

Proposed Growth in Warkworth will be 5 times current population – is that what you want for Warkworth?

Auckland Council Plans provide for a future population up to 30,000 over next 30 years with higher density proposed around the centre and other outer areas. This will change the character of the town and surrounding areas significantly. There is already pressure for earlier development with developers promoting Private Plan Changes to enable more housing in outlying areas well ahead of the planned release of those areas. The infrastructure (services and roading) is already under capacity and not ready to accommodate such growth at this time. This shows a real lack of coordination by the Council between the release of land and provision of vital infrastructure.

The type of development proposed in the Warkworth Structure Plan will be of a much higher density than is considered appropriate, ultimately changing the character significantly. Such development will create demand for more roading and affect the physical character of the land. It will also create issues of erosion, water quality, landscape quality, as well as generating significantly more traffic. It will not just effect the town centre and immediate urban area but also the outlying areas such as Snells Beach and Matakana.

The Warkworth Area Liaison Group (WALG), which is a group of highly experienced professionals and other organisations, are deeply concerned about the impact this will have on the community of the whole Warkworth district. Its message is simply this. Does the community realise what will happen to Warkworth and district if these proposals are not challenged by the community? It needs to ensure that it gets the pattern and type of development for Warkworth that it wants and is appropriate for the District in the future.

The public meeting in the Town Hall at 7pm on Monday 16th September is to provide the background, and find out from the community how it sees the future of Warkworth. It is a real opportunity for you to be able to manage our own future rather than having it imposed on us by the authorities. Take this opportunity to voice your concerns.

