

Date: Monday 24 April 2023

# Annual Budget 2023-2024 Outside Auckland

WRITTEN FEEDBACK Vol. 1 (67-37224)

Sub #	Organisation Name	Local Board	Volume
67		Outside Auckland	1
357		Outside Auckland	1
489		Outside Auckland	1
696		Outside Auckland	1
787		Outside Auckland	1
1363		Outside Auckland	1
1619		Outside Auckland	1
1901		Outside Auckland	1
2153		Outside Auckland	1
2181		Outside Auckland	1
2589		Outside Auckland	1
2837		Outside Auckland	1
2884		Outside Auckland	1
2966		Outside Auckland	1
3078		Outside Auckland	1
3231		Outside Auckland	1
3625		Outside Auckland	1
4169		Outside Auckland	1
4708	Ebbw Vale Limited	Outside Auckland	1
5110		Outside Auckland	1
5206		Outside Auckland	1
5301		Outside Auckland	1
5431		Outside Auckland	1
5715		Outside Auckland	1
5717		Outside Auckland	1
5785		Outside Auckland	1
5845		Outside Auckland	1
5937		Outside Auckland	1
5999		Outside Auckland	1
6124		Outside Auckland	1
6138		Outside Auckland	1
6226		Outside Auckland	1
6390		Outside Auckland	1
6993		Outside Auckland	1
7018		Outside Auckland	1
7034	Choirs Aotearoa New Zealand Trust	Outside Auckland	1
7054		Outside Auckland	1
7063		Outside Auckland	1
7214		Outside Auckland	1
7316		Outside Auckland	1
7334		Outside Auckland	1
7343		Outside Auckland	1
7438		Outside Auckland	1
7440		Outside Auckland	1
7441		Outside Auckland	1
7547		Outside Auckland	1
7627		Outside Auckland	1
7628		Outside Auckland	1
7632		Outside Auckland	1

Sub#	Organisation Name	Local Board	Volume
7650		Outside Auckland	1
7773		Outside Auckland	1
7823		Outside Auckland	1
7830		Outside Auckland	1
7905		Outside Auckland	1
7926		Outside Auckland	1
7954		Outside Auckland	1
8026		Outside Auckland	1
8027		Outside Auckland	1
8035		Outside Auckland	1
8044		Outside Auckland	1
8128		Outside Auckland	1
8141		Outside Auckland	1
8203		Outside Auckland	1
8205		Outside Auckland	1
8206		Outside Auckland	1
8227		Outside Auckland	1
8320		Outside Auckland	1
8651		Outside Auckland	1
8694		Outside Auckland	1
8727		Outside Auckland	1
8808		Outside Auckland	1
8816		Outside Auckland	1
8831		Outside Auckland	1
8848		Outside Auckland	1
8947		Outside Auckland	1
9024		Outside Auckland	1
9069		Outside Auckland	1
9297		Outside Auckland	1
9350		Outside Auckland	1
9419		Outside Auckland	1
9428		Outside Auckland	1
9435		Outside Auckland	1
9462		Outside Auckland	1
9471		Outside Auckland	1
9500		Outside Auckland	1
9649		Outside Auckland	1
9695		Outside Auckland	1
9785		Outside Auckland	1
9814		Outside Auckland	1
9843		Outside Auckland	1
9862			1
9873		Outside Auckland Outside Auckland	1
9979			1
		Outside Auckland	1
9988		Outside Auckland	
10026		Outside Auckland	1
10031		Outside Auckland	1
10155 10342		Outside Auckland Outside Auckland	1

Sub #	Organisation Name	Local Board	Volume
10456		Outside Auckland	1
10468		Outside Auckland	1
10541		Outside Auckland	1
10663		Outside Auckland	1
10801		Outside Auckland	1
10813		Outside Auckland	1
10970		Outside Auckland	1
11042		Outside Auckland	1
11060		Outside Auckland	1
11104		Outside Auckland	1
11115		Outside Auckland	1
11183		Outside Auckland	1
11185		Outside Auckland	1
11252		Outside Auckland	1
11361		Outside Auckland	1
11404		Outside Auckland	1
11445		Outside Auckland	1
11531		Outside Auckland	1
11565		Outside Auckland	1
11607		Outside Auckland	1
11664		Outside Auckland	1
11673		Outside Auckland	1
11701		Outside Auckland	1
11751		Outside Auckland	1
11817		Outside Auckland	1
11897		Outside Auckland	1
11960		Outside Auckland	1
12025		Outside Auckland	1
12027		Outside Auckland	1
12127		Outside Auckland	1
	OMEP (World Organisation for Early Childh		1
12202	Civili (World Organisation for Early Cilian	Outside Auckland	1
12308		Outside Auckland	1
12447		Outside Auckland	1
12632		Outside Auckland	1
12657		Outside Auckland	1
12843		Outside Auckland	1
12858		Outside Auckland	1
12927		Outside Auckland	1
13112		Outside Auckland	1
13293		Outside Auckland	1
13585		Outside Auckland	1
13612		Outside Auckland	1
13620		Outside Auckland	1
13681		Outside Auckland	1
13844		Outside Auckland	1
13933		Outside Auckland Outside Auckland	1
13933		Outside Auckland Outside Auckland	1
14067		Outside Auckland Outside Auckland	1

Sub #	Organisation Name	Local Board	Volume
14246	Regional Film Offices of New Zealand (RFO	Outside Auckland	1
14397		Outside Auckland	1
14411		Outside Auckland	1
14413		Outside Auckland	1
14469		Outside Auckland	1
14492		Outside Auckland	1
14539		Outside Auckland	1
14543		Outside Auckland	1
14709		Outside Auckland	1
15108		Outside Auckland	1
15110		Outside Auckland	1
15416		Outside Auckland	1
15541		Outside Auckland	1
15550		Outside Auckland	1
15570		Outside Auckland	1
15608		Outside Auckland	1
15793		Outside Auckland	1
15859		Outside Auckland	1
15871		Outside Auckland	1
15906		Outside Auckland	1
15921		Outside Auckland	1
15988		Outside Auckland	1
16035		Outside Auckland	1
16050		Outside Auckland	1
16068		Outside Auckland	1
16204		Outside Auckland	1
16299		Outside Auckland	1
16511		Outside Auckland	1
16563		Outside Auckland	1
16619		Outside Auckland	1
16722		Outside Auckland	1
16730		Outside Auckland	1
16884		Outside Auckland	1
16941		Outside Auckland	1
17038		Outside Auckland	1
17044		Outside Auckland	1
17047		Outside Auckland	1
17056		Outside Auckland	1
17058		Outside Auckland	1
17060		Outside Auckland	1
17067		Outside Auckland	1
17074		Outside Auckland	1
17101		Outside Auckland	1
17113		Outside Auckland	1
17137		Outside Auckland	1
17215		Outside Auckland	1
17393		Outside Auckland	1
17427		Outside Auckland	1
17521		Outside Auckland	1

Sub #	Organisation Name	Local Board	Volume
17575		Outside Auckland	1
17895		Outside Auckland	1
17902		Outside Auckland	1
17939		Outside Auckland	1
17956		Outside Auckland	1
18386		Outside Auckland	1
18431		Outside Auckland	1
18514		Outside Auckland	1
18732	TAHI New Zealand Festival of Solo Perform	Outside Auckland	1
18748		Outside Auckland	1
18808	Playmarket	Outside Auckland	1
18858		Outside Auckland	1
18863		Outside Auckland	1
18864		Outside Auckland	1
18894		Outside Auckland	1
18911		Outside Auckland	1
18920		Outside Auckland	1
19000	Movement Of The Human	Outside Auckland	1
19001		Outside Auckland	1
19072	Jazz Aotearoa	Outside Auckland	1
19147		Outside Auckland	1
19216		Outside Auckland	1
19260		Outside Auckland	1
19334		Outside Auckland	1
19382		Outside Auckland	1
19526		Outside Auckland	1
19601		Outside Auckland	1
19617		Outside Auckland	1
19803		Outside Auckland	1
19836		Outside Auckland	1
19994		Outside Auckland	1
19996		Outside Auckland	1
20003		Outside Auckland	1
20016		Outside Auckland	1
20038		Outside Auckland	1
20057	Brown Bread Ltd	Outside Auckland	1
20170	Hospitality New Zealand	Outside Auckland	1
20295		Outside Auckland	1
20350		Outside Auckland	1
20353		Outside Auckland	1
20462		Outside Auckland	1
20675		Outside Auckland	1
20742		Outside Auckland	1
20755		Outside Auckland	1
20756		Outside Auckland	1
20917		Outside Auckland	1
21020		Outside Auckland	1
21118		Outside Auckland	1
21162		Outside Auckland	1

