>
<p>Eight Big Ideas for Economic Growth - Ideas to help boost Wellington's economy and make it more diverse. These projects are at early stages and include a film museum, International air connections, a technology precinct (a project to grow high-tech industries in the CBD), conference and concert venues, a Miramar framework, better transport, being open for business and a liveable city. More information can be found at: http://wellington.govt.nz/your-council/structure-and-vision/vision-2040/big-ideas-for-economic-growth</p>	<p>Generate practical ideas for actions and projects around how WCC and our City can achieve the visions of the Big Ideas – “Better transport” and “Liveable City”.</p>

As part of Council's wider engagement, Council will also consult with other groups issues relating to Wellington's Pacific communities. Further information on how we see PAG operating is set out in the Terms of Reference.

Meeting to discuss and agree the work programme

Once you have discussed the priorities and suggested work-streams outlined in this letter with the other members of your group, officers will meet with you to jointly agree the PAG's work programme. This could include discussing other projects. You would need to demonstrate how other projects could contribute to Council and City priorities in order for them to be considered as part of your work programme.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Kevin Lavery
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Appendix Two: Pasifika Action Plan

PASIFIKA ACTION PLAN

DRAFT DATED: 21 MAY 2014

Purpose of the plan:

Through its annual report to the Wellington City Council (Council) on 12 September 2013, the Pacific Advisory Group (PAG) proposed *“developing a Pacific Action Plan/Cultural responsiveness guide that will guide the Council when engaging with the Pacific community and help the Council understand the needs of Pacific communities and ensure they are represented in policy development and planning”*.

Nature of the plan:

The Pasifika Action Plan is a living document that will guide the future work of both the Council and PAG.

It is proposed that the Action Plan is reviewed annually with input from members of Pasifika communities, most likely through the Pacific Forum.

After it is updated, it will be presented by PAG to the Council through the Governance, Finance and Planning Committee. Each year, the Committee will be asked to endorse the Plan and agree to Council undertaking a set of actions (which will contribute to achieving the plan) over the following 12 months.

The Action Plan will also inform PAG's Annual Work Programme by identifying the issues that it should focus on in its interactions with Council. It will assist PAG to identify which strategies, policies and programmes to give most input into.

Council and PAG will report back to Pacific communities on progress with the actions at least annually, through the Pacific Forum.

Connections between the Pasifika Action Plan and Wellington's strategic direction.

Wellington Towards 2040: Smart Capital was developed by the Wellington City Council in 2011. It is a statement of the future that we all want for Wellington and how this can best be achieved. It contains four goals that describe a different way of working - focusing on collaboration, not competition - to build Wellington's resilience in the face of future environmental, economic, and social challenges.

The Pasifika Action Plan connects to these four goals in a number of ways.

Goal 1. People-centred city

Wellington's people are the city's greatest asset. Wellington's shape and character will continue to reflect the people who live in, work in, and visit the city.

The Action Plan contributes to Wellington becoming a more open and welcoming city by identifying how the Council can support the social and economic aspirations of Pasifika communities in the city. It promotes access to public transport, affordable housing, recreation activities and new technology as ways of ensuring Pasifika communities can

thrive and make their unique contribution to Wellington's future. It also enables Pasifika communities to become more active in the development of the city by enabling greater participation in city-level decision-making.

Goal 2. Connected city

As a connected city, Wellington's people, places and ideas access networks - regionally, nationally and globally.

The Action Plan encourages collaboration and partnerships in the city and region by identifying actions that will respond to the needs of Pasifika communities across the region and actions that will require collaboration between local authorities, central government and non-government bodies. It also contributes to Wellington's arts and events successes to increase the city's profile and reach to international audiences.

Goal 3. Eco-city

Developing Wellington as an eco-city involves a proactive response to environmental challenges. It recognises the importance of Wellington taking an environmental leadership role as the capital city of clean and green New Zealand.

The Action Plan contributes to the city's eco-friendly goals through its health and wellbeing strategy. It promotes the importance of sustainable and healthy lifestyles, such as access to affordable healthy food, community gardens, and accessible public transport options. The plan recognises that healthy environments contribute to healthy Pasifika communities.

Goal 4. Dynamic central city

As a city with a dynamic centre, Wellington will be a place of creativity, exploration and innovation.

The Action Plan supports the growth of economic activity in the central city for the benefit of the wider city and region. It also plays a significant role in reflecting the diversity of cultures that are part of the city's history.

