

# Your Regional Councillors



**Mark Farnsworth – Chairman**

*Represents Kaipara District*  
Phone: 09 431 5438  
Email: markf@nrc.govt.nz

Mark Farnsworth has represented the Kaipara since 1992 and was elected Council Chairman in October 2001.

Mr Farnsworth has a Master's Degree in Geography and a forestry and farming background. He is a past National President of the New Zealand School Trustees Association and operates a small management partnership. He is also a Justice of the Peace.



**Ian Walker – Deputy Chairman**

*Represents Far North District*  
Phone: 09 408 0072  
Email: ian@nzfarmers.com

Ian Walker is a farmer, horticulturist and businessman. He is currently President of Farmers of New Zealand and a Director of Northland Port Corporation NZ Limited. This is his third term as a Regional Councillor and he was appointed Deputy Chairman in June 2008.



**John Bain**

*Represents Whāngārei District*  
Phone: 09 437 6096  
Email: jbain@internet.co.nz

John Bain is best-known to most as Chairman of the high-profile air ambulance provider, the Northland Emergency Services Trust (NEST). A former member of the Northland District Health Board, Cr Bain has had a 35-year involvement with the Northland Ambulance Service, including many years as its Chairman. He has been self-employed since his early 20s and is currently in the importing business.



**Craig Brown**

*Represents Whāngārei District*  
Phone: 09 432 7575  
Email: cae.brown@xtra.co.nz

Craig Brown is the former Mayor of the Whāngārei District Council and is serving his second term on the Regional Council. He is a former policeman, and has been involved in farming and real estate. He has been heavily involved on school boards of trustees since their instigation, for which he received an award for services to education from the New Zealand School Trustees Association. Cr Brown was on the Whāngārei District Council for 12 years, six of them as Mayor.



**Joe Carr**

*Represents Far North District*  
Phone: 09 401 9197  
Email: carr.clan@farmside.co.nz

Ōkaihau-based Joe Carr has local business, farm and forest interests and is also a Justice of the Peace. He is a trustee of the Far North Life Education Trust and is a former Far North District Councillor. Cr Carr has served on a number of Regional Council Committees over the past nine years including Civil Defence and Emergency Management, Regional Land Transport and Landcare. He has previously been a Hearing Commissioner and Appeal Negotiator for the Far North District Council.



**Lorraine Hill**

*Represents Far North District*  
Phone: 09 403 7504  
Email: lorrainehill8@xtra.co.nz

Lorraine Hill, QSM, has been active in local government in the Far North for more than 20 years and is now serving her fourth term on the Regional Council. Cr Hill has also been involved in tourism organisations in Northland for more than 25 years. She is a member of several organisations involved in Māori development in Northland.



**Peter Jensen**

*Represents Whāngārei District*  
Phone: 09 437 6386  
Email: peterje@clear.net.nz

Peter Jensen has represented the Whāngārei constituency since 1992. He is a retired businessman who was involved in the clothing industry for most of his working life. A former member of the Whāngārei City Council, he has served on a number of commercial and community organisations. Mr Jensen is also a member of the Northland District Health Board.