Sub #	Organisation Name	Local Board	Volume
21180		Outside Auckland	1
21241		Outside Auckland	1
21577		Outside Auckland	1
21845		Outside Auckland	1
21885	Parents for Climate Aotearoa	Outside Auckland	1
21897		Outside Auckland	1
21939		Outside Auckland	1
22007		Outside Auckland	1
22101		Outside Auckland	1
22161		Outside Auckland	1
22344		Outside Auckland	1
22374		Outside Auckland	1
22390		Outside Auckland	1
22467		Outside Auckland	1
22631		Outside Auckland	1
22644		Outside Auckland	1
22657		Outside Auckland	1
22919		Outside Auckland	1
22963		Outside Auckland	1
	Economic Development NZ	Outside Auckland	1
23092		Outside Auckland	1
23121		Outside Auckland	1
23299	John Walker Find Your Field of Dreams Fou	Outside Auckland	1
	Wētā Workshop	Outside Auckland	1
23346	·	Outside Auckland	1
	Ara Taiohi	Outside Auckland	1
23383		Outside Auckland	1
23403		Outside Auckland	1
23410		Outside Auckland	1
23423		Outside Auckland	1
23491	Performance Art Week Aotearoa	Outside Auckland	1
23498		Outside Auckland	1
23655		Outside Auckland	1
23685		Outside Auckland	1
23845		Outside Auckland	1
23888		Outside Auckland	1
23908		Outside Auckland	1
23945		Outside Auckland	1
24056		Outside Auckland	1
	The Office of the Children's Commissioner	Outside Auckland	1
24079		Outside Auckland	1
	Deaf Action NZ	Outside Auckland	1
24159		Outside Auckland	1
24185		Outside Auckland	1
24188		Outside Auckland	1
	Museums Aotearoa	Outside Auckland	1
24199		Outside Auckland	1
24258		Outside Auckland	1
50		Outside Auckland	1

Sub #	Organisation Name	Local Board	Volume
24372		Outside Auckland	1
24391		Outside Auckland	1
24413		Outside Auckland	1
24431		Outside Auckland	1
24444	Mountains to Sea Conservation Trust	Outside Auckland	1
24445		Outside Auckland	1
24478		Outside Auckland	1
24529		Outside Auckland	1
24545		Outside Auckland	1
24557		Outside Auckland	1
24626		Outside Auckland	1
24680		Outside Auckland	1
24682		Outside Auckland	1
24688		Outside Auckland	1
24793		Outside Auckland	1
24806		Outside Auckland	1
24908		Outside Auckland	1
24991		Outside Auckland	1
25009		Outside Auckland	1
25029		Outside Auckland	1
	A group of financial mentors from various		1
25179	- B cup comments	Outside Auckland	1
25186		Outside Auckland	1
25290		Outside Auckland	1
25377		Outside Auckland	1
25405		Outside Auckland	1
25481		Outside Auckland	1
25590		Outside Auckland	1
25651		Outside Auckland	1
25652		Outside Auckland	1
25658		Outside Auckland	1
25743		Outside Auckland	1
25781		Outside Auckland	1
25792		Outside Auckland	1
25824		Outside Auckland	1
26028		Outside Auckland	1
26086		Outside Auckland	1
26139		Outside Auckland	1
26148		Outside Auckland	1
26198		Outside Auckland	1
26270		Outside Auckland	1
26325		Outside Auckland	1
26344		Outside Auckland	1
26382		Outside Auckland	1
26392		Outside Auckland	1
26437		Outside Auckland	1
26493		Outside Auckland	1
26753		Outside Auckland	1
26944		Outside Auckland	1

Sub #	Organisation Name	Local Board	Volume
27037		Outside Auckland	1
27124		Outside Auckland	1
27160		Outside Auckland	1
27413		Outside Auckland	1
27418		Outside Auckland	1
27437		Outside Auckland	1
27449		Outside Auckland	1
27490		Outside Auckland	1
27529		Outside Auckland	1
27530		Outside Auckland	1
27577		Outside Auckland	1
27631		Outside Auckland	1
27696		Outside Auckland	1
27761		Outside Auckland	1
27931		Outside Auckland	1
27937		Outside Auckland	1
28024		Outside Auckland	1
28043		Outside Auckland	1
28175		Outside Auckland	1
28279		Outside Auckland	1
28525		Outside Auckland	1
28894	New Zealand Film Festival Trust	Outside Auckland	1
28927		Outside Auckland	1
29001		Outside Auckland	1
29189		Outside Auckland	1
29285		Outside Auckland	1
30258		Outside Auckland	1
30564		Outside Auckland	1
30995		Outside Auckland	1
31309		Outside Auckland	1
34415	Sport New Zealand (IHI Aotearoa)	Outside Auckland	1
34675		Outside Auckland	1
36581		Outside Auckland	1
36610		Outside Auckland	1
36655		Outside Auckland	1
36697		Outside Auckland	1
36806		Outside Auckland	1
36898		Outside Auckland	1
36978		Outside Auckland	1
36979		Outside Auckland	1
37224		Outside Auckland	1







Note: this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Proceed with the proposed reductions

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

# Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

Tell us why: No point in borrowing further and taxing the ratepayers further due to the inefficient Auckland Council.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** Ratepayers are not your ATM to keep milking them indefinitely. It is time to reduce hundreds of jobs with Auckland Council, Watercare and Auckland Transport entities. Many of these employees are "jobs for mates" and being paid obscence amount of money for

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal

**Tell us why:** Even if the council wishes to spend \$1Billion for prevention, there is no guarantee, anyone can predict weather events.

### 5. Local Boards

#### Mängere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support most priorities

Tell us why: Most of these initiatives are fluffy goals and has no relevance. Just waste of \$.

Please rank our proposed local board priorities from most to least important to you:

Rank	Proposed Priorities
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Rank	Proposed Priorities
3	Investing in initiatives to reduce the impact of climate change, including tree planting, education programmes and environmental volunteers
2	Continue to provide residents with better quality facilities, parks and open spaces
4	Promoting activities to showcase our local arts and culture talent into career pathways
1	Continue to identify procurement, quality employment and social enterprise opportunities for our residents
5	Improving the well-being of our locals by supporting our local economy to become more efficient, resilient, and sustainable through our reduced budget

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Protection and restoration of local waterways, Parks activations and programmes, Library opening hours and services

Tell us why these are most important to you:

How do you think we could support our communities to be better prepared and resilient to extreme weather events like the recent Auckland storm? There is no silver bullet for fixing this issue. DONT keep building millions of houses in Auckland, and disturb the overall environment.

### Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

#### Tell us why:

Please rank our proposed local board priorities from most to least important to you 1 = most important, 5 = least important)

Rank	Proposed Priorities
5	Explore initiatives and actions raised through the safety networks to improve safety in our town centres and neighbourhoods
2	Invest in closing the digital divide by supporting community groups to upskill all residents with technology to enable work, schooling, and connection
3	Fund programmes aimed at upskilling our residents, particularly youth, for emerging sectors
1	Continue to improve our sports fields and facilities to encourage active participation and access to sports and athletic activities for organised and informal use
4	Continue to support environmental activities and initiatives, including community-led activities, to respond to climate change, reducing waste and protecting our environment

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Protection and restoration of local waterways

Tell us why these are most important to you:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	Do not
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	support

(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

There needs to be a good review of current number of employees, contractors for Auckland Council, Watercare and Auckland Transport. There are lots of fat cats doing nothing significant role for the ratepayers. These employees are just a burden on the rate

# Important privacy information







Note: this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Proceed with the proposed reductions

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

# Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

# 357

**Tell us why:** You state selling the shares will save Council \$87 million pa in interest costs. You then say not selling the shares will increase rates and/or debt. It looks like Council will spend the money from any share sale and not save on interest costs. The differ

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	

Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

# What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Please don't remove exotic trees from our mountains and plant more trees that all birds like, not just native trees.

# Important privacy information







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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with any of the above

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

#### Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Do not support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

# What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Proceed with the proposed reductions

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

# Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:  a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	I don't know

Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

What do you think of these proposals? As an Auckland residents, everything are becoming more and more expensive. why the population increase a lot and house built increased so many, the land rates are still increasing.

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Auckland City needs a long-term strategic plan to enhance the competitive. The fundamental things is about how to boost the economy. Everything, welfare, public facility, education are built on the top of money.

All above measurements can only sor

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# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Proceed with the proposed reductions

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

# Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

#### Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

#### Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental volunteers in local parks

Tell us why these are most important to you:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?) Protection and restoration of local waterways

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.  Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	l don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	l don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Proceed with the proposed reductions

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** not proceed with if any: Some arts and culture programs should stay they bring vibrancy to the city

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

Tell us why: If the saving in interest costs is greater than the dividend then it's a no-brainer

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

**Tell us why:** In an ideal world I'd prefer to see no debt but on the other hand it's a good way to have future generations paying for facilities they benefit from.

#### 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: We never know what's round the corner

#### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Prioritise road resurfacing - don't just do it because it's been x number of years since it was done. Patch the potholes and extend the life another year.

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** TAU's job is to promote investment in Auckland which leads to increases rating values, business activity and council revenue activity. Choosing to defund TAU would be damaging for the region in the long run causing further headaches for the city and region down the track.

Auckland needs to market itself and encourage investment, no one else will do that for it, certainly not central government out of Wellington.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

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towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

**Tell us why:** Auckland Airport is already a mostly privately owned and operated successful business. Council doesn't need to be involved from a pure business perspective. The airport will also be free to work on growth and innovation outside of Council ownership or a c

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

Tell us why: Balancing higher debt with moderate rates increases is fairer to Aucklanders during the cost of living crisis.

#### Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: Seems like a fair number to increase rates by to look after flood management

#### 5. Local Boards

#### Ōrākei Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

**Tell us why:** The local board should also look to prioritising the redevelopment of Mission Bay and surrounds. Supporting new developers to update the old shopping area will be a boon for the local aread.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Open space maintenance levels e.g. mowing

Tell us why these are most important to you: Keep the place looking good, reduce everything else.

In the Mayoral Proposal, agreed by the Governing Body, the proposed reduction in operating costs would require the Ōrākei Local Board to find \$650,000 in savings in 2023/2024 from a discretionary budget of \$1.4 million. In the time frame available to us this discretionary budget is the only one we can access to make these savings. We have proposed where these savings might come from and how they would effect the activities and services we provide in our supporting information (pages 158-161)

.What do you think of the savings we've proposed across our activities and services? Support

#### Tell us why:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	_
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

# What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Having a vibrant entertaining city is very important. Defunding the organisations that contribute to this would be very damaging in the long run for Auckland. We need to keep the events, development and investment coming into the region if we want to be a

#### Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at **aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy** and at our libraries and service centres) and with the

Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.





