

Meet our manager: Alastair Cameron



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As Manager of Auckland Council's CCO Governance & External Partnerships department, **Alastair Cameron**, *pictured*, leads the BID programme team.

You may recall we interviewed Alastair last [September](#) when he spoke of our city's bright future and the role BID programmes play in a growing economy.

With the team's current service delivery model now just over a year old, we caught up with Alastair to get his views on the past 14 months and how he can help BIDs.

This father-of-three is a busy man, both at home in Grey Lynn and at work on the 25th floor of 135 Albert St.

A qualified lawyer, Alastair has worked in local government for over 11 years, including nearly seven at Auckland Council specialising in governance.

He 'inherited' the BID team in early 2016 and oversaw the final stages of the team's transformation into a four-person team of relationship, governance, growth and communications specialists.

"We have a full team on board now and it's been a busy year for [Claire](#), [Rose](#), [Steve](#) and [Paul](#).

"Our BIDs website provides a growing source of information and advice on running effective and efficient BID programmes. Paul is helping us build our collection of case studies showcasing best practice and valuable insights from BID managers, business association chairs and local board members.

"Talking of growth, several BIDs have expanded their boundaries over the past year or so, while others are in the process of following suit. If your BID is looking to expand, Claire is here to help.

"As the council's chief economist said back in July, Auckland's population boom offers growing economic and place-making opportunities throughout the city. Vibrant town centres and business precincts attract customers and bring prosperity to the people who work there," says Alastair.

“As manager of both the BID and CCO Governance teams, I appreciate the need to build strong and enduring relationships. In her ‘relationships specialist’ role, Rose is there to encourage and, where possible, facilitate greater collaboration between business associations and the many arms of council, including CCOs.



“I am aware of the BIDs’ desire to connect more directly and effectively with council and CCO staff.

“While attending a recent BID networking meeting at Highbrook, I heard the frustrations expressed and offered to help BID managers to achieve some ‘cut-through’ at the executive level of CCOs.

“That invitation still stands and I’m here to help where I can.”



“Our now, not-so new BID Policy has been effective for a little over a year and it’s been a learning experience for us all.

“Compliance with the key requirement to have a signed programme agreement back to us by 30 June was almost 100% - that’s a great start. From constitutions to board charters and budgets to business plans, there’s been a marked improvement in consistency and quality across the city.

“The policy operating standards certainly proved their worth in the case of Northcote Town Centre where council intervention was required to get that BID programme successfully back on track.

“We’re now well into AGM season and I invite BID managers to tap into the knowledge and experience of Steve, whose recent [AGM Tips for Managers](#) advisory is proving useful.

“Later this month (September) we’re holding a ‘BIDs and Boards’ workshop designed to help local board members better understand their role and responsibilities as the liaison between their local board and the board (executive committee) of BID-operating business associations,” says Alastair.