Governance		Measures / Indicators
What do we want to see? (Key outcomes)	Pasifika peoples have opportunities to present their views to decision-makers	Number of persons who identify themselves as of Pacific decent that participate in formal Council consultation processes
	Pasifika issues are taken into account in decision making	Level of agreement by PAG members that Pasifika issues have been taken into account in decision-making
	Pasifika peoples influence civic decision making	
What goals we will focus on? (Strategic objectives)	Increase the number of Pasifika peoples in Wellington that enrol and vote	
	Pasifika communities have access to Councillors and other decision makers	

	Strengthen Pasifika representation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. On Community Boards b. On Council c. On other Council bodies d. At senior management levels within Council 	Number of Pacific people represented on these bodies
	Include PAG in very early formative discussions on policies of importance to /impact on Pasifika peoples	Level of agreement by PAG members that they are involved in formative discussions on policies of importance to /impact on Pasifika peoples
	Encourage greater partnerships between Council, Pasifika communities and other organisations	Number of partnerships facilitated between Council, Pasifika communities and other organisations

Actions		Lead
What Council is doing or will do over the following 12 months to contribute to the goals	Work with PAG to increase Pasifika people's understanding of, and ability to participate in, Council's processes and decision-making	Research, Consultation & Planning and Democratic Services teams with PAG
	Create opportunities for Councillors to meet with different Pasifika communities	Research, Consultation & Planning and Democratic Services teams
	Inform former PAG members of other governance opportunities and the process for appointment (eg. for Council boards, District Licensing Committees)	Research, Consultation & Planning and Democratic Services teams
	Invite young people to attend forums and other Pacific events	Research, Consultation & Planning team with PAG
	Share success stories at the Pacific Forum as a way of role modelling	Research, Consultation & Planning team with PAG
Other potential actions	Educate people on the value of voting Visit secondary schools to encourage youth voting before they turn 18yrs old Support Pasifika user-friendly voting systems and processes	Democratic Services team for local authority elections Electoral Commission for other elections

Communication		Measures / Indicators
What do we want to see?	Pasifika peoples are able to easily make contact with Council and confidently express their views	
(Key outcomes)	Pasifika peoples are informed about all Council activities or decisions that may affect their lives	
What goals we will focus on?	Strengthen communication between Council and Pasifika communities on	Pasifika residents' agreement that Council information is easy

(Strategic objectives)	issues of importance to them in a transparent and timely way	to access
	Utilise a range of proven and culturally appropriate methods when communicating with Pasifika communities	

Actions		Lead
What Council is doing or will do over the following 12 months to contribute to the goals	Include all Council related Pasifika events in news updates	External Relations team
	Promote council entitlements more widely e.g. rates rebates and concession cards	Community Services team
	Support community outreach by City Councillors using Pacific interpreters	Democratic Services team
	Increase use of Pasifika faces/images in council publications, posters and online promotional material where appropriate	External Relations team
	Engage with PAG to understand current processes and appropriate responses to issues that may arise for Pasifika people in Council housing properties.	City Housing team and PAG
	Develop and implement a communications plan for Pasifika Festival.	City Events and External Relations teams
	Develop and maintain a database of Pacific contacts including service providers, churches, businesses, and general Pacific networks	Research, Consultation & Planning team with input from PAG
	Ensure all communication on issues affecting Pacific communities are provided in a timely way	External Relations team and PAG

Workforce Development		Measures / Indicators
What do we want to see? (Key outcomes)	Pasifika peoples across the Wellington region have proportionately higher rates of participation in the workforce	Pasifika workforce participation rates and unemployment rates.
	Pasifika businesses are supported to thrive in the Wellington region	
	Local and regional economic development strategies reflect the employment needs of a growing Pacific population	
What goals we will focus on? (Strategic objectives)	Strengthen Pasifika youth participation in training/employment opportunities	Pasifika young people who are not engaged in education, employment or training (NEET).
	Ensure Council's workforce better reflects Wellington's Pasifika communities	

	Support the range of employment opportunities available and accessible to Pasifika peoples across Wellington	
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Actions		Lead
What Council is doing or will do over the following 12 months to contribute to the goals	Encourage up-skilling of Pasifika staff for management positions in Council	Human Resources team
	Introduce training internships or placement opportunities to attract Pacific people into careers at Council and other agencies	Human Resources and City Communities teams with Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs

Health and Wellbeing		Measures / Indicators
What do we want to see? (Key outcomes)	Pasifika peoples in Wellington lead healthy lifestyles, that embrace holistic values including spirituality	
	Pasifika peoples feel safe in their homes, neighbourhoods and local centre	Pasifika peoples feel safe in the neighbourhoods and local centres
	Pasifika peoples in Wellington experience improved health outcomes across a range of measures	Range of health measures including chronic disease rates
	Needs of elderly Pasifika people are understood and addressed	
What goals we will focus on? (Strategic objectives)	Encourage Pasifika communities to participate in physical activity	
	Promote Pasifika people's choice to access affordable healthy food	
	Involve Pasifika peoples in city and community safety and resilience initiatives	
	Ensure Council processes and policies positively impact on the wellbeing of Pasifika peoples	
	Facilitate increased access to affordable and healthy homes	
	Facilitate access to affordable & accessible public transport options	
	Recognise importance of spiritual well-being	