Note: this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Austerity politics is a cancer on our society.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Selling assets is a lie. It doesn't help anything. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

**Tell us why:** 4.66% is such a a low increase, for the infrastructure alone it's absolutely worth it, in fact I'd spend more than that on maintaining the current infrastructure as well as create better more environmentally friendly infrastructure. Austerity politics is

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**Cutting spending on this would be a grave error. Put the money in to it. It will be more expensive in the long run if this is not maintained

Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

### Local Boards

#### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why:** Long term planning and funding into communities is best. Increase the funding for these projects and more. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I will not pick which one of these very important community resources are best to no longer fund. This is literally why we pay taxes. Fund them. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

#### Aotea/Great Barrier Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why: .

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I will not pick which one of these very important community resources are best to no longer fund. This is literally why we pay taxes. Fund them. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

#### Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why: Because these are immensely important. All community funding is important. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I will not pick which one of these very important community resources are best to no longer fund. This is literally why we pay taxes. Fund them. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?)

#### Franklin Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why**: Because these are immensely important. All community funding is important. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I will not pick which one of these very important community resources are best to no longer fund. This is literally why we pay taxes. Fund them. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

Our communities have told us that providing a network of pathways (walkways and cycleways) between and within our local villages and town centres will help locals access services and facilities, and live healthy active lifestyles.

Our budgets cannot deliver a network of this scale without additional funding such as via a targeted rate. To implement a new rate, we would have to investigate further and consult with you again in a future Annual Budget process.

Do you think we should investigate a local targeted rate to fund a network of pathways across the Franklin Local Board area? Yes

### Henderson-Massey Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why:** Because these are immensely important. All community funding is important. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I will not pick which one of these very important community resources are best to no longer fund. This is literally why we pay taxes. Fund them. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

#### Hibiscus and Bays Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why: Because these are immensely important. All community funding is important. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I will not pick which one of these very important community resources are best to no longer fund. This is literally why we pay taxes. Fund them. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

#### **Howick Local Board**

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why:** Because these are immensely important. All community funding is important. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I will not pick which one of these very important community resources are best to no longer fund. This is literally why we pay taxes. Fund them. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

### Kaipātiki Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why:** Because these are immensely important. All community funding is important. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I will not pick which one of these very important community resources are best to no longer fund. This is literally why we pay taxes. Fund them. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?):

# Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why:** Because these are immensely important. All community funding is important. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

Please rank our proposed local board priorities from most to least important to you:

Rank	Proposed Priorities
0	Investing in initiatives to reduce the impact of climate change, including tree planting, education programmes and environmental volunteers
0	Continue to provide residents with better quality facilities, parks and open spaces
0	Promoting activities to showcase our local arts and culture talent into career pathways
0	Continue to identify procurement, quality employment and social enterprise opportunities for our residents
0	Improving the well-being of our locals by supporting our local economy to become more efficient, resilient, and sustainable through our reduced budget

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I will not pick which one of these very important community resources are best to no longer fund. This is literally why we pay taxes. Fund them. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

How do you think we could support our communities to be better prepared and resilient to extreme weather events like the recent Auckland storm? by putting more funding into scientifically proposed solutions. Give it more funding, as much as it needs. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society. This is literally why we pay taxes.

#### Manurewa Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why: Because these are immensely important. All community funding is important. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I will not pick which one of these very important community resources are best to no longer fund. This is literally why we pay taxes. Fund them. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

## Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why:** Because these are immensely important. All community funding is important. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Mowing service levels on reserves

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** Mowing is bad for the environment anyway so that should stop regardless. But everything else should be funded. I will not vote on what is least important other than the useless mowing because our communities need funding. Austerity politics is a cancer on

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?) Mowing service levels on reserves

Do you think there are other areas where we could make savings to our local budgets? Mowing is bad for the environment anyway so that should stop regardless. But everything else should be funded. I will not vote on what is least important other than the useless mowing because our communities need funding. Austerity politics is a cancer on

## Ōrākei Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why:** Because these are immensely important. All community funding is important. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I will not pick which one of these very important community resources are best to no longer fund. This is literally why we pay taxes. Fund them. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

In the Mayoral Proposal, agreed by the Governing Body, the proposed reduction in operating costs would require the Ōrākei Local Board to find \$650,000 in savings in 2023/2024 from a discretionary budget of \$1.4 million. In the time frame available to us this discretionary budget is the only one we can access to make these savings. We have proposed where these savings might come from and how they would effect the activities and services we provide in our supporting information (pages 158-161)

.What do you think of the savings we've proposed across our activities and services? Do not support

Tell us why: Because austerity politics is a literal cancer on our society. Not funding these things will only lead to more problems later that will be harder to fix. this is literally why we pay taxes, so it can go back into COMMUNITY. SO FUND THE DAMN COMMUNITY. FUN

### **Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board**

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why:** Because these are immensely important. All community funding is important. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

Please rank our proposed local board priorities from most to least important to you 1 = most important, 5 = least important)

Rank	Proposed Priorities
0	Explore initiatives and actions raised through the safety networks to improve safety in our town centres and neighbourhoods
0	Invest in closing the digital divide by supporting community groups to upskill all residents with technology to enable work, schooling, and connection
0	Fund programmes aimed at upskilling our residents, particularly youth, for emerging sectors
0	Continue to improve our sports fields and facilities to encourage active participation and access to sports and athletic activities for organised and informal use
0	Continue to support environmental activities and initiatives, including community-led activities, to respond to climate change, reducing waste and protecting our environment

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I will not pick which one of these very important community resources are best to no longer fund. This is literally why we pay taxes. Fund them. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

### Papakura Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why:** Because these are immensely important. All community funding is important. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I will not pick which one of these very important community resources are best to no longer fund. This is literally why we pay taxes. Fund them. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

#### Puketāpapa Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why: Because these are immensely important. All community funding is important. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I will not pick which one of these very important community resources are best to no longer fund. This is literally why we pay taxes. Fund them. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

## Rodney Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why: Because these are immensely important. All community funding is important. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I will not pick which one of these very important community resources are best to no longer fund. This is literally why we pay taxes. Fund them. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

#### **Upper Harbour Local Board**

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why: Because these are immensely important. All community funding is important. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I will not pick which one of these very important community resources are best to no longer fund. This is literally why we pay taxes. Fund them. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

## Waiheke Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why: Because these are immensely important. All community funding is important. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I will not pick which one of these very important community resources are best to no longer fund. This is literally why we pay taxes. Fund them. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

#### Waitākere Ranges Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why: Because these are immensely important. All community funding is important. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I will not pick which one of these very important community resources are best to no longer fund. This is literally why we pay taxes. Fund them. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

#### Waitematā Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why: Because these are immensely important. All community funding is important. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I will not pick which one of these very important community resources are best to no longer fund. This is literally why we pay taxes. Fund them. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

Do you think there are other areas where we could make savings to our local budgets? I don't care about bullshit savings. This is literally why we pay taxes, so it can go back into infrastructure and community. In fact funding should be increased. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

#### Whau Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why: Because these are immensely important. All community funding is important. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I will not pick which one of these very important community resources are best to no longer fund. This is literally why we pay taxes. Fund them. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

What do you think of these proposals? Increase funding especially for climate change and water and waterway cleaning and environment, as well as for arts. This is literally why we pay taxes. Increase the funding. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

It is important that funding is not reduced. Austerity politics is a cancer on our society

# Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: I would prefer reductions to be avoided in the following areas: city art and culture, public transaport and cycling infrastructure. I would rather the reductions be in areas that I would like to see discouraged such as infrastructure that encourages a car dependent city.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Selling assets may be something that we will regret in the future, although we may need to resort to this option. I would prefer to minimise that.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

**Tell us why:** This will hurt both home owners and renters (assuming that some landlords will pass on the extra cost), but the increase proposed sounds manageable to me.

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**There will be some special infrastructure maintenance required. I would prefer that this was not simply reairing and improving existing infrastructure, but taking a longer term view, and using the funds to work towards that. For example, large impermeable

## 5. Local Boards

## Rodney Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support most priorities

Tell us why: Many of the proposed reductions would make things tangibly worse and seem short-sighted.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Library opening hours and services, Environmental volunteers in local parks, Ecological restoration programmes

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** They are areas that can't easily be restored later (if temporarily degraded for a few years by a reduction in funding).

#### Whau Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support any priorities

**Tell us why:** The Whau is not a wealthy area and should be exempt from these sort of measures. There are other areas in Auckland that are in much better shape that could take on this part of the cost reduction.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Protection and restoration of local waterways, Library opening hours, Local planning and development e.g. for parks, town centre and street environment

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** They seem to be the areas for which the damage would be longer lasting.

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	0
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

A car dependent society costs more to both the city and to individuals. We decided to move towards having cars as the main mode of transport around the middle of last century, which while possible a reasonable decision at the time, is not (in my opinion)

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: I would NOT reduce arts and culture funding.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: This asset is important enough to the city to retain a community voice in its governance

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:  a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Support

Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

# What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** These are all important as part of a functioning city.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Selling off assets like this is always short term thinking.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

Tell us why: While painful, we need to pay for a functioning city.

