Far North District Council
Te Kaunihera o Tai Tokerau ki te Raki
KERIKERI DOMAIN
RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN
27 June 2019
HE ARA TĀMATA
CREATING GREAT PLACES
Supporting our people

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1. Purpose of the Reserve Management Plan

The purpose of the Reserve Management Plan is to provide direction for the management and development of the Kerikeri Domain. (Domain)

The Reserve Management Plan provides the community with certainty about the function and management of the reserve. It helps to make sure management decisions are consistent with the Reserves Act 1977.

2. Statutory context for reserve management

The Reserves Act 1977 (the Act) governs the management and control of reserves in New Zealand. The Act requires the administering body (the Council) to prepare Reserve Management Plans (section 41). The Council has resolved to prepare a Reserve Management Plan which outlines the general intentions for the balanced use, development and protection of the Domain for the next 10 years.

How reserve management fits with legislation and other Council documents

Legislation

- Reserves Act 1977
- Resource Management Act 1991
- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015
- Local Government Act 2002
- Conservation Act 1987
- Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014

Other relevant documents

- Northland Regional Plan
- Iwi / Hapū Management Plans
- Northland District Health Board - Health In All Policies
- Sustainable District Strategy
- Far North District Plan (District Plan)
- Far North District Council Long Term Plan
- Far North District Council Reserves Policy
- Asset Management Plans
- Annual Plan

Other bylaws and policies

- Northland Sports Facilities Plan 2014
- Halls and Facilities Policy 2015
- Council Bylaws e.g. public places, dog control etc.

3. Reserve classification

The Domain is classified as a Recreation Reserve under section 17 of the Reserves Act 1977 Section 17 (1) states the purpose of recreation reserves is for:

'Providing areas for the recreation and sporting activities and the physical welfare and enjoyment of the public, and for the protection of the natural environment and beauty of the countryside, with emphasis on the retention of open spaces and on outdoor recreational activities, including recreational tracks in the countryside.'

What this means is that the purpose of the Domain as a recreation reserve is primarily for providing areas for events and recreational opportunities for the well-being and enjoyment of the wider community, and to protect the natural environment.

4. Domain ownership and management

The key responsibilities of the Council under the Act are to:

- Classify and manage its reserve land according to its primary purpose.
- Prepare a Reserve Management Plan, open to continuous review.

A Reserve Management Plan shall provide for and ensure the use, access, enjoyment, maintenance, protection, preservation and development (as appropriate) of the reserve for the purpose for which is classified under the Reserves Act 1977.

To inform the development of the Reserve Management Plan for the Domain, the Council was required to consult with iwi and the community in order to identify their wishes and aspirations for the Domain. This consultation was undertaken through a survey in June-July 2017 and workshops during August and September 2018.

There are the following leases on the Domain:

Lessee	Leased area	Terms of lease
Kerikeri Bowling Club	18 Cobham Road Kerikeri 0230 Part Lot 1 DP 21496	Council Lease Expiry: 31/03/2020

5. Site context

Under the District Plan, the Domain is zoned for recreational use and is an open space for the use of the general public. The Domain is bordered by a commercial zone on the south, north and west boundaries and residential to the east. It is known informally as the 'heart' of Kerikeri.

The main entrance to the Domain is located on Cobham Road. This is the entrance for the park's facilities including the squash clubrooms and pavilion (currently damaged from fire), public toilets, basketball court and skate park. The Procter Library is located adjacent on the south-western corner and has a large carpark adjacent that borders the west side of the Domain. In front of this carpark are retail shops and eateries which line Kerikeri's main street.

Pedestrian access from Kerikeri Road through to the Domain is limited and unclear, although it is evident people in particular students accessing the high school access the Domain through the carpark in between the main street shops. The Domain has a perimeter loop path that provides access to the surrounding facilities such as the New World supermarket, Procter Library and Kerikeri High School on the east boundary of the site. The reserve is well utilised by young children on bikes, dog walkers, visitors tourists and families as well as a perimeter walk by the residents in the nearby retirement villages.

It is a significant district wide asset and is used by groups/ individuals outside of Kerikeri.

