

Piha Beach and Dunes

Summary and Discussion of Results from the October 18th 2009 Community Open Day

Prepared by Coastline Consultants, November 2009

Background

Beach and dune restoration projects have been carried out at Piha for many years. At times this work has proven controversial. In March 2009 the Dune Restoration Trust of New Zealand (www.dunetrust.org.nz) held its' annual conference at Piha. Many locals took the opportunity to go along and discuss beach and dune management issues with people from all around New Zealand. The conference proved to be a catalyst to initiate discussions on the future of dune management and restoration at Piha.

The dune and beach fulfils a wide range of roles for locals and visitors, and people recognise the increasing pressures on the area from, for example, high visitor numbers. Within this context Waitakere City Council with the support from the community sought assistance from Coastline Consultants to define a process that enables restoration and conservation of the Piha dunes to continue into the future.

Project Scope

The overall objective for this project was:

- taking into account the needs and aspirations of the broad Piha community, define a process by which dune restoration and protection activities can occur at Piha Beach into the future.

Coastline Consultants staff held preliminary discussions with representatives of many key groups prior to facilitating the first of two community open days. The objective of the first open day was to:

- communicate key natural beach and dune function concepts.
- provide an opportunity to comment on and discuss the current and future community needs and aspirations for Piha Beach.
- communicate examples of other successful dune restoration and protection activities.

The first of these Community Open Days was held 10am-2pm, on October 18th 2009, the second is scheduled for March 7th 2010.

NEXT OPEN DAY MARCH 7th 2010, Piha Surf Club come along to discuss this document!!!

Where did this document come from and what is the next step?

This document summarises the responses given by Piha community members at the October 18th 2009 open day. The event was promoted using a number of local community networks and direct contact with community groups. Several individuals who couldn't attend on the day provided ideas prior to the open day. All of the ideas have been sorted into 'like' categories but not ranked in any way. The next step is to. The second consultation open day (will be held on March 7th 2010 to discuss the information along with the issues and options raised within this document. After the March open day a Management Strategy for the Piha dunes will be prepared.

October 2009 Open Day: Process



Jim Dahm, well known coastal scientist, delivered a presentation explaining how West Coast beaches function three times during the day.

Simultaneously three work stations were placed around the room and participants were asked to comment on key questions and any wider issues they had in relation to Piha beach and dunes. Staff from Waitakere City Council and Coastline Consultants were available all day to discuss issues with participants.

In the following sections of this discussion document the ideas put forward by participants during the open day have been collated under each question heading. Implications for the long term management of the beach and provided recommendations for the next steps to improve the management of Piha beach and dunes are also presented.

Jim Dahm delivers one of the presentations during the October open day.

October 2009 Open Day: Scientific Interpretation of Piha Beach

Detailed scientific information about the West Coast and Piha Beach already exists in Appendix 2 of the Piha Coastal Management Plan (WCC 2000). During the Open Day, Jim Dahm gave a detailed presentation covered how the wider West Coast system works, and then focussed on what was happening from a scientific point of view to the Piha beach and dunes.

Key points to consider when thinking about the future of Piha beach are:

- Vegetated sand dunes are a critical component of the natural form and function of Piha Beach
- Sand has been naturally building up at Piha and North Piha for the last 100 years.
- The source of this sand is the West Coast beaches to the south. The sand is driven northwards along the coast and into the bay by offshore waves.
- Wave action within the bay has short term effects on the location and size of sand bars and rip channels.
- Planting on sand dunes does not prevent erosion by the sea, but will control wind blown sand and help the dunes recover after storm events.
- Work undertaken on the car parks and sand dunes will not and has not affected the surf or boat launching conditions.
- The development of the township has significantly altered the Piha foreshore since the early 1900s.
- Piha is naturally a very dynamic coastal environment and can change very quickly in response to natural forces.
- It is likely that large scale accretion (build up) of sand will continue at Piha in the short to medium term.
- We do not know what the impact of sea level rise or climate change may have on Piha. There may be an increased number and/ or intensity of storm events with increased wave activity. There may be a change in the dominant wind direction. These events may change the beach and dune system.
- While the sand is currently building up, in the future it may erode again. It is therefore wise to assume that the sand we have now will not always be there.



