

YOUR REPORT



WHAT IS WAIKATO VITAL SIGNS?

Waikato Vital Signs is a tool that can mobilise the power of community knowledge for greater local impact. It comes from the internationally recognised Vital Signs programme and measures social, environmental, cultural and economic trends in the Waikato, and our attitudes towards those trends. Drawing together information about the Waikato, and community feedback gathered at a series of eight community engagement workshops, this report is made up of the following 10 themes:



CHILDREN



COMMUNITY



CULTURE & ARTS



IWI MAAORI VOICES



ECONOMY



EDUCATION



ENVIRONMENT



HEALTH



RECREATION



YOUTH VOICES

HOW TO USE WAIKATO VITAL SIGNS

ENGAGE: Take the time to engage with this report and reflect on the information it provides - what does it mean for our people, our organisations and our community?

CONNECT: Powerful social change starts with a spark. Share this report with anyone and everyone. Use it as a conversation starter within your organisation, with elected officials, with your employers, and with family and friends. Knowledge is power - the more we talk about and share this information, the more potential it has to generate change.

TAKE ACTION: Collaborate, motivate and take action using the information that means something to you. There are dozens of organisations and groups in the Waikato who do amazing things, and they could benefit from your support and generosity.

WAIKATO VITAL SIGNS PILOT REGION

The Waikato Region is the fourth largest region in the country, covering most of the central North Island of Aotearoa New Zealand. It is home to approximately 10% of the country's total population, with around 440,000 people calling the Waikato their home. Three territorial authority areas, Hamilton City, Matamata-Piako District and Waikato District, make up the pilot region of the Waikato Vital Signs programme, which represents about a third of the wider Waikato region. The pilot region was chosen as a representative sample, and it has approximately 260,000 people, or 5.7% of New Zealand's total population, living within its boundaries. Most of us live in our major city, Hamilton, and around 40% live in or near one of our rural centres.

