

NZPI FELLOW MEMBERSHIP

Julie Bevan

AWARDED ON 22 MARCH 2024

Julie commenced her career in planning at the Auckland City Council in 1994, coming to planning as a career via teaching. Julie moved to Waitakere City in 1994 where she project managed the hearing and decision-making processes for the Waitakere District Plan. She has extensive planning experience having worked in policy development, implementation and in the consents realm at both the district and regional levels. She is an accredited Hearing Commissioner and a highly effective and experienced Manager who has held senior management roles at the Auckland Regional Council, Auckland Council and now the Bay of Plenty Regional Council Toi Moana. She is currently the Policy and Planning Manager.

Julie has been involved in the development and implementation of the Auckland Regional Policy Statement, and district and regional plans in Auckland. She has also been involved in range of structure planning processes including the Oratia, Takanini and Long Bay Structure Plans and has a sound understanding of the importance of co-ordinated infrastructure co-provision and integrated management of complex environmental issues. She had a significant involvement in drafting and reviewing the Regional Growth Strategy sector agreements and was the Auckland Regional Council's staff representative at southern sector political workshops where she worked closely with senior management and elected members.

From 2008, Julie was appointed as the Auckland Regional Council's Group Manager: Major Projects where she developed key relationships with a number of significant customers in the Auckland region including NZTA, Genesis Energy, Watercare Services, Transpower and the Environmental Protection Agency. Given her extensive experience, Julie demonstrated a clear aptitude in leading teams and achieving outcomes which benefited all parties. She is both considered and pragmatic in her decision making and positive in her attitude in achieving outcomes for clients.

Julie has a keen environmental awareness having been involved across a number of sectors and is clearly familiar with the geography and profile of the Auckland region. With the creation of the new Auckland Council in 2010, she took on the role of Manager of the Northern Resource Consents Unit, where she developed an in-depth knowledge of growth and development opportunities and challenges of the northern Auckland region from Takapuna to Wellsford and beyond. With the departure of the General Manager, she then took on the role of Acting General Manager Resource Consents to provide leadership to the consent team as well as contributing to the wider Auckland Council's leadership team.

Through her involvement in management and leadership roles in the Auckland region, Julie demonstrates sound political acumen and a mature level of judgement.

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She is comfortable working at the project level or in teams which involve a range of professional disciplines. She is also worked at the interface with legal advisors and technical specialists in the environmental field.

In 2015, in search of new challenges, Julie joined Boffa Miskell Limited. In her role as planning consultant, she was able to apply her extensive statutory planning knowledge to assist in managing and advancing projects on behalf of both public and private sector clients. She also provided team leadership to the planners in the Auckland office. Significant projects included being part of the multi-disciplinary teams that worked on the Warkworth to Wellsford project, the Eastern Busway and development of the first Tūpuna Maunga Integrated Management Plan o Tāmaki Makaurau. She also worked as an Independent Hearing Commissioner.

Julie was an active member of the Auckland Branch of the New Zealand Planning Institute, serving as branch chair in 2008 and 2009. She has been involved with numerous full membership interview panels and nurtured many planners early on in their careers. Julie was a Board member of the New Zealand Planning Institute from 2012 to 2018, serving as Board Secretary/Treasurer from 2012 to 2015 and as Acting Deputy Chair during 2016 and 2017. As a member of the Board, she continued her close liaison with the Auckland Branch.

With her service to the Board, the Auckland Branch and the wider profession, Julie has made a significant contribution in the planning profession. Julie is an excellent communicator with an ability to explain key planning imperatives in plain language. She has demonstrated the qualities of a planner that epitomise a professional and is very worthy of recognition as a Fellow of New Zealand Planning Institute.