If your group would like to see this presentation at one of your meetings then please contact: Harley Spence on 027 2785646 - harley@coastline.co.nz

Results Question1: How do you want to be able to use Piha beach in the future?

Theme	Comments
Access	<p>Two main themes arose related to vehicle and pedestrian access.</p> <p>Vehicles People want access for vehicles on beaches for boat launching and emergency services. Some people noted there should be no other vehicle access. Currently the Fishing Club works with ARC to access the southern end of the beach through a locked gate. One participant noted that safety and public access needs to be separated and suggested another access ramp is needed near the shop.</p> <p>Pedestrians Pedestrian access-ways need to be maintained at the levels they were installed at. If restricting access on the dunes, allow access to popular surf outlooks i.e. platforms.</p>
Amenities	<p>There were a range of opinions about what facilities should and should not be provided. Comments were:</p> <p>Use of beach space Allocate and maintain sufficient areas of beach/ areas left 'wild' for free-play for children/ appreciation. One participant also noted that there should be dune areas that can be used to shelter from southerly winds.</p> <p>Viewing platforms Several comments were made that surfers and beach goers want to view the surf from the dunes or from the car parks. Comments were made that more, preferably covered, platforms should be constructed to protect the dunes and that there should remain an ability to judge surfing contests from the dunes.</p> <p>Visual impact of structures Comments were made that there should be no more artificial structures on the dunes and that structures should be non-intrusive to enjoying the natural beauty and wildness of the beach, including bins, posts, signs etc.</p> <p>Car parks A comment was made that the South Piha car parks be removed and the dunes be able to move backwards in an effort to stop spending money on sand removal.</p>
Dog Control	<p>Comments were made that there should be no dogs on the beach and also that all dog owners should have to pick up after their dogs.</p>

<p>Beach Environment</p>	<p>People want to use the beach for a wide range of pursuits and enjoy a beach environment for a range of values. Comments about the beach environment were:</p> <p>Views Several comments were made that the views around Piha are highly valued and people want them retained. Comments were made that dunes should be managed to a height that retains views and that there is a wild natural back drop of dunes and bush.</p> <p>Estuary and streams Several comments were made that the Moana stream and estuary be restored and the artificial dune and concrete structures be removed.</p> <p>Use of space Some 'wild' areas for free play for children and wilderness appreciation.</p> <p>Wildlife More protection of seabirds and native birds on headlands and space allowed for watching penguins.</p>
<p>Management</p>	<p>Use of space/ zones Protect the sensitive areas of the beach but leave North Piha for adventure. [Ensure] management has a scientific basis and appreciates nature and natural processes. Restore dunes at south end of Piha.</p> <p>Don't want... Outlaw 'waratahs' which get buried and form dangerous protrusions in sand. Restrict access or prohibit jet skis. No seabed mining.</p>

Results Question 2 What suggestions do you have to make sure the things you value about Piha beach and dunes are protected in the future?

Theme	Comments
<p>Managing Access</p>	<p>For Vehicles</p> <p>Comments suggest that management of vehicles access to, and use of, the beach needs to be improved. Comments ranged from absolutely no vehicle access and use of the beach, except emergency services, to restricted access to certain points and tighter controls. Suggestions were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow only emergency vehicles on the beach through safe, designated access routes. • Remove all parking in front of the surf club except emergency and patrollers and close the surf ramp access to boats (other than emergency). • Public to use the domain access and sign post to direct parking. • Allow all boaties to use the South end boat ramp and access. • Remove public car parking from South Piha and control pedestrian traffic to designated access-ways. <p>For Pedestrians</p> <p>There were clear themes from the comments participants made about managing pedestrian access. Firstly that there needs to be designated, safe access-ways and secondly that these access-ways need to be well placed to direct foot traffic and maintained. The main reason given for having access-ways was to protect the dunes from the high numbers of pedestrian traffic. Comments were made that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access-ways need to direct foot traffic not just through the dunes but behind the dunes from e.g. car parks, the domain, people's houses etc. • One participant noted that there are many surfers that walk over the dunes and access-ways need to be able to direct surfer traffic. • Access-ways to be fenced, roped off or buffered to keep people off the dunes (as per the Coastal Management Plan). • There needs to be signage to direct traffic. • Some of the existing boardwalks need to be repaired and /or removed and traffic redirected to other areas. • Safe walkways that are user friendly with prams. • Don't turn Piha into another 'suburbia' with paved footpaths etc. • Provide a designated pedestrian beach access-way from the south car park. <p>One person suggested that there should be no fences and no walkways with board walks so that the view is more natural.</p>

Amenities and Infrastructure

Comments were made that the high amenity value of Piha beach be recognised. Participants offered the following suggestions for providing for this amenity value.