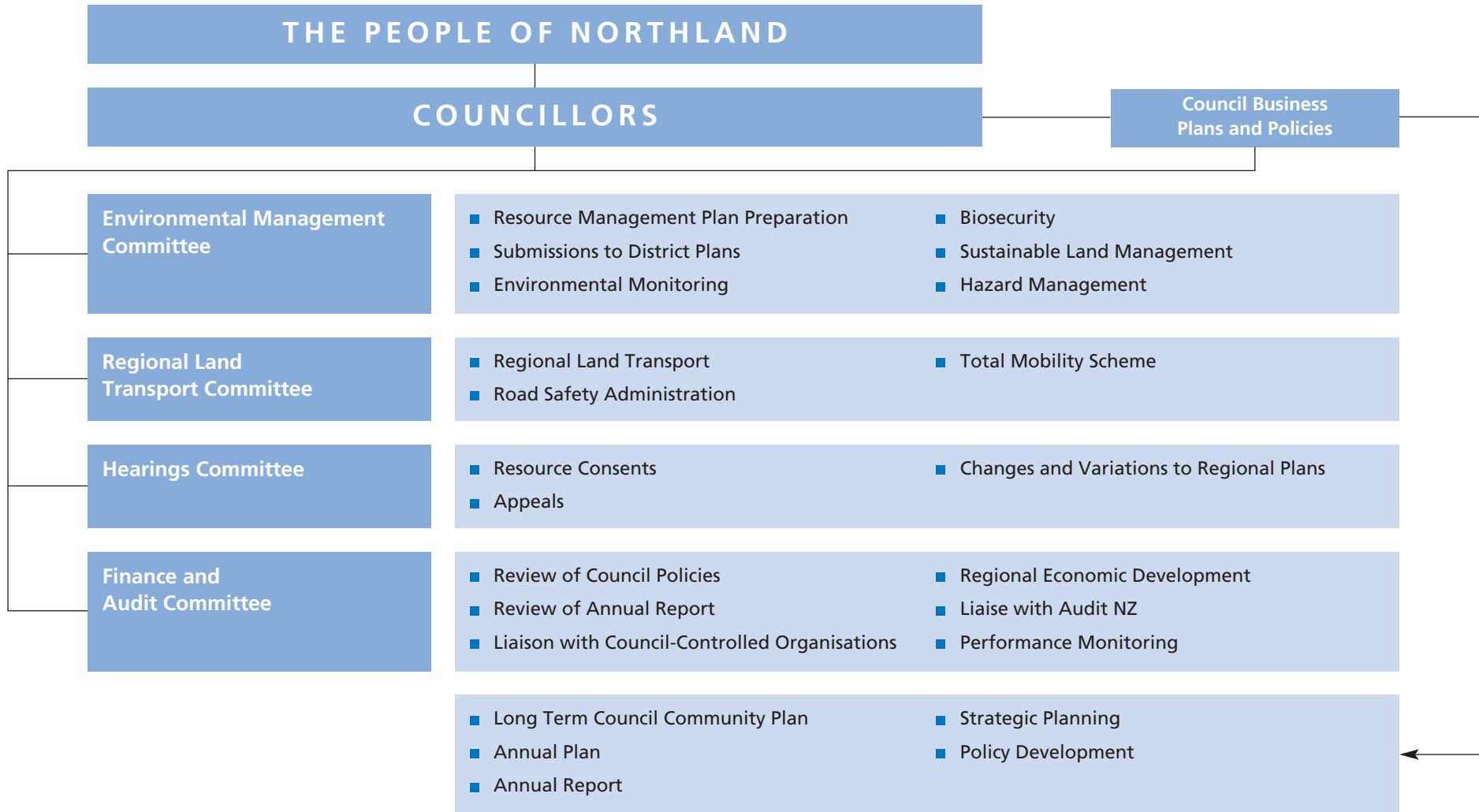


**Bill Rossiter**

*Represents Whāngārei District*  
Phone: 09 437 2807  
Email: billr@igrin.co.nz

Bill Rossiter is serving his fourth term on the Regional Council. He previously served as a Whāngārei District Councillor. He is a Northpower trustee and was previously the Road Safety Co-ordinator for RoadSafe Northland. He is active in community organisations, including Rotary. Mr Rossiter is a retired businessman involved in the printing and stationery industry.

# Governance Structure



Full details of all Council's Governance arrangements and processes are contained in its Governance Statement. A copy of Northland Regional Council's Governance Statement is available on request, or by visiting the website: [www.nrc.govt.nz](http://www.nrc.govt.nz).

# Council Committees and Advisers

The Chairman, Mark Farnsworth, is an ex-officio member of all committees.

## Environmental Management Committee

Councillors Craig Brown (Chairman), Joe Carr (Deputy Chairman), Mark Farnsworth (ex officio), John Bain, Lorraine Hill, Peter Jensen and Bill Rossiter.

- Mrs Fiona King representing the Far North District Council.
- Cr Crichton Christie representing the Whāngārei District Council.
- Cr Brian McEwing representing the Kaipara District Council.
- Mr Gerry Brackenbury representing environmental interest groups (nominated by Northland Regional Council).
- Mr Wayne Ward representing the farming community (nominated by Farmers of New Zealand).
- Mr Chris Jenkins representing the Department of Conservation.
- Mr Andrew Warren – NZ Forest Owners Association representing the forest industry.
- Mr Mike Kake representing cultural interests.

## Regional Land Transport Committee

Councillors John Bain (Chairman), Joe Carr (Deputy Chairman), Mark Farnsworth (ex officio).

- Mr Tom Baker representing the Far North District Council.
- Mr Mark Simpson representing the Whāngārei District Council.
- Cr Richard Alspach representing the Kaipara District Council.
- Mr Wayne McDonald representing NZ Transport Agency.
- Mrs Lynette Stewart representing Public Health.
- Ms Jo Douglas representing Economic Development.

- Mr Steve Westgate representing environmental sustainability.
- Mr Mike Kake representing cultural interests.
- Inspector Clifford Paxton – New Zealand Police representing safety and security.
- Mr John Williamson – Access and Mobility.

## Hearings Committee

Councillors Lorraine Hill (Chairperson), Mark Farnsworth (ex officio), Peter Jensen, Craig Brown, Joe Carr and Ian Walker.

Any two (or more) of the above Councillors may be appointed by the Committee (or the Council), to conduct hearings and make decisions on behalf of the Council under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). The Committee (or the Council) similarly may appoint any individual member/s or other independent person/s as Commissioner/s pursuant to section 34(1) of the RMA, to conduct a hearing in any particular case. The Committee (or the Council) may also revoke such a delegation at any time, by notice to the delegate.