Figure 2: Site context map

History of Kerikeri Domain

In July 1819, Samuel Marsden came to the Bay of Islands with the intention of forming a new settlement at Kerikeri. Hongi Hika told Samuel Marsden that he was free to choose a site on either side of the Kerikeri River. Samuel Marsden was satisfied with the safety of the anchorage, the richness of the soil, and availability of fresh water on the north side of the river, and so he accepted the offer.

The land that was purchased on behalf of the Church Missionary Society at Kerikeri amounted to 13,000 acres for which Hongi Hika was paid 48 axes. The Deed was signed on 4 November 1819 and stated that this area was bounded on the South East by the district of the Chiefs Te Morenga and Waitara.

The deed also included an area known as the 'Peoples Reserve/ Childrens land' which was intended to benefit the people of the land. It stretched between the Kerikeri River and what is now the town centre. This was taken as part of the Bay of Islands Settlement Act 1858 and is now a subject of a Treaty of Waitangi Claim.

Overtime much of this land has been developed and the Domain is all that remains of this reserve space within the town centre. The area of land which now comprises the the Domain was first used for the purpose of sport and recreation in 1928 by the settlers of Kerikeri. The Riddell family of Kerikeri, being third generation Kerikeri citizens, offered use of their land, which forms part of the Domain today, for the laying out of a nine-hole golf course which was utilised until 1941. The Kerikeri Recreation Reserve (inc.) Society was formed in 1934 by the Kerikeri Settlers Association for the purpose of purchasing land and administering and 'preserving for all time the land as a Community Recreation Ground'.

Settlers contributed a fund from as early as 1933 which shows the level of commitment of these early community members particularly as this was during the 'Depression era.'
In 1953 the Domain block was transferred to the Crown creating a 'Recreation Reserve' under the Public Reserves, Domains and National Parks Act of 1928. The Kerikeri Domain Board was set up to administer the Domain at this time.

In 1954 and 1992 two additional parcels of land (2.5 acres and 215sq. metres) were added to the Domain. The Kerikeri Domain Board was appointed to control and manage the reserve in 1953. How and when the Domain Board came to demise is unknown.

The current land area of the Domain is now just over three hectares and is still Crown owned but is managed by the Council.

Cultural heritage

Kerikeri is a place immersed in the cultural narrative of Māori settlement. It is a historic place of national importance. Several different hapū settled in Kerikeri hundreds of years ago due to the good quality soil conditions being ideal for growing produce such as kumara and taro. Tangata whenua's main area of occupation was at Te Waimate which is on the perimeter of their tribal land. They used it as a seaport, a place to gather food and keep their canoes. Kororipo Pā, now a historic reserve managed by the Department of Conservation, is a terraced site located above the Kerikeri Basin and provides shelter to the town.

The location overlooks surrounding bush of Rewa's Village and has views to the Kerikeri River. The Pā site was once the meeting place where Māori and European's came to trade and converse. In 1835, Ngāti Rehia hosted the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Kerikeri has a cultural environment that encompasses many memories and values of Māori. It is important that any new developments within the Domain respect these values.

New developments within the Domain should include collaboration with the local tangata whenua, to discuss the development and management of what is proposed. This will ensure what is proposed aligns with the principles outlined in any iwi / hapū management plan or other documents.

Landscape

The Domain is a key meeting/ recreational space for the people of Kerikeri. A focal point within the Domain is the sculpture 'Te Whiringa o Manoko' by local artist Chris Booth and installed in 2009. It's translation is 'the interweaving of the cultures of Kerikeri'. It comprises of stacked stone boulders and bronze elements. As outlined by the Artist, the sculpture has a direct correlation with the surrounding landscape of Kerikeri. It is a reflection of the tall Kauri forests, volcanic boulders from the soils of the area and shell elements derived from the forest Kauri snails.

Around the perimeter of the site is a path that provides a connection to each of the amenities on site and weaves over mounded land, providing a border to the open green space of the Domain.

Reserve use

The Domain is used by the public for informal active recreation including basketball, skating and a children's playground as well as organised sports including squash, rugby league and cricket. The Pavilion that the squash club previously used as their clubrooms is currently out of use due to fire damage.

The library is situated on the Cobham Road corner and is well-utilised.

Bordering the east of the Domain is the Kerikeri Bowling Club. The activities adjacent to the site such as the Kerikeri High School make use of the park for access through the main retail and commercial centre on Kerikeri Road.

