



Kendyl Sullivan *pictured*, has returned to work after almost a year on maternity leave, looking after first-born son Brody.

The experienced Pukekohe BID programme manager takes up where interim manager Wendy Dunn left off.

The BID team's Steve and Paul headed down the southern motorway to catch up with Kendyl and hear about her renewed enthusiasm for the role she's held since 2011.

Go big or go home!

Despite being sleep-deprived for the first six months of her maternity leave, Kendyl Sullivan still found the time and energy to develop fresh ways to enhance Pukekohe's BID programme.

The arts, marketing and law graduate and Pukekohe resident says she was "gagging to return to work" to put the initiatives into action.

"I'm back with a fresh perspective and a bunch of new ideas," says Kendyl, whose son Brody (pictured below right) turns one in March.

"It was good to step back for a while and see things differently from outside the organisation.

"We're about to do our annual planning and I'm keen to try new things, be a bit explosive. Go big or go home, that's the plan!" says the woman who says she greatly admires stay-at-home mums but did not wish to be one.

Bay of Plenty-born Kendyl, whose return to work is on a part-time basis until April, has been meeting and getting to know her new committee members.



Places like Pukekohe and surrounding areas are already experiencing major growth and are expecting more.

Offering country charm with city sophistication just 40 minutes driving from central Auckland, Pukekohe is the home of motorsport, racing, boutique shopping, a farmers' market and more.



Kendyl has also been busy renewing her acquaintances with council staff and (Franklin) local board members with whom she has developed strong, collaborative working relationships.

“Ours has traditionally been quite an independent business association, however we’re always keen to see where we can overlap and work together.”

Andy Baker, Alan Cole and Angela Fulljames are among the go-to politicians Kendyl admires and works with to advance the best interests of Pukekohe.

Kendyl has recently caught up with members of Auckland’s urban regeneration agency looking to unlock Pukekohe’s potential.



From left - Murray Kay, Angela Fulljames, Niko Kloeten, Andy Baker and Alan Cole from the Franklin Local Board have formed a working group to partner with Auckland Council’s development agency Panuku on a regeneration programme for the town.

“It’s been awesome to learn more about how the local board is teaming up with Panuku on the long-awaited programme to regenerate Pukekohe. I’m thrilled by this news.” [READ MORE](#)

She acknowledged the contribution of Wendy Dunn who managed the BID programme in Kendyl’s absence until last December with support from permanent staff Shawna and Chenay.

“It was great to have such an enthusiastic and passionate manager with a different perspective and ideas looking after Pukekohe Business Association,” Kendyl says.



“Our annual promotions and events calendar is strong. The ‘shop local’ booklet and Facebook giveaways continue to be successful, and we have activities planned for the next school holidays in our town square.

“To see what new ideas we have coming up follow us on [Facebook](#) or [online](#).”

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