Rubbish

Several comments were made about rubbish bins, that there needs to be more or better facilities for rubbish. One participant noted that it would be good to remove the large bins and have bins in locations that are less visually obtrusive locations. Participants disagreed about removal of the recycling bins, with one writing they should be removed and another stating they shouldn't.

Viewing platforms and related facilities

- Redevelop and/or have more platforms to keep surfers off dunes.
- The little wall in the car park and the area of sand to the dunes has worked! It is good for surf competitions and stops the sand.

Beach outlook

Several comments about minimising the visual impact of built structures/ amenities in an effort to maintain the highly valued Piha outlook. Suggestions were:


- Keep dunes healthy, walkways as natural as possible.
- Rationalise the signage requirements (amount and placement) and where possible limit the number of signs and move them back from the beach.
- Minimise infrastructure, urban style solutions, gentrification, earth works, road marking and artificial engineering Less intrusive built development.

Car parks and roading

Participants noted that parking was an issue at Piha, particularly at the south end of the beach. Participants suggested that the car parks at the south end of Piha be revised and potentially removed and that judder bars be placed to discourage 'hoons' at night. Other participants noted that removing these car parks would put more pressure on the Domain. Reasons given for removing car parks was to allow the dunes to be restored and help the surf club conduct its activities safely. One participant also suggested pulling back the seaward line of car parking in front of the surf club and another suggested putting in underground power cables, particularly in front of the surf club.



	<p>Moana Stream</p> <p>Several comments were made about restoring Moana stream, some participants suggested removing all artificial works (including artificial dunes and channelised works) and allowing the stream to be restored naturally, whilst others wanted to raise the grassed areas adjacent to the stream to provide a better view of the beach for picnickers as a way of lessening foot traffic on the dunes. One participant suggested buying the houses in the area to provide more room to restore the stream and provide recreational space.</p>
<p>Education</p>	<p>Participants commented that there needs to be information and education programs to help people understand the natural beach processes (e.g. why the beach needs dunes and plants), and how to look after these. One of the main suggestions was involving more people, particularly locals, in restoration and planting activities. One participant stated: "Thank You to Coast Care!!!"</p>
<p>Event and Visitor Management</p>	<p>Events</p> <p>A number of participants noted that there are increasing numbers of events being run at Piha (particularly surf events) and that these need to be coordinated and managed. A recurring idea was that locals (e.g. the surf club) be involved in this management. One participant commented that supporting local Piha community groups should be part of the permission for running events. Another participant noted that making dune preservation a part of event plans (similar to health & safety, noise etc) would be more constructive than having 'blanket bans' on events.</p> <p>Visitors</p> <p>Related to this, participants commented on the increasing numbers of visitors to Piha and the potential issue involved with increased development, particularly commercial. Several comments were made about the need to develop strategies to manage visitors by making them feel welcome but making sure the dunes and beach areas are not degraded by overuse or misuse. Part of any strategy would be to ensure there are places for recreation.</p> <p>A comment was also made that organisations stop promoting tourism through Piha without consulting locals as to whether they want this.</p>
<p>Management Process</p>	<p>Several comments were made about the approach to management at Piha. General comments were that there should be consultation about works programs (such as building artificial dunes), that there should be an 'end goal' before starting any new work and management should take a longer term view, particularly of the dune system. More specific ideas were that programs should support the surf club and their beach/surf management; that storm water should not be discharged on to the beach; and that there should be a 'no glass' policy to avert broken glass in the car park.</p>