6. Vision

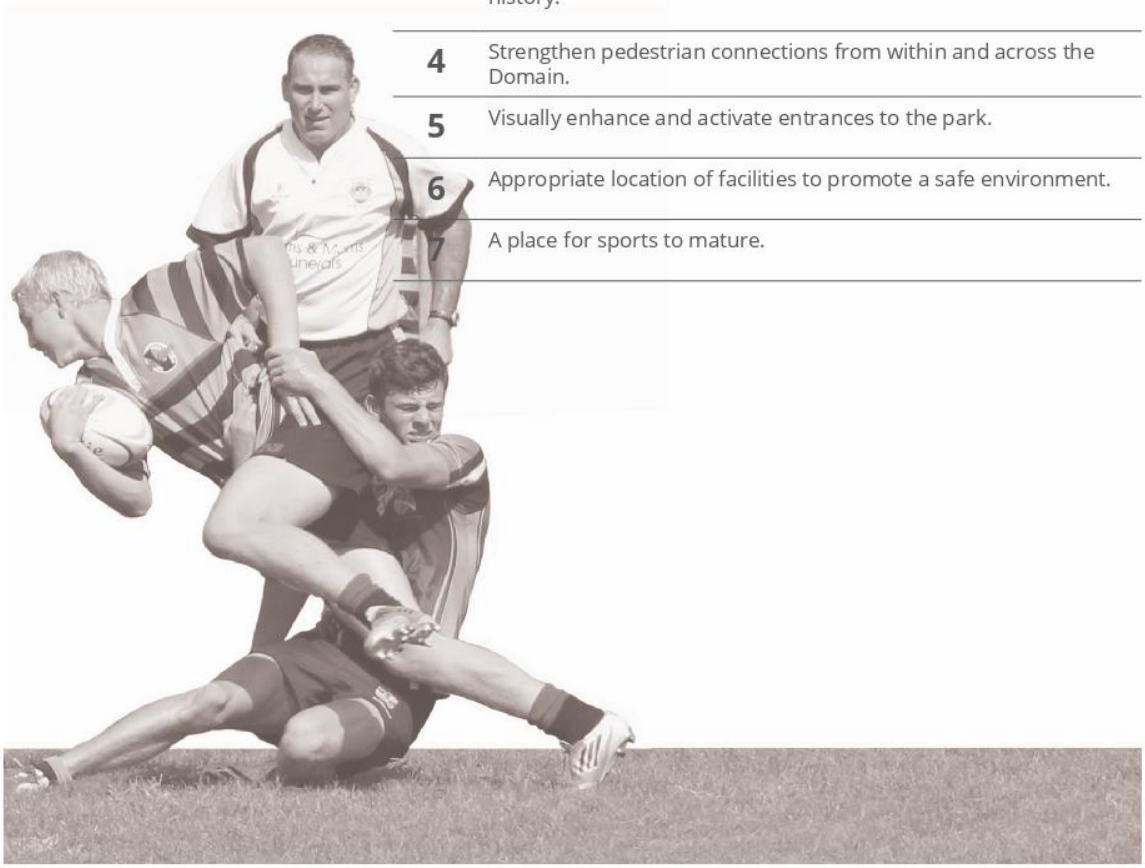
To provide a vibrant and well used green space and community area for all ages and abilities that reflects the identity of the community through:

1	Promoting the culture and heritage of the Kerikeri community for future generations.
2	A safe accessible environment for the community.
3	A building for a range of community activities that acts as a community centre to revive the heart of the community.
4	Flexible green open space.

7. Domain opportunities

Kerikeri Domain currently presents the following opportunities:

1	A multi-use facility that caters for a range of group activities.
2	An assessible place for the diverse community and its visitors to connect.
3	Signage and wayfinding to enhance access and explain local history.
4	Strengthen pedestrian connections from within and across the Domain.
5	Visually enhance and activate entrances to the park.
6	Appropriate location of facilities to promote a safe environment.
7	A place for sports to mature.



