Takapuna Community Hub – Information Sheet

The purpose of this document is to provide information on the proposed development of a community hub in Takapuna.

What is a community hub?

In this context a community hub is a multi-use space where library and community services are combined in one location.

Our goal is to create a vibrant, welcoming place where the community can come together, connect, learn and participate in a range of activities and services that reflect local need.

Examples of services could be creative and cultural activities, meetings and workshops, events and gatherings, classes and programmes, after school and school holiday activities. Note we will continue to support a variety of book collections, the service centre and the Angela Morton Collection.

We want to design a hub that reflects the local identity, is fit-for-purpose, innovative and flexible to cater for the changing needs of our diverse community.

Why develop a community hub?

In 2019 we began to explore how we could improve library and community services in Takapuna to meet community need. In particular, we considered the services and facilities at the Mary Thomas Centre, Takapuna Community Services Building and the Takapuna Library. The key drivers were to ensure community facilities are fit-for-purpose, cost effective, address gaps or duplication in services and meet future demands arising from our increasingly diverse communities.

After considering various options, the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board approved transforming the existing Takapuna Library building into a community hub. This approach allows us to integrate services, enhance a cherished, centrally located building while being the most cost-effective solution.

Why consider a third level?

We are exploring all design opportunities, including the addition of a third level to the existing two-story building. The third level will provide additional space for activities and services, such as a large bookable space and an outdoor area, while also capitalising on views.

Through the design process we will determine whether a third level is feasible and affordable, including size and potential use.

How will the new community hub be funded?

The intent is that the community hub will be developed at no financial cost to the community.

It will be funded by using the net proceeds from the sale of 2 The Strand and the Mary Thomas Centre site. The Takapuna Community Services Building site will also need to be sold to fund the community hub pending a decision from the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board once the design phase is complete. These facilities are not fit-for-purpose and require substantial investment to be maintained.

What are the key milestones?

- Design Brief: The results of this consultation will be shared with the design team, along with other information, to help develop the design brief, which will be presented to the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board for approval later this year.

- Concept design: The concept design will be presented to the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board for approval for community consultation early next year, which we anticipate undertaking in March/April 2025.
- Final concept design: based on community feedback, the final concept design will be developed, with approval sought from the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board by the end of June 2025.

What is a design brief?

The design brief outlines the goals, project scope, core design requirements, budget, timelines and deliverables, and other core details.

It will help guide the design team in creating a community hub that will meet the needs of the users, fulfil the aesthetic aspirations while also making sure that it is functional. The brief will be used to inform discussion and more detailed planning with the design team.

For example, it will include what types of spaces are required to support the delivery of the desired services. This includes what the spaces can be used for, their size and possible location within the hub.

We want to ensure the design brief is comprehensive enough without setting excessive constraints on the design team.

The design brief can evolve over the life of the project, to reflect the changes and challenges that occur as the project progresses.

Who makes the decisions?

The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board is responsible for making key decisions on this project.

How can I be involved?

Your input is essential in shaping the design of the community hub. Filling out the feedback form will help us understand what you would like to do at the hub and what types of spaces should be provided.

The feedback form is available online at www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/haveyoursay, and paper copies are available at the Takapuna Library. You can complete the feedback form and email it to takapunacommunityhub@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or drop it at the Takapuna Library.

We are also holding two drop-in sessions;

- Takapuna Library – Saturday 7 September, 11am-2pm
- Takapuna Market – Sunday 22 September, 9.30am-12.30pm.

Thank you for taking the time to provide your feedback!