<p>Dune Restoration</p>	<p>A range of comments were made about dune restoration and the main theme of these was to continue and increase the managed planting of native sand binding and other native plants (such as meulenbeckia and ice plant) on the dunes. Reasons given for planting were to restore blowouts, to stabilise sand and keep the dunes healthy. A suggestion was also made to remove foreign matter such as soil, rocks and weeds from the dunes. Comments were made that the dunes be restored and maintained in a natural way using plants. Other related comments were that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council explore possibility of reducing car park sealed areas to enlarge dune area. • The windblown sand that blocks the surf club ramp and accumulates on the car park should be returned to beach rather than trucked away. • Dunes are not allowed to build up to the point they block views. • Eroded areas on Lion Rock and the Moana Stream mouth be restored. • Amenity grasses be planted on top of the dunes to hold the sand and provide somewhere to sit. • Dune restoration be undertaken in consultation with, and involvement of, the community. 
<p>Dog Control</p>	<p>Participants had contrasting views on dog control as to whether dogs should or shouldn't be allowed on the beach. Most comments noted that dogs should be allowed on the beach within certain hours and in certain areas, provided they were under control and cleaned up after. One participant noted that there needs to be clearer signage about dog free areas (e.g. around bird nesting sites).</p>

Results Question 3: Questions you want answered about the beach?

Resource Allocation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can we avoid costly interventions like sand removal and routing storm water into Moana Stream? • Are there enough resources being put into trapping etc to protect bird life on headlands?
Recreational Space and Amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why not MORE 'recycle' bins? • Why [are] the prime recreation areas car parks? • How can we provide safer pedestrian access to Piha Beach? • How can we protect sensitive dunes while ensuring there are still areas for 'wild' and 'free' play for children?
Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHAT are we wanting to achieve? • Why don't WCC do more repair work on dunes (planting) it may save them \$20Kpa. • What is the plan for concrete in Moana Stream? • What is WCCs position on seabed mining? • Will dune height be maintained e.g.: leveling of dunes in front of South Piha main car park?
Science and Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the coarse light sand on Piha Beach (especially around Lion Rock) from the sand moving from the south? • Do dunes reach a maximum height or keep growing? • What about rabbit control? • How can we avoid costly interventions like sand removal and routing storm water into Moana Stream?
Events Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop 'world' events at Piha. Send them to Karekare!!! • Events should be required to support community groups as part of permission. • Why WCC gives permission for so many large events at Piha? • Surf events should be managed by the local community or at least consult with local board riders clubs. • How can event selection be better managed to suit 'wild' nature of Piha? • Beach event management is non-existent <i>*need to be spaced out – coordinated locals should manage as Raglan locals do.</i>

Other ideas from the Open Day

Two themes came from comments about participant's 'vision' for Piha, these were that:

- Everyone understands why we need to look after our dunes to keep them healthy and how this can be done in a more natural rather than engineered way.
- Visitors are welcomed and managed so that the place they like to visit is not degraded by misuse.

Non-beach issues

A number of other issues were raised at the Open Day that have been passed on to Council to consider. Whilst these are not directly related to the management of the dunes and beach, they are important particularly for the management of visitors and to support the values of local Piha residents. These were:

Roading and Traffic

- Take a 'whole of Piha' approach to traffic management and avoid urbanized/suburban type infrastructure, i.e. control cars not the natural environment.
- Enforce a speed limit of 70-80kms from Anawhata turn off to Karekare turn off and then 50kms to the beach.
- Manage traffic to avoid safety incidents with cyclists on the road.
- The road is too narrow just by Sylvan Glade.
- Turn off the car park lights at 11pm – stop 'hangers' at night, noise etc.

Utilities

- Remove the power poles and underground wires north of Surf Club.
- Resolve the issues with the placement of a waste water tank across the entrance to the Piha Tennis Club.
- Can there be a water supply in South Piha?
- Minimise commercial development.
- Use grass verges to look after the drains.

Issues and Options for Discussion

Waitakere City Council has asked Coastline Consultants to define objectives and priorities for dune restoration and management specifically for the South End of Piha Beach and also in general terms for the northern part of the beach, given the result from the public open day and assessment of relevant previous information.

Fundamental to the options outlined below are several key factors:

- Beaches are naturally dynamic, sands come and go, dunes build up and erode because of wave and wind action.
- Piha will always be dynamic with high winds, mobile sands, high wave energy.
- Piha is a currently prograding beach, meaning it is naturally growing seaward.
- Piha has been changed dramatically through processes of development and being on the doorstep of Auckland, has high visitor numbers that are likely to continue to increase in the future.
- Piha residents and visitors hold a wide range of views about the beach and use the area for a range of activities, some of which can conflict with each other.

