

**Name: John Vujcich**

**Far North Councillor**

**Date: 4/08/2023**

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**Meetings Attended**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting Topic</b>	<b>Comment</b>
4/8/23	Infrastructure Acceleration Fund Oversight Committee	
3/8/23	Mayor and Councillor Catchup Council Meeting	
2/8/23	Meeting at Kauri Dam Kaitaia (Apologies Kaikohe Community Board)	
30/7/23	Fly CHCH-AKL Drive AKL-Kaikohe	
28/7/23	LGNZ Conference Day 2 From 9:00 am through to 9:30 pm	
27/7/23	LGNZ Conference Day 1 From 7am through to 7pm	
26/7/23	LGNZ Registration Smart City tour show casing IoT and real time data collection and LGNZ AGM	
25/7/23	Travel to CHCH for LGNZ Conference	
20/7/23	Joint Regional Economic Development Committee WR	
19/7/23	Solid Waste Procurement of Management and Minimisation Workshop	
18/7/23	LGNZ Zone One Meeting online Northland Forward Together Strategy Planning - Online	
17/7/23	Comms & Engagement Portfolio Meeting	

**Community Matters**

*This section should be completed for matters arising within the community, which Council need to be aware of. It could be related to ongoing projects, requests, feedback etc.*

Topic	Comment
LGNZ Conference	<p>The LGNZ conference focused on the theme of SuperLocal. The LGNZ CE Susan Freeman-Greene gave a great address on this theme, more than living up to her address forward where it states, “Susan leads LGNZ in pursuit of the most active and inclusive local democracy in the world”. “She believes that when local government is strong our communities thrive, and so does Aotearoa New Zealand”. She emphasized that <b>Localism</b> should be front and centre in all you do and I cannot agree more. Her session and meeting such committed people like her who have a good understanding of the worth and importance of local democracy gave me hope that local government could still have a future in New Zealand.</p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Susan Freeman-Green showing local government share of total taxes</b></p> <p>The day before, Linda Meade emphasised, in the light of recent events, that local government is more important than ever. She gave examples of Greater Manchester and the work done by Sir Howard Bernstein with the positive impact that can be made at the local level. One notable initiative by Sir Howard was the Manchester City Deal known as the Greater Manchester Devolution Deal. Another successful example of localism at work.</p> <p>Another inspiring speaker was Sophie Howe who spoke on the changes made in Wales that delivered social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being for current and future generations, place-based approach that saw a partnership between local and central government and local communities. The approach prioritised Well-being over GDP, and in doing so delivered far better results. A take home quote from her is “Recognising we can only achieve long term goals by working together”, and another one: “Everything is connected to everything”.</p> <p>Again, the importance of local government, and of involving local people in identifying the outcomes and direction were clearly evident in the successes shown from what was achieved in Wales.</p> 