Actions		
What Council is doing or will	Involve Pasifika communities in Neighbours Day	City Communities team

do over the following 12 months to contribute to the goals	Target resources to Pasifika communities as part of World Health Organisation Safer Cities status	City Communities team
	Implement current thinking around healthy food from garden to kitchen	City Communities team
	Work with NZ Police to trial Pasifika Warden programme in the Eastern Suburbs	City Communities team
	Provide Pasifika communities with access to education resources for people with impairments	City Communities team with PAG
	Advocate for a review of public transport fares and concessions for families	
	Promote and support Pasifika communities' participation in and utilisation of community gardens	City Communities team
Other potential actions	Explore opportunities to increase home ownership within Pasifika communities	
	Promote and support Pasifika participation in existing health related services and events	
	Provide more free drinking fountains around Wellington	
	Provide more education around water safety and swimming	
	Add a Pasifika sports event to the annual calendar of Council events	
Education		Measures / Indicators
What do we want to see?	Pasifika peoples in Wellington achieve their educational potential	Education qualifications amongst Pasifika communities
(Key outcomes)	Pasifika languages, stories and history of settlement within Wellington are captured and preserved	
	Wellingtonians are able to access Pasifika stories and learn Pasifika languages readily	
What goals we will focus on?	Increase access to quality educational resources and services for Pasifika communities	
(Strategic objectives)	Increase opportunities for people to learn Pasifika stories and languages	Number of people who can speak Pasifika languages
	Explore opportunities to support improved educational outcomes for Pasifika peoples across the Wellington region	
Actions		Lead
What Council is doing or will do over the	Continue to support literacy initiatives in Newtown to Aoga Amata, St Anne's School and Newtown School	Libraries & Community Spaces team

following 12 months to contribute to the goals	Continue to host homework groups in libraries	Libraries & Community Spaces team with PAG
	Continue to provide free wifi in libraries and move to provide access through community centres	Libraries & Community Spaces team
	Promote Pasifika books, music and film through Council libraries	Libraries & Community Spaces team with PAG
	Support more Pacific resources that promote Pacific languages & cultures in public libraries where possible	Libraries & Community Spaces team
Other actions	Provide incentives to encourage more Pacific teachers to opt for teaching positions in Wellington schools	
	Support a Pacific education and careers expo	

Arts and Culture		Measures / Indicators
What do we want to see? (Key outcomes)	Wellington is a centre for world class Pasifika arts and cultural performances	
	Traditional Pasifika art forms & cultural activities are preserved and protected	
	Contemporary Pasifika art forms & cultural activities are developed and supported	
What goals we will focus on? (Strategic objectives)	Increase the number of Pasifika cultural performances within Wellington	Number of Pasifika cultural performances within Wellington
	Celebrate all things Pasifika amongst all Wellingtonians	
	Increase visibility of Pasifika art forms and cultural activities in Wellington	

Actions		Lead
What Council is doing or will do over the following 12 months to contribute to the goals	Increase local business sponsorship and government agency participation at Pasifika Festival	City Events team
	Run workshops for Pasifika Festival participants and others on administration and funding /sponsorship related skills	City Events team with PAG
	Be open to and encourage new activities being associated with the Pasifika Festival as part of a regional festival programme	City Events team
	Run workshops and provide support for Pasifika artists and community groups on application process for public art projects, exhibitions and Culture Grants	City Arts and Grants teams with PAG

	Continue to host exhibitions (e.g. Te Vaevae exhibition at Toi Pōneke), support public art projects (e.g. mural by Shane Tuffery) and other Pasifika art projects where they meet criteria for funding / support.	City Arts team & Grants team
	Look at how to support Pacific Language Weeks	Libraries & Community Spaces team
	Continue to include Pasifika artists and art forms in mainstream events	City Events team
Other actions	Investigate and assess feasibility of potential partnerships for a Pacific Fale (eg. with Victoria University)	
	Provide resources to record and preserve stories about Pacific elders, their settlement history and experiences	

Appendix Three: Individual Meeting Attendance

Name	Number of Meetings	Attended	% Attendance
Alapeta Faletau	12	11	92
Alvin Mitikulena	12	10	82
Anthony Leaupepe	12	11	92
Herbert Bartley	12	10	83
Ida Faiumu-Isa'ako	12	11	92
Kimi Higginson	12	9	83
Ledua Taucilagi	12	7	58
Leina Isno	6	4	67
Meremine Auelua	12	8	67
Merio Marsters	12	11	92
Nicole Rex	12	11	92
Sai Lealea (Chair)	12	12	100
Sharon Samasoni	12	8	67
Silika Kofe-Pouofenua	12	4	33
Siofilisi Tafo'ou	12	11	92