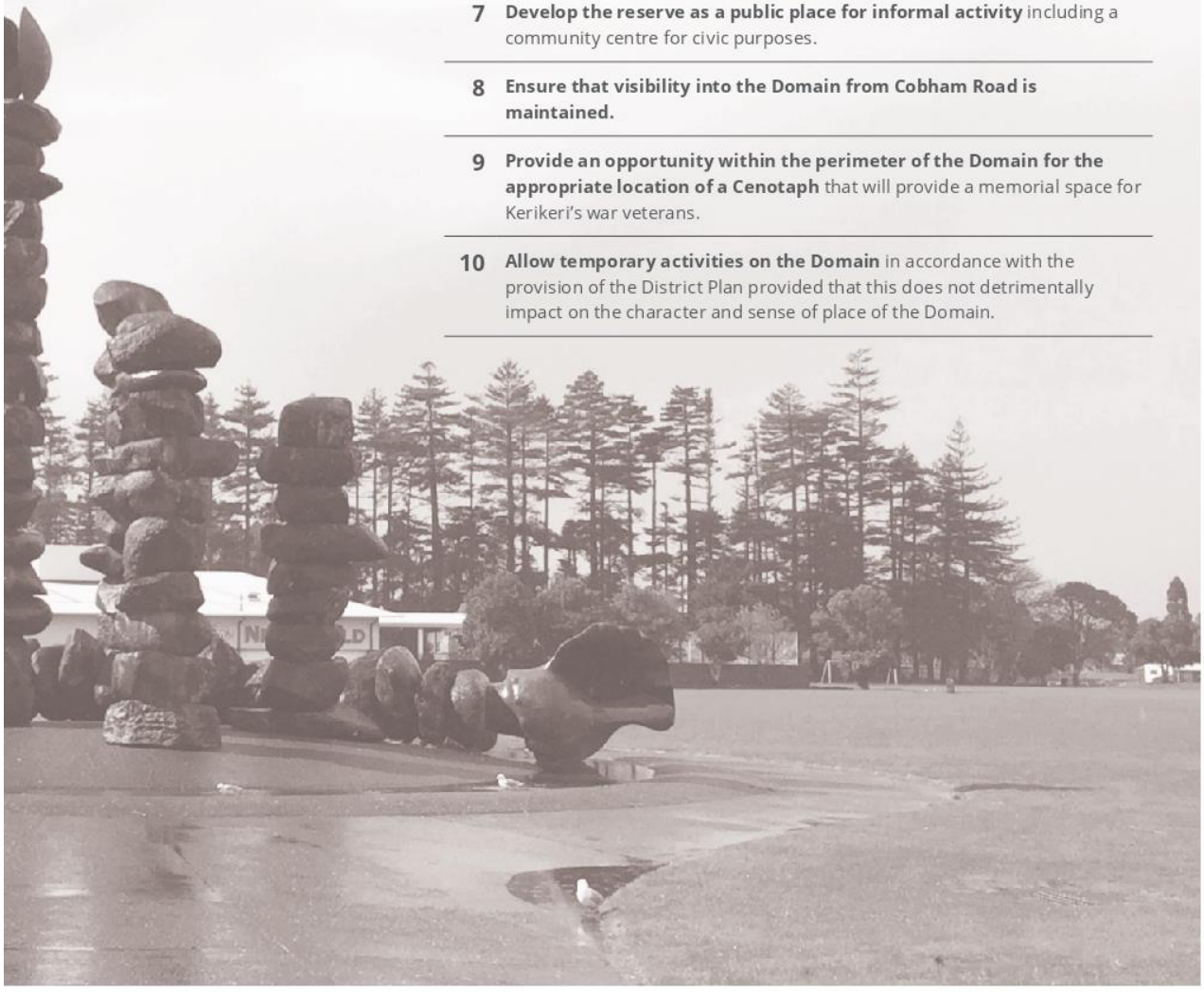
8. Objectives

1. Integrate the local cultures and history into the Domain development to nurture a sense of place and cultural identity.
2. A flexible, vibrant and well utilised Domain with passive and active recreational opportunities for all ages and abilities.
3. To ensure that all development provides for the safe usage of the Domain and will enhance the health and well-being of the community.
4. Provide a multi-use facility that reflects the diverse culture and history of Kerikeri, providing opportunities to accommodate a range of activities and facilities for the benefit of the community.
5. Manage, maintain and monitor the Domain to achieve the vision and objectives of this Plan for the enjoyment of the wider community and for those who visit Kerikeri.