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Support

Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

# What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Auckland is a world class destination for Aotearoa arts and culture. Reducing funding to Auckland Art Gallery, the Zoo, stadiums and venues will have further ongoing economic ramifications as you will see a drop in international and domestic tourists and money coming in to the city. I have been blown away by the calibre of international exhibitions at AAG over the past few years though surprised by the cost to visit. I would instead recommend raising entry costs to around \$30 and perhaps building in free community visitation day or a lower rate for community service card holders to address arts access barriers.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal

Tell us why: It would be cheaper to appoint a new mayor.

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Support

b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

What do you think of these proposals? Access to community services including recycling, waste, and swimming pools should be a right for all Aucklanders. Again, I recommend a scaled approach - should you increase fees please ensure they remain the same for those with Community Services Cards t

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Auckland Airport shares are not in a good position to sell, plus having state influence in NZ's largest airport is logical to maintain the viability of it long term.

I would be open to selling 8% of the shares if needed but perhaps a reduction in bureaucratic staff/operational staff would make more sense.

There is no real need to keep such a high wage bill when outsourced companies would provide admin & amp; essential services support for a fraction of the cost for an FTE.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

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**Tell us why:** Auckland Airport shares are not in a good position to sell, plus having state influence in NZ's largest airport is logical to maintain the viability of it long term.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Public transport and Arts funding in particular are essential parts of the community. There is already not enough public transport services to make a functioning system, this is evident as regular commuter and user of the Southern Motorway. a cut to Arts and community funding would devastate our local creative arts and music industries, and have a roll-on effect on future generations engagement in the arts. This also impacts marginalised groups of people more than and other group, with events such as Pride week, polyfest, te matatini, and others.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Auckland Airport is New Zealand's largest airport, and it's used by people from all over the country. It is effectively the gateway to international travel. Selling the majority of shares to possible overseas bidders effects not just Auckland but actually

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

**Tell us why:** There is no right or wrong answer here but I think the increase in rates to improve public facilities such as trains and roads is more likely to benefit marginalised, lower income communities.

### Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

## What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Other

**Tell us why:**The fact that the currently council did not have an adequate response to the storm is less to do with budget and more to with the current leadership. I believe some increase could be good for more resources, but the majority of the problems are rooted in

### Local Boards

#### **Örākei** Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

Tell us why: I notice there is no mention of Arts or culture

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local community events, Arts and culture programmes, Community and art centre service levels

Tell us why these are most important to you: '+ any events for under 25 group specifically

In the Mayoral Proposal, agreed by the Governing Body, the proposed reduction in operating costs would require the Ōrākei Local Board to find \$650,000 in savings in 2023/2024 from a discretionary budget of \$1.4 million. In the time frame available to us this discretionary budget is the only one we can access to make these savings. We have proposed where these savings might come from and how they would effect the activities and services we provide in our supporting information (pages 158-161)

.What do you think of the savings we've proposed across our activities and services? I don't know Tell us why:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	I don't know
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** not proceed with if any: ECE should have more support - perhaps it would cost more to reduce this than the minor saving when taking into account other effects!

The zoo funding should be seen as a lower priority than ECE, local board and regional grants

Public transport needs more support - sell some Airport shares as below

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: So in effect AC is borrowing to have the shares!

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

### Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

### Local Boards

## Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned,	Do not

What do you think of these proposals? Waste needs to be minimised so if people want smaller bins they should not be penalised

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

# What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I don't think any should be reduced but most importantly not public transport, regional services, and early childhood education.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

## Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:Investment in adaptation to the climate crisis is so important!

#### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Support
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	

(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned,	I don't

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Please invest more in climate mitigation! The climate crisis is the most important issue of our time and you are denying your children and grandchildren a proper future if you don't.

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### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Public transport needs to be increased

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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#### Debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

## Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Proceed with the proposed reductions

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** All reductions should proceed and further reductions should be pursued. The wasted spending within the operation should be addressed before rates are increased.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Other

Tell us why: Retain the shares. Reduce operating costs further instead of share sale.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

**Tell us why:** Cap rate increases to the long-term rate of inflation. Cap debt at current levels. Fund additional interest costs due to interest rate increases by cutting the council's operating budget. eg reduce the number of environmental policy staff.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Other

Tell us why: Reduce operating costs or cap ex-budget on less urgent projects by \$20m.

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	

(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was	

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

# Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Ebbw Vale Limited

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Proceed with the proposed reductions

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Its an asset that you need to protect for future capital growth. Short term pain for long term gain.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Protection and restoration of local waterways, Library hours, Activities provided by Sandringham and/or Pt Chevalier community centres

Tell us why these are most important to you:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

## Important privacy information





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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Proceed with the proposed reductions

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** To run the business of council you need efficiency which means staff completing tasks in a manner of speed. They need to remember they are spending other peoples money

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

**Tell us why:** Council should leave profitable business to stand on its own, its there job to run council as efficiently as possible, its not an investment compay

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

Tell us why: Rates should be in line with inflation, but use every dollar as if you earned it yourself

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: Thats what you are there for

#### Local Boards

## Howick Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

Tell us why: Again because thats what your there for

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local community grants, Local community events, Community programme delivery

Tell us why these are most important to you: Because this is airy fairy and your bogans can over spend

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

That a full staff review is done, private sector would run council with half the staff and a better outcome

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: The proposed cuts are too severe.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** It's foolish to sell off all the silver, especially when the airport will function better again after Covid reductions in travel.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

Tell us why: It is unlikely interest will increase (significantly) further. In a crisis, taking more debt is sometimes needed.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:** We have historically underfunded this.

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	l don't know
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

What do you think of these proposals? Reduce funding to Auckland Transport intended to build excessive ROADS - and stop blaming cycleways for cost blowouts. It is embarrassing to see politicians claim that the 1-2% we spend annually on bikeways will make a difference if they were cut.

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

### Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Do not support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
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  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I find the proceed with debt answer pretty loaded tbh. However, I believe these cuts would impact very little on ratepayers financially but hugely on the arts and community. Finances are FOR the people, not some stupid pie in the sky lets make the books balance. These budget cuts are the work of an idiot.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

## Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

#### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community development and support, Local arts programmes, Local community events

Tell us why these are most important to you: These are things that enrich and bring communities together.

#### Waitākere Ranges Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Arts and culture facilities and events, Community facilities, services and activities, Local community events

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** The Local community grants and events are pretty tied up together don't you think? Most community and arts groups struggle to actually put on events without funding.

## Waitematā Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Arts and community centre programmes (at Ellen Melville Centre and Studio One Toi Tū), Community programme delivery e.g. community networks, youth and arts, Local grants e.g. community and accommodation grants

Tell us why these are most important to you:

Do you think there are other areas where we could make savings to our local budgets?

## Whau Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community programme delivery, Local arts and culture activities and programmes, Local community grants

Tell us why these are most important to you: Again grants and events are often on and the same

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	_
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of	Did not

the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

These proposed cuts are madness, stop trying to 'save' money while ruining communities and people's lives and livelihoods. Communities without arts, cultural events and financial support, and it shouldn't be a you can have this at the cost of us not doing

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** <u>not </u>proceed with if any: The proposed cuts to regional services and contestable grants would affect Auckland arts and culture in an unprecedented way. The proposals are so sweeping that if implemented the cultural infrastructure of the city will be under severe strain, indeed under threat. This infrastructure already runs on the smell of the proverbial oily rag and has suffered some of the worst pandemic impacts. It is a crucial part of not only the daily life of the city and its economy, but of its resilience and creativity in the face of unprecedented challenges. The cuts are short-sighted and will cost far more than they save. They would take the city in the wrong direction – and may in many ways be irreversible.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

#### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

**Tell us why:** I do not support the proposed reductions in the operating budget of local boards. Community resilience and connection (priority one) is underpinned by a strong arts and culture sector. Providers of the services and events funded from the operating budgets

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community development and support, Local arts programmes, Local community events

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** The proposed sweeping cuts place these under severe pressure, as described above. A creative city is better able to thrive in the face of the above challenges and respond to the full gamut of needs. The health of the city relies on a thriving cultural sec

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	l don't know
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.  Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

I would like to reiterate my view that proposed cuts to vital cultural infrastructure are unprecedented and if implemented would undermine current efforts toward a thriving city as well as undo decades of progress toward that aim. Auckland has recently lo

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

#### **Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board**

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I don't know

### Tell us why:

Please rank our proposed local board priorities from most to least important to you 1 = most important, 5 = least important)

Rank	Proposed Priorities
4	Explore initiatives and actions raised through the safety networks to improve safety in our town centres and neighbourhoods
3	Invest in closing the digital divide by supporting community groups to upskill all residents with technology to enable work, schooling, and connection
5	Fund programmes aimed at upskilling our residents, particularly youth, for emerging sectors
2	Continue to improve our sports fields and facilities to encourage active participation and access to sports and athletic activities for organised and informal use
1	Continue to support environmental activities and initiatives, including community-led activities, to respond to climate change, reducing waste and protecting our environment

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Library opening hours and services, Environmental restoration and pest control programmes e.g. Pest Free Urban South, Protection and restoration of local waterways

#### Tell us why these are most important to you:

## Papakura Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support most priorities

### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental restoration, pest control, community climate action and sustainability, Protection and restoration of local waterways, Community facility closures

Tell us why these are most important to you:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:  a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,  b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and  c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Education, arts, culture, social services are all things that are already severely lacking funding and are all things that have massive impact on bettering the community and are all things that help find better solutions to these problems than this proposed short-term capitalist thinking. Reducing public transport will only reduce the economic growth capabilities and increase climate impact.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

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Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Selling would only gain in the very short-term.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

**Tell us why:** There needs to be more pressure from councils to central Govt to support / require some sort of capital gains tax, and have that reflected in the financial support Govt gives councils, so that the wealthier portion of our cities aren't just sucking the lo

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$20 million

Reducing regional contestable grants to save \$3 million

No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

**Tell us why:** The airport is a commercial, publicly traded entity and there is no real reason why the council needs to be a shareholder. That money can be used elsewhere.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

Tell us why: Adding to debt just pushes the problem and future rates increases onto people at a later date.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**Climate change isn't going away and these weather events will happen with increased frequency as the earth warms. Better get prepared now.