The results of this analysis are presented in the following table:

Issue	Options for community discussion (These options are based on ideas that have come from the community and currently not components of WCC work programmes)	Priorities for dune restoration and management	Financial implications (estimate)	Possible implementation timeframe
<p>Space Space is limited for the range of activities occurring at Piha and the number of visitors each year.</p>	<p>Zoned areas to reduce damage to dunes and conflicts between users. These could be spatial, temporal, periodic etc. For example, Karioitahi beach in the Franklin District.</p> <p>Define other areas of the township where activities could occur or visitors could be directed</p>	<p>Identify the full range of activities being undertaken, the types of areas they need/ desire, user conflicts, health and safety issues particularly in consideration of the surf club.</p>	<p>\$20,000</p>	<p>1-2 years</p>

Issue	Options for community discussion (These options are based on ideas that have come from the community and currently not components of WCC work programmes)	Priorities for dune restoration and management	Financial implications (estimate)	Possible implementation timeframe
<p>Visitor and Event Management Piha is one of the highest visited beaches in New Zealand and this is unlikely to change given its close proximity to Auckland.</p> <p>The existing facilities appear inadequate for this high level of use. Specific issues raised were that there is not enough suitable car parking space, boat and pedestrian access points, amenities such as rubbish bins, viewing areas and because of this the dunes are being damaged.</p> <p>There are user conflicts and potential safety hazards, particularly around the surf club area.</p> <p>Car parking needs are insufficient during busy periods and in particular areas e.g. the vicinity of the surf club.</p>	<p>Develop a visitor and event management strategy.</p> <p>Develop 'best practice' type guidelines for event organisers/ visitors about use of Piha.</p> <p>Have a local events and visitor management liaison person/ group.</p> <p>Encourage clubs/ event organisers from outside the area to communicate their intentions with Piha community group/ Piha website etc in an effort to coordinate and preparations can be made for periods of high visitor numbers.</p> <p>Council reassess the roading and car park needs of the township.</p> <p>Look at car parking somewhere else and direct foot traffic from car parks to beach – define with planting/ art etc.</p>	Assess the public car parking needs and define other areas that could provide parking.		1-2 years
		Consider restricting public access/ car parking around the immediate surf club area to ensure the surf club activities can function safely.	\$20,000	1 year
		Re-assess the existing pedestrian accesses across the dunes. Maintain, upgrade and/ or increase the number of accessways as necessary to cope with beach visitor numbers.	\$10,000	1-3 years
		Provide opportunities for community input into the design of signage, walkways and other infrastructure. Examples of local input include Bethells, Medlands & Whiritoa beaches where local artists designed signage.	\$15,000	1-2 years
		Ensure any visitor and event management strategy prioritises the protection of the dunes, community assets (such as accessways) and local community values.		Ongoing

Issue	Options for community discussion (These options are based on ideas that have come from the community and currently not components of WCC work programmes)	Priorities for dune restoration and management	Financial implications (estimate)	Possible implementation timeframe
<p>Viewing Clear desire by visitors to see beach. At other beaches viewing platforms/ shelters have been constructed – e.g. Port Waikato.</p> <p>There is a need to remove public pressure from the surf club viewing platform.</p>	<p>Clearly define viewing points from public car park areas</p>	<p>Provide areas where the public can view the beach without compromising the surf club's safety functions. For example align accessways toward dune high points.</p>	<p>\$10,000</p>	<p>1 year</p>
<p>Dune Restoration A large amount of effort has gone into dune restoration at Piha by the residents facilitated by Piha Coast Care and Waitakere City Council.</p> <p>Maintenance of this work is fundamental to ensuring that wind blown sand does not become an issue in the future and that local biodiversity gains are maintained in the future.</p>	<p>Continue annual plantings of native dune species.</p> <p>Maintain only existing vehicle and pedestrian accessways.</p> <p>Define new vehicle and pedestrian access points across the dunes.</p> <p>Re-establish the multi stakeholder group to reassess Piha Coastal Management Plan objectives and develop future work plans.</p>	<p>Provide ongoing support for the Coast Care group to maintain existing and any future dune restoration works.</p> <p>Provide support to involve more of the community in Coast Care activities and build general understanding of dune processes within the community.</p>	<p>\$20,000</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

