



NZPI Member Survey – Post-Pandemic questionnaire analysis

Introduction

NZPI surveyed its members using a survey monkey questionnaire run between May 5th to May 12th, 2020. The responses have been analysed and we have identified the following common themes:

- Urban form and resilience planning
- Community development and economic recovery
- Maori planning
- Paradigm shift leveraging off pandemic adaptation planning
- Improving planning processes
- Fundamental changes to planning processes needed

The last theme emerged toward the end of the response collection period, and suggests that as time marched on, planners were more reflective on the whole planning system, and whether it needs to be fundamentally changed so that what we do is more geared to being ready for a future pandemic.

Of the 6 themes listed, we have picked a couple of “winners” that best embody each of the themes.

Winners

This section contains a selection of responses under each of the themes that came through in the questions submitted by members participating in the questionnaire.

- **Urban form and resilience planning**

Is intensive living in apartment buildings a good idea when it exacerbates the transmission of a virus. Is open plan office arrangements a good idea where everyone sneezes over everyone else? Should greater emphasis be on preserving our open spaces

In what way should plans and management principles be altered to better insure greater resilience against another global pandemic?

- **Community development and economic recovery**

What do communities want to keep from the lockdown/pandemic response, and what issues did the lockdown highlight that could be addressed through better planning

How can we emerge from Covid19 without simply returning to business as usual, and with a focus on a more sustainable environment and addressing climate change?

- **Maori planning**

How do we align our economic system and use of resources to regenerate mauri?

- **Paradigm shift leveraging off pandemic adaptation planning**

How can we use this disruptive event to create a step change in our communities and how we manage resources?

How do we as planners carry the context of the "new normal" into the new normal? How do we harness the energy and desire to press the reset button and keep environmental gains made under restricted activities going beyond Covid.



- **Improving planning processes**

How to fast track projects while ensuring a reasonable level of consultation/engagement and input into conditions?

How do we respond to the particular issues raised by COVID-19 and can we anticipate and plan for such black swan events more generally?

- **Fundamental changes to planning processes needed**

What is the value of existing aspirations and outcomes of district plans developed in a non-Covid world?

How can we balance economic and health goals while future proofing our space against future pandemics?

We noted that an overall theme indicated in the responses was about how planning should provide for public health – the subtext being that planning has not needed to explicitly provide for human health perhaps since the days of cholera and the housing crises of industrial Britain.