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

I am very concerned about proposed cuts to arts and culture. These things are not just nice to have, but essential to personal and community wellbeing.

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with any cuts.

This loss of funding would have significant consequences for Auckland's arts, culture and community sectors - and it's national, and international reputation as a leader of the arts.

We know that the arts matter. Evidence and research undertaken here in NZ and overseas demonstrate the benefits of the arts on our wellbeing, and sense of community, identity. We also know there are significant economic impacts, bringing visitors to the region and the spending on hospitality, and accommodation as a result. At a time when the arts are recovering, post COVID, now is the time to continue to INVEST and to build up the vibrancy and reputation of Auckland.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.  Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	l don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I do not support reducing the council operating expenditure funding provided to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited as relates to the Art Gallery only.

The Art Gallery is a force-multiplier for the city: Every dollar spent is a dollar multiplied in return to the city through attracting international and inter-regional visitors, signalling and maintaining Auckland as outward-looking and open for business, as a place that is suitable for serious investment and as a place of international relevance.

The Art Gallery is a value-adding business. The Art Gallery owns substantial assets in its collection: funding the operation and activity of the Art Gallery means that the Art Gallery can continue to maintain and add further value to the assets it holds. The level of cultural prominence that the operation is funded to is a factor in determining the value of its holdings.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

#### Tell us why:

## Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

#### Rodney Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support any priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Grants for art centres, Community opening events for completed projects and funding for community-led events, Library opening hours and services

Tell us why these are most important to you:

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	l don't know
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.  Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	l don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** This is a quick grab for money at the cost of everything we've as a country been working on for our kids and ourselves ,this bill needs to not proceed and instead increase rates and therefor spending ( debt , if you wanna make people feel bad about doing the right thing use the word debt) to make sure we have a future

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Selling all our shares for aila would be stupid as it's a good revenue builder

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

Tell us why: Higher rates means that Auckland city council will want to not proceed with cutting off funding to the arts and climate

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: This will help keep our main city safe into our future struggles with climate change

#### Local Boards

#### Henderson-Massey Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support any priorities

Tell us why: Cutting local board funding is not going to help communities

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Funding and grants for arts centres and partners, Community-led environmental and water quality initiatives, and volunteer activities, Protection and restoration of local waterways, and ecological volunteers in parts

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

We need to not cut funding to climate change and we need to start thinking about making the choice between what's RIGHT , and what's EASY

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

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Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	Do not
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	support

(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

# Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Do not reduce regional community and education, arts and culture and all of that option. Do not reduce providing childcare.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Support
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	

c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Climate preparation, focusing on public transport and incentivising using it, reducing reliance on cars, supporting arts, culture and needs like childcare.

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

# Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Do not proceed with:

Reducing regional contestable grants.

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited

These proposed cuts, which while small in terms of the

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Need to do more now instead of in the future

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Asset sales are dumb and the way the Council has used covid years to make their point about returns is dishonest to the extreme

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** None. These are all services that are actively promoting engagement in Auckland communities and business by those at economic risk. The flow on effect of cutting such services will likely incur significant future social costs, and is short sighted and poorly planned.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Selling a stable long term asset to temporarily pay down debit without fully exploring other funding options, or having a clear and coherent plan for ensuring long term debt maintenance is woefully poor planning.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

**Tell us why:** Increate rates, the overall ratepayer burden is generally low, but couple this with better planning around cutting non-value added spending - I'm pretty comfortable the council is overspending on consultancy, marketing, advertising, and other bollocks.

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:** Travel back in time and do it 20 years ago when you should have, barring that, \*\*\*\*ing do it now.

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Support

b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

What do you think of these proposals? Sort it out, you're a massive council that is supposed to support, grow and develop its city and communities - you don't do that by cutting shit out that allows people to be part of the city/community.

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Choirs Aotearoa New Zealand Trust

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Feedback as spokesperson: Reducing or impacting services delivery community engagement is in my mind a short term gain with substantial medium and long-term negative financial impact. Reducing opportunities for Aucklanders and visitors to AKL to attend venues and events will have a negative knock on effect on the economy of businesses in those areas. The 'places' and venues will have reduced capacity to build community and create spaces worthwhile living in or visiting. The social fabric supported by community gatherings (arts, culture, zoo etc) will deteriorate, which will undoubtedly open the door for less social behaviour at all levels. Taking purpose away from the community, including their arts activities that they actively participate in or attend as audience members, will impact the well-being of those communities. What may have kept youth engaged will potentially no longer be offered and the dis-engagement will result in new activities and 'entertainment' options, not all of them desirable and useful. The negative effect in the future could include increased cost in law enforcement, maintenance and repair of council property, need for more social services, even pressure on correction facilities and health institutions. It has been evidenced that engagement in the arts and crafts builds communities, creates positive engagement, provides social bridging, overcomes and even disrupts intergenerational disadvantages. It builds confidence, a sense of purpose and achievement, a more positive outlook on live. Dialling funding back for those areas of activities will proof much more costly in the future and should therefore not be done.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Feedback as individual: I see the airport as an important strategic asset for the city. How strategic would be proven in the future if majority shareholders had simple commercial and no social or community outcomes in mind and the service offerings of the

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Feedback as spokesperson: As mentioned above, funding that supports the strength and well-being of the community should not be cut as I believe those savings would be short lived. The importance of the role arts and culture play sin Aotearoa is huge, thos

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

These reductions should not proceed because they go to the fabric of a city and society in which people interact, and visitors are drawn to a city. The local economy and infrastructure will suffer from lack of vibrancy and use, and the detrimental effect on employment in this sector and also offers in a broader context, wider than the event itself, affects the economy and well being of Auckland, and Aotearoa.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: It reduces interest costs but maintains a Council stake.

## Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

#### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: The operating budget needs to be increased to manage infrastructure to mitigate disaster impact.

### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Options such as higher taxes on AirBNB and big rentals and cutting infrastructure consulting fees have clearly not been explored. The options as presented will hurt everyday Aucklanders and disproportionally favor businesses and the 1%.

The wording in this question is intentionally manipulative, favoring the proposal as outlined. It betrays the survey writer's lack of desire to see the public's true intention and does not serve public interest as a result.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** The wording in this question is intentionally manipulative, favoring the proposal as outlined. It betrays the survey writer's lack of desire to see the public's true intention and does not serve public interest as a result.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** Ensure rates are increased dependent on how highly the property is valued, and more so if it is not the primary dwelling of the owner. Factors such as use for AirBNB should be considered.

### 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Other

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

### 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Other

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was	Other

### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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This form is shameful in how it

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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#### Debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Do not
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	support

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### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Reducing regional services

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

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#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

#### Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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### What do you think of these proposals?

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Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Reading the proposed budget, with its deep and potentially fatal cuts, has made me feel sick to the stomach. The cuts to Auckland unlimited in particular are devastating- and would mean the city loses its vibrancy, its heart and its soul- something that has been so carefully developed over time, which would be wiped away with the proposed cuts. How can any Aucklander have pride in their city, when we have no contestable funding for arts and culture, no budget to support cultural programmes and events, and no budget to attract international level events, or to promote the city? How on earth can Auckland be taken seriously as a world class city, if the cuts have literally ripped the heart out.

I get that there is a massive shortfall, and that the budget requires surgery- but this 'solution' seems to kill the city, to achieve a short term goal.

There are so many community organisations that will simple fail and cease to be viable if the cuts go ahead. This will mean job losses, and it's likely that many of our community and cultural workforce will leave the city. Auckland will no longer be a creative city, it will no longer be renowned for vibrant arts and culture- this will have a knock on effect as tourists will stop spending their dollars in Auckland. We used to be simply a "gateway", a place that tourists transited through before heading to Rotorua or Queenstown. The city has worked hard to become a "destination", and visitors now

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stay in Auckland longer- for our food scene, for our arts scene, for our cultural events. If these cuts proceed, we can kiss goodbye to all that- and tourists will once again skip Auckland on their travels.

I worked for arts and culture organisations in Auckland for over 12 years, in leadership roles for a theatre company and for a performing arts venue. Both of these entities relied on council support- but I can tell you that for every dollar we received from council, we made damn sure that we delivered value. This funding created momentum, and unlocked support from other funders, from private donors and from corporate sponsors. All this happened because council had demonstrated confidence in these organisations by funding them- the social return in investment was huge, and Aucklanders got real tangible value from this funding.

The proposed cuts would simply be the final straw for our arts and events sector, which has been decimated by Covid. We are just starting to get back on our feet, so if the ear cuts go ahead, it will simply be the end of the road for many arts organisations, who would cease operations and disappear from our city.

These proposed cuts are a short term solution- but the impacts of the cuts would run so deep that it would take the city years to recover from. If you proceed with the proposed cuts, you will do damage to our city that will make it unrecognisable from the city that we love- Auckland would become a soulless, dull and lifeless place. It's the next generation who will feel the impact of the cuts the most- a generation that would grow up without access to culture, without access to programmes and places that help our young people to shape who they are, and the stories they want to tell.

I urge you to reconsider this proposal- I support increased rates- look at what is happening in Tauranga, in Wellingtonthe majority of the community know that their rates fund what makes the city a great place to live. If the cuts go ahead, then the drop in levels of service will be catastrophic. I don't believe that the cuts are what the community want.

