

2/8/2012

Complaint by Grace Haden on behalf of Transparency New Zealand with regards to the charitable status of the Committee for Auckland

There are three charity numbers given for the committee for Auckland they are

**CC43500 Committee For Auckland group**

**CC43499 Committee For Auckland Limited**

**CC43498 The Committee For Auckland Trust**

**CC43500 Committee For Auckland group**

1. The committee for Auckland group only has the accounts for the **Committee For Auckland Limited listed.**
2. The group claims to consist of

**CC43499 Committee for Auckland Limited**

**CC43498 the Committee for Auckland Trust**

**CC43499 Committee for Auckland Limited**

3. The company was registered as COMPETITIVE AUCKLAND LIMITED it changed its name 23 Dec 2002 to Committee For Auckland Limited . The shareholder is a group of people who may or may not be a trust there is no indication of this other than the fact that the shares are jointly held.
  - a. The beneficiary of the company / charity proceeds is COMPETITIVE AUCKLAND Trust this is not a charity it is not a trust registered under the charitable trust act 1957, no trust deed is visible.
  - b. Documentation which relates to the competitive Auckland entity indicates that the purpose is not charitable and it has been created to inspire business growth. It is very much a commercial venture. the crucial documents are located at the following links

[Competitive Auckland - Auckland Council](http://web.archive.org/web/20021126074923/http://www.competitiveauckland.co.nz/docs/REPORT1.PDF)

[web.archive.org/web/20021126074923/http://www.competitiveauckland.co.nz/docs/REPORT1.PDF](http://web.archive.org/web/20021126074923/http://www.competitiveauckland.co.nz/docs/REPORT1.PDF)

[web.archive.org/web/20021126074923/http://www.competitiveauckland.co.nz/docs/REPORT2.PDF](http://web.archive.org/web/20021126074923/http://www.competitiveauckland.co.nz/docs/REPORT2.PDF)

**CC43498 the Committee for Auckland Trust**

4. Appears to have lost its trust deed the trust deed on the charities web site is different to the one on the register of charitable trusts under the charitable trust act 1957.
  - a. The rules uploaded on the charities web site 21.01.2010 are entitled consolidated deed of trust confirming the establishment of the committee for Auckland trust. This deed does not make any mention of being or having been the **COMPETITIVE AUCKLAND Trust** .
  - b. It is signed by trustees Richard Didsbury ,Bryan Mogridge ,Diane Robertson ,Ronald Carter ,David McConnel and David Tapper and witnessed by a person who was a director of **Committee For Auckland Limited**
  - c. This deed is undated and simply states it was signed in 2006.
5. On 18 October 2006 a trust which has a deed similarly worded to the deed referred to in 4 above was registered under the charitable trust act. This deed states that the trust shall be known as the competitive Auckland trust.
  - a. This trust changed its name on 2 may 2007 to **Committee For Auckland Trust**

### The issues

6. The trust deed signed in 2006 and listed on the charities web site cannot be the same trust as the trust registered as a charity.
  - a. The trust on the charities web site had a deed dated 2006 and was called the **Committee for Auckland Trust in 2006.**
  - b. **The trust which was registered did not attain that name until 2007**
7. The trust which was competitive Auckland trust and incorporated in 2006 and changed its name to the committee for Auckland trust is not the beneficiary of the Committee for Auckland Limited and it is not the shareholder. As this is a legal entity in its own right and would be listed as a shareholder in its own name.
8. The charities web site does not show proper accounts for the **Committee For Auckland Trust** and apart from the name being the same there is no legal connection between the two so as to call it a " Group "
9. Membership fees are listed on the web site <http://www.committeeforauckland.co.nz/membership> it is not clear if the cite is for the trust or the company. Neither the trust nor the company allows for membership fees in their deed or constitution, there is also exclusivity , membership is by invitation only. The fees are
  - Corporate Membership annual fee \$10,000
  - Associate Membership annual fee \$5,000
  - Individual Membership annual fee \$2,500
10. The proceeds of the Committee for Auckland Limited are going to a trust called the **COMPETITIVE AUCKLAND Trust** and there is no transparency surrounding this . The possibility exists that there is yet another trust called the **COMPETITIVE AUCKLAND Trust**

11. The application for charitable status documents which have been accepted by the charities commission are not credible due to the conflicts that they contain as outlined above.
12. The functions of the group are not charitable the intention is clearly to promote and encourage business growth and is doing more to create poverty than it is to relieve poverty.
13. Membership and support is aimed at corporates and not at individuals.
14. This group, although it appears to have taken on some charitable functions is primarily a lobby group which has had objectives of increasing business and driving business to the selected members. This is summarised in the archived web document as attached and as below.

