# Auckland Light Rail – Bringing Us Closer

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| In 2021, a new Auckland Light Rail Establishment Unit was created to develop an Indicative Business Case for light rail in the City Centre to Mangere corridor. This work quickly established that far from just being a transport project, light rail is a major urban development project and will have a significant impact on the social cohesion and futures of the many communities along the corridor. There was a strong mana whenua involvement in the project, including in the governance level, and this was reflected in the culture of the unit and their outputs. This paper will outline the process for the development of the light rail business case, including how community engagement was undertaken, the role of social cohesion in option assessment and how the urban development outcomes influenced the project.  |