I'm proud to have lived and worked in Auckland- I can't imagine being proud of the city that these cuts will leave behind.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

## Tell us why:

## Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

Tell us why: Set higher rates AND increase use of debt-

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: This is a no brainer.

### 5. Local Boards

#### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why:** Our library network is an essential service- I support the Albert Eden board to invest in ensuring that these spaces are fit for our community.

I support the proposed work to plan for how our parks are used as the city grows-'particularly the ex unitec si

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local arts programmes, Local community events, Library hours

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** This is a ridiculous question- it should not be a 'popularity contest' of community services- where is the strategy and long term thinking?

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support

Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was	I don't
established.	know

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Young people already have homes that are being rebuilt or stripped away because of the storm or because home situation is unsafe. Where places like Zeal West provide a safe place for young people to feel like they could call home and find a sense of belonging with peers and facilitied by youth workers who journey deeply with our rangatahi.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

# Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:  a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,  b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and  c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	l don't know
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	

Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	l don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Regional services, so important for community wellbeing which are accessible arts and cultural events for the community and for tourism purposes.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

Tell us why: Long term savings and immediate relief

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

**Tell us why:** \$3 a week is generally manageable so I think a slight increase to \$5 - \$10 is similar but manageable to most.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

#### Whau Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why:** Continue to build Te Whau Pathway which provides greater accessibility for the community, environmental improvements and is very much supported by the local community.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local parks, community facilities, and sports and recreation programmes, Protection and restoration of local waterways, Local community events

Tell us why these are most important to you: Fosters pride in local area and encourages community interactions.

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Continue to build Te Whau Pathway. This project improves accessibility between local communities and underused parks next to the river, provides greater recreational and commuting options for walking and cycling, is greatly supported by the local communit

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Cutting funding to services such as the ones listed disproportionately punishes those without relying on these services so that those 'that have' can have even more.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Selling public assets have not been historically smart moves

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

Tell us why: I'm not well informed on this topic so am deferring to hopefully the more thought out plan

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: Assuming some of this can be used to combat the sources of global warming

# 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
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a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Support
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	

c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Council should both set higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt.

Based on Auckland Council's assumptions and modelling, the highest possible rates increase that they investigated (>13%) would fall well within the boundaries of what t

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**It is important it is for us to invest in stormwater infrastructure, especially in light of recent extreme weather events.

## 5. Local Boards

#### Henderson-Massey Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community-led environmental and water quality initiatives, and volunteer activities, Protection and restoration of local waterways, and ecological volunteers in parts, Open space low / no mow areas

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** In light of the recent devastation in Ranui due to the flooding environmental issues should have priority

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
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a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

What do you think of these proposals? Concerns with Council reprioritising the Climate Action Targeted Rate which was established just last year with overwhelming public support. The Council is now planning to plunder the Climate Action Targeted Rate fund to reduce costs to Auckland Transpor

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Reiterate the urgency around environmental issues due to the flooding and devastation of homes, and public transport.

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Do not proceed with any reduction of the targeted natural heritage rate, or any other rating/funding mechanism that relates to pest management, biosecurity, biodiversity, healthy waterways, and our regional parks and islands.

Pest management and biosecurity are strategic needs and any reduction in revenue to impacts negatively on the level of service and efficacy of pest management is short-sighted and will likely lead to higher future costs to manage pest and weed threats.

The long-term resilience of Auckland city and its surrounds relies on a functional natural environment. Healthy environments will reduce the impacts we will probably see from the changing climate.

It simply makes good economic sense to protect the environment.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why: My area of interest predominantly lies with supporting our natural estate and biological heritage.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** Find another way of reducing costs that does not involve reductions in the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR). Reducing these rates now - and the level of service this revenue supports will just lead to high

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:** Extra expenditure is warranted if it supports enhancing the resilience of our natural estate which will help to manage and mitigate changing climate and the possible impacts of future storm events.

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).  Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.  Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	I don't know
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	l don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Organisation (if applicable):

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Public Transport - Personally don't drive, critical dependence on public transport.

Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$20 million - Heck no. Just no. For so many people that is all they have, whether it be a tough home life, no home at all or just general apathy. That community connection is a critical aspect of being a community. Don't take away peoples lifelines. Re:- https://www.stuff.co.nz/dominion-post/news/111854915/major-losses-for-city-if-wellington-city-council-had-cut-cab-funding-pwc-report-finds

Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million - Same as above, critically help non-profits with a big impact on communities. The priority of a council shouldn't be just money if you have to devastate the community to get there.

No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million: I mean, if you want to dramatically decrease available workforce... Surely the monetary savings don't equate to lost labour.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** More than a bit short sighted - once they are gone, the asset can no longer be leveraged or support future revenue raising for Council.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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### Debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt.

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: Invest in stormwater infrastructure, especially in light of recent extreme weather events.

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

What do you think of these proposals? The Council SHOULD NOT be reprioritising the Climate Action Targeted Rate which was established just last year with overwhelming public support. DO NOT plunder the Climate Action Targeted Rate fund to reduce costs to Auckland Transport—who are also propos

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Focus on helping people, rather than prioritising profit.

Also https://www.stuff.co.nz/dominion-post/news/111854915/major-losses-for-city-if-wellington-city-council-had-cut-cab-funding-pwc-report-finds

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** All of the funding are fundmental to the wellbeing of the environment and the people. The basics like public transport and early childhood eductaion should be a right to all people. Cutting the funding only exaberates the gap that is getting bigger in this economy.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**The recent damage is signs that we need better and more resilient infranstructure in the face of climate change.

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

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Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

# Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

### Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

# Important privacy information







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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** It is a false economy to think you can "save money" by making reductions to public transport, as this will have huge costs both to the efficient running of the city and through increased climate change effects. With the severe recent floods it should be clear to everyone that we cannot loose focus on reducing our carbon footprint, and making transport more efficient and sustainable.

It is similarly a false economy trying to "save money" by reducing funding of education, as the children are literally the future of the economy.

Increase rates. Let's all pay what we can to improve our country, instead of reduce and cut costs while we lose all of real value.

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** This is not a good time to sell the shares as they have a low value, and will remove both future income from the shares and the future option to raise money this way. Raise rates instead.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** It seems irresponsible to cut social services in the wake of substantial damage caused by the climate change that we are failing to address. Instead increase rates as well as debt if needed.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**It is vital to invest in storm water infrastructure to be prepared for future events of the kind that we have recently experienced, which are likely to increase in regularity in the near future.

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Selling our shares in AIAL will hurt us all in the future. The new owners will want a return that exceeds the cost of the shares, how will they do that without cutting services or increasing prices?

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Selling our shares in AIAL will hurt us all in the future. The new owners will want a return that exceeds the cost of the shares, how will they do that without cutting services or increasing prices?

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Tax wealthy people, not poor people.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Changes to other rates	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Do not reduce regional services!!! This is only going to hurt the community! This proposed plan is terrible!

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

## Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:  a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Do not support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	

Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

# What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

# Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Support the community more, taking away resources for low income people is horrible.

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** not proceed with if any: Do not reduce funding for community services! This is absolutely abhorrent and irresponsible and will cause far more harm than anything!

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
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#### Debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

Tell us why: Cost of living is impacting enough communities, especially in Auckland

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

## Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Do not
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	support

c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Please do not cut funding for community services! This will cause huge social harm

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Organisation (if applicable):

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	C
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	I don't
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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Don't defund youth services

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Continue to fund Auckland Citizens Advice. In times of stress i.e Auckland have overspent in areas or spent unwisely, that then causes ordinary citizens to undergo difficulties a spiraling downward effect. When this happens is all the more reason for the council to fund an organisation who offers free advice to its citizens, helps them overcome stress, points them in the direction of were to get assistance. As the organisation is serviced by volunteers it would be a false move to stop funding CAB, instead you will be putting pressure on council staff to answer the questions. Adding to stress of families who cannot source were to go for help, particularly the children who suffer watching parents under stress.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	

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## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

**Tell us why:** Funding of community organisations such as CAB is essential to the wellbeing of Aucklanders. CAB assists in specialty areas which Auckland Council does not have the expertise or staffing to support, and allows for citizens to access robust advice on diffi

# 4. Storm Response

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Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Other

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Please do not proceed with the funding cuts to Citizens Advice Bureau Auckland. I have been a CAB volunteer in the South Island for 14 years and have seen our workload increase over this time, with many more complex issues that we as volunteers need to help clients with. At the moment we are already dealing with many calls from the Auckland area, due to CAB offices not able to work to their full capacity. If you cut this funding where will 160000 clients go for information. Will your staff at council offices be able to help them?

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Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all **Auckland Council's shares?** I don't know

Tell us why:

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#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	

c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

# 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:** Auckland Council should fund Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) for several reasons. First, CAB is a free and independent service that has 32 sites across Auckland, making it accessible to populations that other agencies struggle to connect with. This means that CAB meets community needs that Auckland Council and others cannot. CAB provides help face-to-face, by phone, and online, and the service is not time-limited. This allows volunteers to provide a level of empathy, impartiality, and anonymity that can be hard to find elsewhere. As a universal service, there are no barriers for people seeking help. CAB is often a first port of call and is also where Council and others send people when they don't have answers or time to help.

Second, funding CAB is consistent with Auckland Council's role in promoting community well-being. CAB is a community service that is run and delivered by volunteers from the Auckland community. The Local Government Act places responsibility on Auckland Council for social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of local communities. This has been reflected in the Council's Thriving Communities Strategy - Ngā Hapori Momoho 2022-2032. Funding the CAB is an effective way for Council to meet its goals. The CAB has a key role to play in ensuring people are connected to the information, advice, support, and services they need to navigate life's problems and challenges.