*“During a five month process a well-articulated strategy for the development of the Auckland region as an internationally competitive business location was developed.*

*Following the release of the strategy the organisation went on to undertake implementation work in the fields of investment attraction and industry network development as a demonstration of the role of a regional economic development agency. In parallel to the work of Competitive Auckland the organisation assisted in the formation of a public sector initiative to form a regional economic development strategy for Auckland (AREDS)”*

*The Committee for Auckland comprises a collaborative group of passionate Aucklanders from across the public and private spectrum who as leaders in their field seek to identify and influence the critical issues and opportunities facing Auckland. By providing a robust, independent and neutral environment for the discussion, debate and development of initiatives and ideas impacting on the future progress of the region, the Committee seeks to leverage the influence of its members to drive the initiatives that will ensure that Auckland becomes one of the world's great places to live and work.*

*The Committee of Auckland has played a critical role in helping to unify Auckland. It's a privilege to be part of the next phase of initiatives that will make the city an internationally compelling place to live in and do business*

*Committee Chair, Richard Didsbury says **"Our organisation is fortunate to have an influential and highly engaged Board of Directors who all give their time and their ideas freely to help make Auckland great***  
<http://auckland.scoop.co.nz/2013/02/new-directors-join-board-of-committee-for-auckland/>

*Since 2001, the committee has brought together representatives from a broad range of leading Auckland organisations, to address key issues which impact on Auckland's growth. Members represent a cross-section of Auckland entities including major commercial organisations, tertiary institutions and local and central government agencies, all of whom want to engage with the council to achieve the economic stretch objectives of the Auckland Plan.*



Grace Haden

Director



9 captures

2 Oct 03 - 1 Dec 08

DEC FEB APR  
 2003 14 2007  
 2004



# Committee for Auckland



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### The Creation of the Committee

The Committee for Auckland was established in January 2003 as the evolution of the organisation of Competitive Auckland.

- [Introduction](#)
- [The defining role of the committee](#)
- [The creation of the committee](#)
- [The governance of the committee](#)

Competitive Auckland was a not-for-profit charitable trust formed in March 2001 by a group of business leaders concerned about the loss of business and talent from the Auckland Region. They gathered support and pro-bono/voluntary resources from a broad cross section of Auckland business, the tertiary institutions and local government. During a five month process a well articulated strategy for the development of the Auckland region as an internationally competitive business location was developed.

Following the release of the strategy the organisation went on to undertake implementation work in the fields of investment attraction and industry network development as a demonstration of the role of a regional economic development agency. In parallel to the work of Competitive Auckland the organisation assisted in the formation of a public sector initiative to form a regional economic development strategy for Auckland (AREDS)

#### AUCKLAND FACT:

Auckland City contributes 49% of greater Auckland's GDP and around a third of NZ's GDP.

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15 Aug 03 - 1 Dec 08

AUG DEC APR

11

2002

2003

2007



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identify and influence the critical issues and opportunities facing Auckland. By providing a robust, independent and neutral environment for the discussion, debate and development of initiatives and ideas impacting on the future progress of the region, the Committee seeks to leverage the influence of its members to drive the initiatives that will ensure that Auckland becomes one of the world's great places to live and work.

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#### AUCKLAND FACT:

Most Aucklanders live within a few miles of the water, so going to the beach is a favourite pastime for swimming, boating, walking, and jogging.

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## Developers unified for a better Auckland

### The National Business Review - 22 September 2006 : 44-01

**The Committee for Auckland's intentions remain vague**  
**Amy Williams**

Developers are heavily represented on the interest group that's out to prove Auckland pulls its weight for the national economy.

The Committee for Auckland and the Auckland City Council jointly released two reports that appear to set the scene for the government to invest more in the country's largest city.

It's no coincidence that a quarter of the 75 Committee for Auckland members have direct property development interests.

Property Council national director Connal Townsend represents his organisation on the committee. Although Mr Townsend had not seen copies of the two reports, he said the property council would support any changes that improved and streamlined development.

"We are probably at a point where central government passed so much responsibility down that local government is on its knees and not able to cope," Mr Townsend said from Surfers Paradise where he was attending the Australian Property council conference this week. "It's really starting to slow projects down - that has a cost."

Kiwi Income Property Trust chief executive Angus McNaughton represents the trust in the Committee for Auckland and said a prosperous Auckland would contribute significantly to a positive property market. But Mr McNaughton was overseas and had not seen the committee's two reports.

Committee for Auckland chairman Sir Ron Carter spoke about the importance of money flows between central and local governments when he launched the reports on Monday. Sir Ron said development projects needed more push, and infrastructure improvements and city projects were tied up in unwieldy governance structures.

He said consultation took years and the end result was often similar to the initial plans.

"I think we've got to have a look at the way we involve the community in our decision making. I just wonder whether we can afford the amount of time. It's a big debate we've got to have in the city."

The Committee for Auckland's report titled The Case for Auckland was veiled in vague language but, in a speech, member Nick Main suggested a successful city relied on:

a plan to execute;

overall leadership;

a capacity to fund the plan; and

an organisation to implement the plan

The report titled Auckland's contribution to the government's surplus in 2005 was based on Auckland's contribution of \$3.8 billion toward the government's \$6.2 billion operating surplus.

Companies Office records show the Committee for Auckland is a registered company that was launched as Competitive Auckland in 2001 before changing its name in 2002. The company's shareholders are Richard Didsbury, David McConnell, Bryan Mogridge and Diane Robertson.

Committee for Auckland members from the development community include Mr Townsend, Mr McNaughton, Britomart management company Bluewater chief executive Matthew Cockram, Krukziener Properties governing director Andrew Krukziener and Multiplex Constructions managing director Dan Ashby.