Issue	Options for community discussion (These options are based on ideas that have come from the community and currently not components of WCC work programmes)	Priorities for dune restoration and management	Financial implications (estimate)	Possible implementation timeframe
<p>Moana Stream Restoration Some residents want the Moana Stream to be restored by removing the artificial dunes and channel works and thereby allowing the stream to naturally meander.</p> <p>A 1992 legal judgement states that this restoration should occur.</p> <p>If this work is undertaken much of the passive reserve space will be lost aggravating the existing space pressures.</p>	<p>Remove channel guidance structures from Moana stream</p> <p>Leave the stream as is now.</p>	<p>Returning the stream to its' original meandering condition is consistent with many of the broad policy and management goals for Piha beach. A long term project to achieve this goal should be considered.</p> <p>As part of this project, careful assessment of the implications on existing infrastructure (such as reserve space, roading etc) will need to occur as well as flooding and beach safety issues.</p>	<p>\$500,000+</p>	<p>2-5 years</p>



Process from here

Step	Purpose	Date
Second Public Open Day	Open Day will provide a further opportunity to discuss the long term management of the beach and dunes.	March 7 th 2010 at the Piha Surf Club
Presentations to Piha community groups outlining the Scientific Interpretation of the beach and discussing the Outcomes of the Open Days.	Provide opportunities for as many people as possible in Piha to hear about, and comment on, the scientific information and options available to manage Piha beach and dunes in the future.	April-July 2010
Auckland Council (Super City) structure defined	Any future plans will need to be incorporated into the new Auckland Council Structure so that works can be implemented.	August 2010
Recommended Dune Management Approach for Piha Beach: Report	Summarises: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the outcomes of the two Open Days, group discussions 2. impact of Super City structure 3. provide guidance and recommendations for future management of Piha Beach and dunes 	December 2010
Project Implementation Phase	Implement processes and works to improve management of Piha beach and dunes.	2011 and beyond

If you have any comments about the contents of this Discussion Document please contact

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Appendix 1: Existing Policy and Management Information

WCC and the Piha community have previously undertaken extensive consultation processes to outline their broad level goals for the West Coast beaches and Piha environment. These goals are recorded in existing documents such as the Piha Coastal Management Plan (WCC 2000), the West Coast Plan (WCC 2001) and the Waitakere Ranges Project (ARC & WCC 2003). Key features are below:

Green Network Programme

The Green Network programme is about 'greening up' the City by enhancing, connecting and extending natural areas. The vision is to connect the Waitakere Ranges to the sea by supporting and establishing native habitats for a greater number and range of creatures to live in. It is also about gaining great views, enjoying the outdoors and involving communities.

Piha Coastal Management Plan 2000

Piha Beach Key outcomes:

- Improvement of amenity, ecological and natural character values.
- Reduction of windblown sand.
- Protection of assets from possible erosion.

Piha Lagoon and Mid Beach key outcomes:

- Protection of assets from possible future erosion.
- Enhancement of ecological values.
- Prevention of damage to sand binding plants.

North Piha key outcomes:

1. Protection of assets from possible future erosion.
2. Enhancement of ecological values.
3. Provision for and management of visitors.

Many of the implementation priorities since 2000 have been undertaken and the Piha Coast Care group continues to carry out restoration works along the beach.

West Coast Plan:

Purpose

- To protect the wild and remote qualities of the West Coast and Waitakere Ranges.
- To ensure this picturesque area will be enjoyed and experienced by this and future generations.
- To increase people's knowledge about this area and its communities.
- To promote community consultation, involvement and action.
- To work together to protect the sea, the coast and the ranges.
- To recognise and support the unique and diverse characters of all West Coast communities.

Goals:

- Clean healthy eco-systems supporting a diversity of locally appropriate plants and wildlife in the parklands, private land, and waterways of the sea.
- Human activities and structures are in keeping with the local character of each community and the parkland. (Human structures include anything built by humans such as facilities, houses, roads, carparks, powerlines and drains).
- Communities that are strongly connected to their natural environment and are unique and diverse.
- The West Coast is a place where everyone can experience and enjoy the wildness.