Finally, Auckland CABs are lean and cost-effective with a high return on investment. Auckland CABs receive around \$2m in Council funding each year, providing the staff support, overhead costs, and local infrastructure to support 900 highly-

trained volunteers to deliver the CAB service. Last year, Auckland CABs helped over 163,000 people, delivering measurable social good. ImpactLab measured the social good of assistance provided by CAB North Shore for clients with relationship issues, finding that it delivered measurable social good, equating to \$13.20 for every \$1 spent on the service. Annually, \$2m funding gives a potential return of \$26.4m. Furthermore, central government funding supports all Auckland CABs through its funding of CABNZ, the national body of CAB, enabling the underlying infrastructure, including the IT system, intranet, and knowledge base, that all volunteers in Auckland use to deliver the CAB service. These are significant essential costs that Auckland Council does not have to cover. Therefore, funding CAB is a sound investment for Auckland Council, contributing to the well-being of local communities and delivering measurable social good at a high return on investment.

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

## Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

#### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

## Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Do not retain reduced public transport services.

Do not defund community organisations or arts sector in Auckland.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

#### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	Other
(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	

c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Other

## 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Ensuring arts and community services are not cut. They are important to keep community together

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

# What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I write from a personal perspective as a representative from The NEXT Foundation and now an independent Trustee of The Talking Matters Charitable Trust.

I have been associated with Te Hononga Akoranga COMET who introduced the opportunity to The NEXT Foundation to support their project "Talking Matters" almost 6 years ago. In doing so they successfully engaged with the Foundation and I was asked as the NEXT representative to work alongside COMET on a voluntary basis.

COMET created the opportunity and we have enjoyed the working relationship. We are now an independent Trust which is a credit to the vision and forward planning of COMET, who incubated "Talking Matters" and celebrated it being handed over to its now independent state.

I appreciate the need for any organisation whether public or private to review its cost base and recognise the implications of cost increases and economic impacts.

I believe COMET has thought this through and prepared a comprehensive plan to work towards its own independent state as a charitable Trust and presented an option over 3 years to reduce funding from Council to zero.

We are a very good example on how they leveraged their Council funding with our Foundation.

Without their vision and support Talking Matters and the impact it has made with whanau, strengthening their babies brain development in the first 1000 days would not have happened.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

## Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

### Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Please do not cut any funding to Citizens Advice Bureau. The service is vitally important to everyone in the Auckland region and beyond. It is the only service of it's kind that is impartial and accessible to every person. No other service reaches all our vulnerable communities in the same way and empowers them to look after themselves and make life changing decisions. It is free and independent and reaches everyone. There are no barriers for people seeking help and is often the first point of call for those that are desperate and is where the Council and others send people when they don't have time or are unable to help. It is consistent with promoting well-run communities and ensures that people get the information they need saving further costs in the long run. The volunteers are highly trained and provide excellent support - giving endless time and energy. The funding currently received from Council is minimal for the return in social well-being that is received. It is an essential service that is needed more and more with over 50 years of operation and over 900 volunteers across 32 CAB sites. Please don't cut funding to this service - in fact it would save more Council funding in the long run to increase the funding to the Citizens Advice Bureau.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

### Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: For most of the services you suggest cutting, this will be false economy, as the benefit they provide to the community far outweighs the cost. In particular, the CAB provides the community with a vast range of services, many of which will otherwise have to be taken up by council staff. The city has many migrants living there, who do not understand how the laws work. CAB can help with many issues such as settling disputes and misunderstandings between neighbours regarding Auckland Council functions, rules, and bylaws, such as keeping poultry, fencing matters, owning dogs etc. Auckland will either become a much less happy city, or you will have to employ many staff to deal with queries relating to bylaws.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

#### Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**You have done less than you should for many years. Your underground services are in need of upgrade and are highly vulnerable. You have allowed development of flood-prone land. You need to fix your infrastructure and designate hazards zones, and prohib

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** cuts to early childhood education are short sighted. Access to this service allows parents of young children to re-enter the workforce and hence maintains the earning potential of ratepayers.

"Maintaining the reduced amount of public transport" is essentially perpetuation of significant cutbacks in this service, at a time requiring urgent response to the climate emergency. This is an extraordinarily bad idea. It also removes options for the disadvantaged of our community and exacerbates traffic congestion.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

## Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

Tell us why: taking on increased debt at this time is unwise... interest rates are likely to rise for some time yet.

### 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
--------------------------------	--

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Do not reduce the (Citizens Advice Bureaus) CAB funding, CAB offices offer the most amazing and free service on a wide variety of issues and is a fabulous informed service and an ESSENTIAL service to the people least able to afford services like lawyers, accountants, etc. It would be a truly backward step to take that CAB service away and a blow to Auckland's multicultural population at a time when people are really struggling over costs, housing, mental health etc. Why would you even consider taking away a hugely effective and valued service that is run largely by UNPAID volunteers. Please please listen!

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** It is incredibly important to keep funding the arts, homeless care and other social services. These are not just things that should be taken away to make your budget look better

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

# Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	_

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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Other
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Other

# What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** not proceed with if any: The reduction in support of the Arts is catastrophic to Auckland. It is so easy to see the Arts as expendable, but they are at the very core of who Auckland is. Ensembles like the Auckland Philharmonia have been inspiring audiences for years, and their contribution to the culture of Auckland is immeasurable. This must absolutely not happen, their funding needs to be increased to support this world class orchestra. Also groups like the North Shore Brass Band have been providing a wonderful community service for decades, and they will struggle without the support of the council.

Please take the Arts cuts off the table, and allow these organisations to continue to make a difference in the community and inspire people.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

# Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Reducing funding for the arts is a short-sighted, and 'low-hanging fruit' move. The arts are an essential part of community that binds it together. The knock-on effects from this will be untold.

I have been personally helped in difficult times by the freedom, expression and sheer feeling of being alive and valued that both viewing and partaking in the arts has given me. Without community funding for these essential services, there would be many more people lost to suicide and depression, and just plain drifting away from connections.

Maintaining a reduced public transport schedule and increasing fares will disadvantage the poorest communities that are least well served to deal with cuts. Increasing taxes on wealthy pursuits would be a perfect way to show forward thinking and egalitarian governance - tax SUV's rather than reducing public transport. The community and the environment will thank you.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: The share market is not at it's highest here, by all means flag this for a future prospect, but not now.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** Council should make use of increased rates and debt. Cuts to services should not be seen as inevitable, we are deep in a climate and inequality crisis, our communities are built with public investment and without it they will not function.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**Increasing spending on infrastructure is essential now rather than after the fact. We have seen with the recent floods that the climate crisis is here, now. We need to mitigate it's effects as much as possible with proper investment now.

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

What do you think of these proposals? Reprioritising the Climate Action Targeted Rate (which had overwhelming public support) is a bad idea. Rather than using the fund to reduce the cost to Council, the fund needs to be used to extend the public transport and active transport infrastructure.

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Our communities are complex and evolving entities. They need feeding and nurturing to stay healthy. The arts, equity in accessing community projects, and active travel help nourish communities, and cuts to these services are like starving ourselves of oxy

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not cut funding to Auckland CABs.

The amount government services such as police, immigration and Work and income rely on CABs to triage and inform citizens is grossly under recognised. CAB is listed on many government agency websites as a place to go for support and information, despite receiving no government funding. Reducing funding for this organisation and therefore access to the community is going to greatly increase pressure on those government agencies.

CABs are a great way for communities to learn about other non profit organisations which are out there and can support them. Without CAB the reach a lot of these social support agencies have into the community is greatly limited. While there are other ways people can access information about agencies, usually you have to know what you are looking for in order to find these organisations. CAB works like a centralised hub and often refers citizens to social support they often weren't even aware existed.

I work for a non-profit agency supporting young workers in employment advocacy and we get 50% of our referrals from the CAB - without them, young workers aren't even aware we exist.

Finally, the cost of living is incredibly high at the moment and many people do not have the money to access private services when they need it. CAB is an essential service to ensure our most vulnerable citizens are still able to access

the support they need, which without CAB they would not be able to access. This increases the gap between the rich and the poor and can result on extra unneeded pressure on our society by ensuring citizens access to social support before their situation spirals into an emergency situation. I like to think of them as the ambulance at the top of the cliff, directing people to support before they get desperate enough to jump off.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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#### Debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:** In addition to increasing the budget - increase accountability standards for infrastructure contractors. Make sure they are assessing the areas around their worksite to identify any future issues which could be minimised at the same time they are working

# 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Services that directly impact communities such as arts, recreation and community group funding should absolutely be maintained. These are areas which build community and where rate payers receive direct value for their rates.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Auckland Airport is a crucial infrastructure asset and there is a need to maintain as much public ownership as possible to secure this key transport asset

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

**Tell us why:** Business should be charged rates at a higher level than residential - they are making profit from operating within the council area and can afford to pay at least equal if not more rates than residential ratepayers who are just living on their property an

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:Only if it does not cause cuts to other crucial council services across the community

#### 5. Local Boards

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# What do you think of these proposals?

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## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizeable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future. Our arts events, music, cultural festivals, theatre, dance, comedy and other creative activities bring life to our city, bring Auckland communities together, and attract domestic and international tourists. This also has a positive knock-on effect to our restaurants, hotels, transport and other sectors.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not "nice-to-haves" that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will close. Once there is no opportunity for work and artistic expression, artists and arts practitioners have no reason to remain in Auckland. We will become a cultural wasteland!