1. Character/ Sense of place

Integrate the local cultures and history into the Domain development to nurture a sense of place and cultural identity

1. **Acknowledge the layers of cultural history** of the local area in the building facilities, signage and other structures.
2. **Recognition of the Domain as part of the original 'people's reserve,'** through providing a diverse range of spaces and activities.
3. **Provide distinctive wayfinding and signage** that reflects the culture and heritage of the Domain and connects to the Kororipo Pā and the Stone Store.
4. **Increase the amount of native planting** on the Domain to reflect culture and encourage native birds.
5. **Avoid the establishment of permanent commercial advertising, activities and signage** within the domain exclusive of signs within buildings and where they cannot be seen by the users in the green space.
6. **Retain sufficient open green space** to accommodate a wide range of activities.
7. **Develop the reserve as a public place for informal activity** including a community centre for civic purposes.
8. **Ensure that visibility into the Domain from Cobham Road is maintained.**
9. **Provide an opportunity within the perimeter of the Domain for the appropriate location of a Cenotaph** that will provide a memorial space for Kerikeri's war veterans.
10. **Allow temporary activities on the Domain** in accordance with the provision of the District Plan provided that this does not detrimentally impact on the character and sense of place of the Domain.



2. Reserve activities

A flexible, vibrant and well utilised Domain with passive and active recreational opportunities for all ages and abilities

1. **Provide opportunities for informal play spaces** that are diverse and accommodate all ages.
2. **Support informal recreational activity** (i.e. exercise groups) where the impact and effect does not unreasonably limit the ability of the public to use and enjoy the Domain.
3. **Support community initiatives and groups** that benefit the Kerikeri community to operate within the Domain.
4. **Encourage events** to take place in the Domain including structures and commercial activities.
5. **Provide for the continued use of the Domain** for bowling, skate-boarding, organised sports and library usage.
6. **Allow parking on the green spaces** for Council approved temporary activities.
7. **Establish a learning trail** along the perimeter pathway using art and interpretation boards to display historical and cultural narratives.
8. **Limit the activities on the reserve** to those that do not create prolonged adverse noise effects on the surrounding neighbourhood.
9. **Support families and their pets/companions to use the Domain** in accordance with the Dog Management Bylaw and any other relevant bylaws.
10. **Provide for multi-purpose infrastructure** e.g. exercise and landscaping.
11. **Provide for new activities** on the Domain that do not unfairly affect exisiting reserve users and activities.

3. Safety and accessibility

To ensure that all development provides for the safe usage of the Domain and will enhance the health and well-being of the community

1. **Provide on-site vehicle access to formed parking areas, as well as pathways** that enable safe and accessible connections for all ages and abilities.
2. **Provide sheltered places to rest with protection** from weather to enhance amenity and encourage picnics and socialisation.
3. **Provide fresh drinking water facilities.**
4. **Integration of fruit trees into the future plantings** surrounding the Domain perimeter to promote healthy eating (heirloom where possible).
5. **Provide an environment that is safe and inclusive for all ages** with adequate lighting alongside facilities, paths and carparks without areas of concealment.
6. **Widen pathways** to accommodate a range of users and enhance safety.
7. **Provide for cultural protocols.**
8. **Allow emergency helicopter landings.**
9. **Identify appropriate heavy vehicle access** onto the Domain for events that takes into account the health and safety of all users.

4. Multi-Use community facility

Provide a multi-use facility that reflects the diverse culture and history of Kerikeri, providing opportunities to accommodate a range of activities and facilities for the benefit of the community

1. **Allow the deployment of a temporary building to support existing community activities** from the Pavilion, while planning and works of a multi-use facility is taking place or restoration of the pavilion.
2. **Provide a multi-use facility** with a diverse range of spaces for community groups that reflects the needs of the community and users.
3. **Provide a facility that is a memorable iconic building** that the community will be proud of.
4. **A multi-use facility that visually connects to both the street and the Domain** and promotes passive surveillance of the street and the park.
5. **Promote shared use** of the facility.

