

Colin Maiden Park

The University of Auckland has entered into an agreement to transfer Colin Maiden Park and its associated facilities to Auckland Council, which will take over the park on 31 January 2014.

Auckland Council intends to retain the 20ha park for recreational purposes while the University will use funds generated from the transfer to support the creation of our new campus at Newmarket. In the agreement with the Auckland Council, the Auckland University Rugby Football Club and the Auckland University Cricket Club will continue to be housed on the site, as will other existing tenancies. The University will lease from the Auckland Council the facilities needed to support academic activities currently located on the park.

We have always felt the right thing to do is to transfer the land to Auckland Council for the benefit of the local community. We are therefore delighted to secure a deal that works for the city, the University and the community as a whole.

The transfer is part of the University's long-term strategy to consolidate its activities at the City, Grafton and Newmarket campuses and significantly reduce its landholdings.

Over time, we will divest our sites at Tāmaki and Epsom and this rationalisation will ultimately result in a net 39 hectare reduction in our total landholdings.

We are investing in about \$1billion in high-quality campus development over the current decade and the capital receipts of the transfer will go towards providing modern research, teaching and study environments. The support of the Mayor and councillors, CEO, Orakei Local Board and senior Auckland Council officers for our campus rationalisation and enhancement process has been deeply appreciated.

*Stuart McCutcheon
Vice-Chancellor
University of Auckland
18 December 2013*