## Audit and Finance Committee

Councillors Peter Jensen (Chairman), John Bain (Deputy Chairman) Mark Farnsworth (ex officio), Ian Walker, Craig Brown and Bill Rossiter.

## Northland Regional Council Community Trust

The Northland Regional Council Community Trust was established in March 1996 using the proceeds from the sale of some of the Northland Regional Council's majority shareholding in the Northland Port Corporation.

The current trustees are Andrew Britton, Rawson Wright, Ken Paterson, Lawrayne Hughes, Irene Durham and William Shepherd.

## Representation – other organisations

- Northland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group – Cr Bill Rossiter.
- Northland Regional Animal Health Committee – Cr Mark Farnsworth.
- Zone 1 Local Government New Zealand – Cr Bill Rossiter.
- Northland Conservation Board – Cr Craig Brown (observer).
- Northland Tourism Development Group – Cr Lorraine Hill.
- Ruakaka Sewerage Working Party – Cr Craig Brown.

## Advisers

**Auditor:** Audit New Zealand on behalf of the Auditor-General.

**Bankers:** ASB Bank.  
Bank of New Zealand.

**Solicitors:** Burns Fraser Environment Law, Auckland.  
Chapman Tripp, Auckland.  
John G Walton, Auckland.  
Henderson Reeves Connell Rishworth.  
Karenza de Silva, Auckland.  
Laurene Holley, Auckland.  
Law North Partners.  
Paul Diver, Auckland.  
Simpson Grierson, Wellington.  
Thomson Wilson, Whāngārei.  
Webb Ross, Whāngārei.

**The Chief Executive Officer** is responsible for setting the direction of the Council within the policy framework provided by Councillors. The Management Team is accountable to him and he is accountable to the Council.

# Council Management Structure



\* Activity Support Services



# Policy on the development of Māori capacity

## Policy on relationships with Māori

The Local Government Act 2002 contains a range of provisions regarding the relationship of local government with Māori. The intention of these new provisions is the facilitation of participation by Māori in the decision-making processes of local authorities.

In addition to the obligations within the Local Government Act, the Resource Management Act 1991 outlines specific obligations for Regional Councils regarding:

- Kaitiakitanga;
- The principles of the Treaty of Waitangi;
- The relationship between Māori and their culture; and
- Traditions and their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu and other taonga.

In order to give effect to the obligations under the Local Government and Resource Management Acts, the Northland Regional Council will continue to work with Māori to enhance relationships and participation for Māori.

Set out below are the Northland Regional Council processes in place to give effect to these obligations and to develop Māori capacity to contribute to decision making.

### Iwi liaison

Section 13 of the Council's Governance Statement details the key tasks of Council's Iwi Liaison policy, while section 12 outlines the Council's consultation policy including for consultation with Māori. A copy of the Governance Statement is available on the Council's website [www.nrc.govt.nz/governance](http://www.nrc.govt.nz/governance)

The Council views the process of Iwi liaison as one of establishing and maintaining a close connection with Māori through clear processes for consultation and involvement in decision-making. By doing so, the Council recognises Māori as being a culturally distinct group with different perspectives from the wider community.

### Relationships

Northland Regional Council realises the need to form transparent and responsive relationships in order for them to be meaningful. The Council will continue to work at all levels to establish and maintain relationships with Māori such as regular attendance at the Iwi/Council Chief Executives Forum.

### Treaty of Waitangi

A special relationship exists between Māori and the Crown through the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi. The Treaty cements the relationship between the Crown and Māori as Treaty partners.

The Council will continue to work with the Office of Treaty Settlements by way of provision of information and, where relevant, contributing to investigations of various settlement instruments during the negotiation of claims. Where such settlements have been passed into legislation, the Council will enact any legislative requirements of them or directions from the Minister, such as Memorandum of Understanding.

### Provision of information

Northland Regional Council recognises that in order for Māori to effectively contribute to the decision-making process of Council, it is essential that relevant information is provided to support this process.

By providing information, the Council acknowledges it needs to be cognisant that it is relevant, clear and provided in a timely fashion in a manner that is appropriate.

### **Contribute to decision-making and capacity building**

The Northland Regional Council will continue to provide opportunities for Māori to gain knowledge of Council processes and to support avenues for Māori to participate in the decision-making processes. The Council will also continue to recognise the special relationship Māori have with the natural and physical resources of the region.

Further opportunities on how the Council might foster this will be investigated through relationships with Iwi Authorities and by establishing collaborative relationships between Northland's three District Councils around Māori engagement.

### **Mutual respect**

Northland Regional Council recognises that in order to have an enduring relationship with Māori that steps need to be put in place to ensure that elected representatives and staff have an opportunity to gain an appreciation of Māori Culture and Tikanga.

The Council will provide opportunities for education programmes relating to Māoritanga and to the Treaty of Waitangi in order for staff to gain an understanding of the needs and expectations of Māori in relation to the Local Government and Resource Management Acts.