5. Maintenance

Manage, maintain and monitor the Domain to achieve the vision and objectives of this Plan for the enjoyment of the wider community and for those who visit Kerikeri

1. **Promote, facilitate and support community** led groups and initiatives which enhance the appropriate usage of the domain.
2. **Ensure that vegetation is maintained** in accordance with the standards and techniques of approved arboriculture practice.
3. **Identify and promote opportunities to enhance passive surveillance** of the Park from adjacent public and private areas.
4. **Maintain and manage existing buildings, structures, vegetation, paved areas** and features to uphold health and safety standards.
5. **Create a distinctive design for all signage** on the park in compliance with the provisions of the District Plan and bylaw.
6. **All upgraded garden beds and low vegetative cover shall consider the integration of native species.**
7. **Work with Kerikeri High School to develop and maintain infrastructure and community initatives** related to the use of the Domain and the adjoining Ministry of Education owned land.

9. Actions

The actions outlined below reflect the objectives and policies, give effect to the concept plan and set priorities for actions set by the community. The actions focus on the key objective themes shown in the previous section:

Character/ Sense of Place | **Reserve Activities** | **Safety and Accessibility** | **Multi-use Community Facility** | **Maintenance**

However, priority actions are subject to change through the Long Term Plan process and outside/community fundraising. The next Long Term Plan will be developed for the Council in 2021.

SHORT TERM 1-3 YEARS

- Within six months, Council in partnership with the Community Board and community consider the establishment of an incorporated society representing the community to manage and oversee the Domain
- Within six months Council to develop maintenance and management plan for the Domain that includes:
  - Community planting/weeding days
  - Recognition of green space requirements for organised sports (turf management)
  - The ethics of Ako, Manaakitanga, Whanaungatanga and Kotahitanga.
- Council to commission business case for a multi-use facility with flexible spaces that can accommodate a range of community activities and initiatives
- Council to investigate the best configuration of built facilities along the boundaries to enhance passive surveillance, safety, connectivity and enhance the Domain as the heart of Kerikeri
- The following action items need to be designed (according to Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles), costed and approved by Council:
  - Lighting
  - Shade and shelter
  - Playground
  - Public toilets
  - Art installations to perimeter of Domain
  - Interactive water play area
  - Landscaping
  - Heavy vehicle access
- Within six months Council design a horticultural landscape plan for the Domain in accordance with this document and undertake the first stage of plantings to provide shade opportunities
- Council to develop a shared use arrangement with Kerikeri High School regarding shared infrastructure, maintenance and use of the Domain and the adjoining Ministry of Education owned land
- Upgrade existing basketball court to enable a wider range of sports
- Establish water fountains and recycling/ rubbish bins across the Domain which link with the existing pathways and facilities for users and dogs

MEDIUM TERM 3-5 YEARS

- Plant fruit trees around the perimeter of the Domain
- Ensure all proposed and existing vegetation is maintained at an appropriate scale to provide clear sightlines along footpaths and from carpark areas to the road
- Install feature and security lighting to areas adjoining facilities, pathways and carparks. Integrate power points onto light poles for use during temporary events
- Provide all accessible and inclusive seating and picnic tables with appropriate shade and shelter for various sized groups

- Council to develop play spaces with a variety of equipment and structures that will provide play options for all ages and abilities
- Upgrade existing paths to a minimum of 2.2 metres and consider new connections
- If Council approvals the business case for multi-use facility, prepare design brief for, commission design and undertake works to consent and construct multi-use facility
- Council to identify appropriate locations of key amenities e.g. hitching posts and public toilets located to best serve Domain users
- Provide CCTV cameras in appropriate locations to enhance safety
- Partner with tangata whenua artists to provide distinctive wayfinding signage, pou and information boards to exhibit and educate the Kerikeri community and future generations with tangata whenua history and stories
- Encourage art installations around the perimeter of the Domain in partnership with the community to highlight the stories of the land and enhance cultural identity and amenity
- Provide additional native trees and planting around the perimeter of the Domain in accordance with landscape plan
- Upgrade existing skate park and ensure spaces surrounding the park are open and safe for all users
- Construct a fitness trail with a number of activity stations adjacent to the perimeter pathway
- Install bike stands adjacent to skate boarding and court facilities and within the car park within the Domain
- Establish BBQ areas around the Domain adjacent to the perimeter pathway
- Establish safe and accessible play areas for children
- Upgrade the parking next to the library to provide spaces for people with accessibility concerns and parents
- Provide access onto the Domain for heavy vehicles for permitted activities

LONG TERM
5-10 YEARS

- Investigate demand for bike skills or pump track elements adjacent to the perimeter pathway

10. Concept plan

1:1000

LEGEND

A BUILT ZONE - PAVILLION, SCATE PARK, BASKETBALL COURTS, VEHICULAR ACCESS TO OPEN SPACE, CAR PARKING

B EXISTING STRUCTURES

C WATER ZONE - PLAY SCULPTURE, LANDSCAPE, PLANTING, PATHS AND CYCLEWAY

D MIXED USE ZONE - SHELTER, EXERCISE, PLAY, LANDSCAPE, PLANTING, SCULPTURE.

E BUFFER ZONE - MIXED USE ZONE OR OPEN SPACE - TO BE DETERMINED BY COMMUNITY VISION

F LOCATION FOR CENOTAPH MEMORIAL

G OPEN SPACE - BROKEN LINE DEPICTS RUGBY FIELD INC DEAD BALL ZONE

H LEASE AREA

RESERVE BOUNDARY

11. Implementation and funding

This Reserve Management Plan provides a vision, goals, objectives, policies and actions that determine the appropriate use and development of the Domain.

Decisions relating to the funding and priority for works described in this Reserve Management Plan will be undertaken within Council's Long Term Plan and Annual Plan.

Action points are able to be brought forward in partnership with community and other organisations through the governing body.

It is important to note that, if a particular action has been included within this Reserve Management Plan, that Council will not necessarily make funding available for those works.

12. Preparing the Reserve Management Plan

Section 41 of the Act sets out the process that must be followed when preparing a Reserve Management Plan.

The following steps illustrate the process:

Give public notice that the draft plan is being prepared

Give notice in writing that the draft plan has been prepared and is available for inspection for not less than two months after the date of giving of the notice

Make the draft management plan available for the community to review and provide feedback

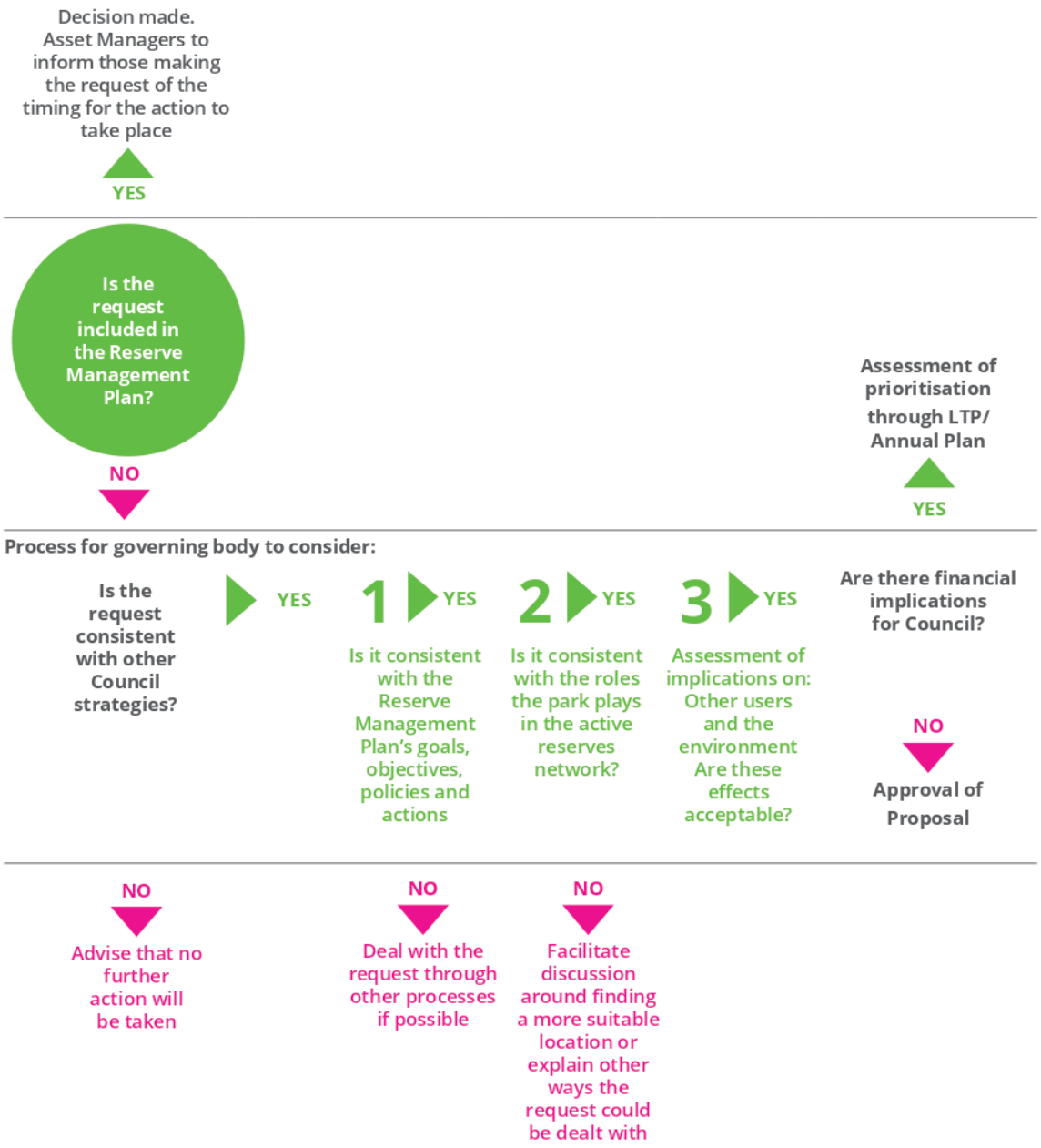
Opportunity for any community member or organisation to lodge any comments and objections. These people will then have the right to appear before the Council to verbally support their comments

Approval of Kerikeri Domain Reserve Management Plan by Council

13. Decision-making process for requests not specifically included in the Reserve Management Plan

The Reserve Management Plan is developed for a ten-year term. Because of the length of time there are likely to be proposals made for the Domain not specifically included as actions in the Reserve Management Plan.

The following process were used to decide whether or not to proceed with any such proposals.



14. Administrative information

Process for preparing a Reserve Management Plan for the Domain

Section 41 of the Act sets out the process that must be followed when preparing a Reserve Management Plan.

The following steps outline the process:

1	Council publicly notified its intention to prepare the Reserve Management Plan and invited interested parties / persons to send in written suggestions on the proposed plan within a set time period (usually one month). This was done by on-line survey.	June – July 2017
2	A draft Reserve Management Plan was prepared giving consideration to comments received.	August – October 2018
3	The draft Reserve Management Plan is adopted and advertised for public submissions and made available for viewing for a minimum of two months.	December 2018 – March 2019
4	Consideration was given to submissions and objections received and a hearing was held.	March – May 2019
5	Appropriate changes were made to the Reserve Management Plan.	May 2019
6	As the Domain is a recreation reserve vested in the Council, the final Reserve Management Plan was approved and adopted by Council, with no requirement for Ministerial approval.	June 2019
7	The final Reserve Management Plan was produced. Implementation commenced. All those who made submissions were notified that the plan has been finalised and is available if they require a copy. Kerikeri Domain Reserve Management Plan will also be available on-line.	June 2019
8	Kerikeri Domain Reserve Management Plan is kept under continuous review by Council.	Ongoing

15. Reserve legal description

The Domain is located on Cobham Road, Kerikeri. It covers a total area of approximately three hectares. The legal description is:

1. Part Lot 1 DP 21496, SO 60707, SO 70848
   Public Domain, Subject to the provisions of Part II of the Public Reserves and Domains Act 1928
   North Auckland
   Title: NA736/108
   Survey Area: 30387

2. Lot 5 DP 41265
   Domain, Gazette 1954 p 1339
   North Auckland
   Survey Area: 9925

3. Part Old Land Claim 3
   Local Purpose Reserve (Public Library Site) Kerikeri Domain
   NZ Gazette 1985 p141
   Survey Area: 678

4. Lot 1 DP 340854
   Recreation Reserve, Subject to Part IV A Conservation Act 1987, Subject to Section 11 Crown Minerals Act 1991, Subject to Reserves Act 1977
   North Auckland
   Title: 167968
   Survey Area: 194

5. Lot 7 DP 155316
   DP 155316
   Recreation Reserve, Subject to Reserves Act 1977
   North Auckland
   Title: NA92D/223
   Survey Area: 215

Refer to Appendix 1 for Gazette notices

Figure 1: Reserve legal description