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

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Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

#### Tell us why:

## Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

# What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

'We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities are feeling.

- Reduction in Cultural Events

Without funding,

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: I live outside the Auckland region and frequently travel to the region to enjoy the flourishing arts programmes you have such as the Auckland Philharmonic orchestra, Auckland Art gallery and taking our grandchildren to the zoo. If the prices rise due to lack of council funding then Auckland would not receive my contributions that I make when I stop several days staying at hotels, dining, transport and shopping. I am dependent on my superannuation and carefully save to allow these artistic treats. Maybe my small contribution means little to the council. There will be more people in a similar situation to me but without our help by paying and attending these arts Auckland will become a dull city where there is a dearth of entertainment.

Community and social facilities are essential to the well being of a community e.g. CAB

Maybe save your funds by reducing the salaries of the mayor and CEO.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

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Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

# Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Suggestions to cut library services seems short sighted. There are numerous recent studies showing that the benefits generated by public libraries massively outweigh their costs. One study in South Australia found that libraries generated community benefits at least DOUBLE the amount spent.

On a personal level, early in my career I got a huge amount of value out of the library. I would go there to study and relax. In a city where there is a housing crisis (and in many cases cramped living circumstances) there is a lot of benefit in having a space to go to which is not your workplace or your home. When I was developing my freelance work I was able to work from my laptop at the library and use the internet and printing there. When it came time to apply for jobs I was able to make use of the space for that too. There are no equivalent spaces in our cities - especially not ones that you can stay in for a long time without needing to hire a desk or buy many coffees (which for many students, job seekers, young families or developing freelancers is not an option).

I also think that cuts to arts programs is short sighted. There are so many factors that go into making cities liveable and attractive to live in, and a vibrant arts scene is one of these. A few years ago I moved to Melbourne for exactly this reason. Upon returning I am concerned to see proposals to gut arts spending in Auckland and it's hard to see myself returning to live in a city that has less culture and less going on.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** There is a reason why most airports the world over are tightly held and very few are available for public ownership.

Airport traffic is rising fast back towards pre-Covid levels and the shares generated returns of 22.6% per year in the five years to 201

# 3. Managing rates and debt

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#### Rates

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#### Debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**Climate scientists tell us that these types of extreme weather events are likely to be more and more frequent. We need to be responsible and mitigate this damage as much as possible. We need to create wetland areas for water to go.

#### 5. Local Boards

#### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why:** Keep libraries OPEN! They are vital for a healthy society.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local arts programmes, Community climate action and sustainability, Library hours

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** Climate action is number one. None of this means anything on a dead planet, or on one where we're constantly stressed and economically stretched by extreme weather events so we have no bandwidth to care about anything else.

Libraries deliver up to twice

# Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned,	Do not
to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	support

What do you think of these proposals? all areas should have food waste collection available!

The Climate Action Targeted Rate was established with overwhelming public support, to change this seems like spitting in the face Aucklanders who got behind this.

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

I love Auckland so much but a few years ago I left for Melbourne to live here for a time because I was attacted by its vibrant arts scene and strong public transport network.

I often think of returning to Auckland to live and I have been heartened by pr

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** not proceed with if any: You must continue to fund public transport to reduce the speed of climate change (by lowering transport emissions).

You must continue to fund climate change initiatives to reduce and adapt to climate change.

You must continue to fund the arts - it is so valuable to peoples' wellbeing.

You must continue to fund programs to reduce homelessness, increase family wellbeing, etc.

You must continue to fund the Citizens Advice Bureau. It is a critical service.

Alongside this, you should advocate to central government to better fund these programs at a national level to support Auckland Council and to enhance community outcomes, reduce poverty, reduce climate change, etc.

Auckland can increase debt and can increase rates. Make those with money pay. Their are plenty of extremely well-off people that can afford it. From each according to their ability, to each according to their needs.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

**Tell us why:** The airport should slowly be phased into a much smaller entity. Air travel is not sustainable. Fund interregional rail instead.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** Set higher rates for those in the richest part of your community. And increase debt. This way you can accelerate projects and do more faster - particularly on climate change, to slow climate change and adapt to its impacts.

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:** You must use nature-based solutions to adapt to the impact of storms and climate change. Restore wetlands. Create more green space. Make room for rivers.

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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#### What do you think of these proposals?

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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Fund Citizens Advice Bureau.

Fund climate change adaptation - particularly nature-based solutions.

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## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: because they lack humanity and undermine the heart of civic responsibility, community resources and the vital arts sector

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** airports enable access to international markets and resources we need to keep connected with, but are also environmentally destructive

# 3. Managing rates and debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

**Tell us why:** a balance of current cost of living must be struck against longer term re-investments in infrastructure balanced by mitigation of current and future environmental risks

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
--------------------------------	--

Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of	Do not
the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	I don't
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	know
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	KIIOW

(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Other
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Other

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** not proceed with if any: These cuts will impact the lives of people in this city in an unacceptable way when funding can be found from other sources

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt.

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Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** 1. Maintaining the currently reduced public transport service - This is never going to help any sort of emissions reductions targets. NZ's goal to cut emissions by 50% by 2030 is so far out of reach and the biggest city in the country continuing to maintain limited transport alternatives is tragic.

- 2. Reducing regional services the cutting of funding to homeless projects that are already up and running is criminal. Add the arts, youth work, community empowerment and environmental projects and you will be left with a rotten city.
- 3. Early childhood education cuts to save \$1 million? Pathetic.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** "Commentators point out that this is not a particularly astute time to sell these shares - at a low point in the market - and that once they are gone, this asset can no longer be leveraged or support future revenue raising for Council." (quoted from the G

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt.

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Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Proceed with the proposed reductions

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: '- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million - Is there enough ECE service out there that NZ children will not be impacted by this change? \$1 million is a lot of money in general terms but when you compare it to \$175 million this is a relatively small amount that could hopefully be found somewhere less detrimental to our tamariki. There has been enough upheaval and disturbance to learning with covid and floods etc affecting attendance over the last few years.** 

- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$20 million - while I do support this in general, homelessness, community empowerment and youth centers are so important and funding being reduced to those sectors could have a substantial flow on affect around crime rates etc if we are not supporting our most needy and under privileged.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

**Tell us why:** I agree but do not fully understand the flow on affect of this in years to come. Is this going to have a negative effect on future revenue if we look ahead to the next 5 - 10 years? Is there a way to make up for the lost dividends or if, we make up this b

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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#### Debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

#### **Howick Local Board**

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

**Tell us why:** Explore opportunities for partnerships with the community on projects such as (but not limited to) business awards and provision of play spaces

Continue to support community empowerment and provide more awareness around funding and ongoing sustainability

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Protection and restoration of local waterways, Environmental restoration and pest control, Community facilities and services

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to continue to do work on the environment as this can play a part in future weather events and if we don't look after our environment now, we put ourselves at risk in the future.

## Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

#### Tell us why:

Please rank our proposed local board priorities from most to least important to you:

Rank	Proposed Priorities
3	Investing in initiatives to reduce the impact of climate change, including tree planting, education programmes and environmental volunteers
4	Continue to provide residents with better quality facilities, parks and open spaces
5	Promoting activities to showcase our local arts and culture talent into career pathways
2	Continue to identify procurement, quality employment and social enterprise opportunities for our residents
1	Improving the well-being of our locals by supporting our local economy to become more efficient, resilient, and sustainable through our reduced budget

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Protection and restoration of local waterways, Local waste minimisation programmes, Youth programmes

Tell us why these are most important to you:

How do you think we could support our communities to be better prepared and resilient to extreme weather events like the recent Auckland storm? Clear direction from local and central government. Know what to do, who to contact and how to safely evacuate. A lot of local communities may not have the means to have an emergency pack at home. We need to support our communities so they can support them

## Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support most priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local community events, Environmental restoration and pest control activities, Protection and restoration of local waterways

#### Tell us why these are most important to you:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?) Mowing service levels on reserves, Programming at Te Oro, Oranga and Onehunga Community and Arts Centres, Community leasing charges

Do you think there are other areas where we could make savings to our local budgets? More focus on collaboration and working with other organisations

#### **Ōrākei** Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community programme delivery, Protection and restoration of local waterways, Youth initiatives

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

In the Mayoral Proposal, agreed by the Governing Body, the proposed reduction in operating costs would require the Ōrākei Local Board to find \$650,000 in savings in 2023/2024 from a discretionary budget of \$1.4 million. In the time frame available to us this discretionary budget is the only one we can access to make these savings. We have proposed where these savings might come from and how they would effect the activities and services we provide in our supporting information (pages 158-161)

.What do you think of the savings we've proposed across our activities and services? Other

Tell us why: I support 90% of the proposed changed but I feel that cutting community grants (100%) and local events(94%) is going to have a huge impact on the community and morale. Also environmental education having a 90% cut is steep. I feel that cutting library ho

## Puketāpapa Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community development and support, Environmental restoration and pest control, Water quality of local waterways

#### Tell us why these are most important to you:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

# Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** The things listed above (other than maybe childcare) are core council services. It is imperative that local government continue to grow PT to combat the declared climate emergency and to support community, arts and culture - this is what makes Auckland Auckland.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Silly to sell a significant strategic asset holding to reduce debt. Once it is gone it is gone. Take a long term view and hold this position.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

Tell us why: I support this as a way to decrease debt.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

## What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Other

**Tell us why:** Emergency management and land use planning are core council services and the recent event show that the council is not equipped to respond. The review currently underway may provide insights to the response failures.

#### 5. Local Boards

#### Whau Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local parks, community facilities, and sports and recreation programmes, Protection and restoration of local waterways, Local planning and development e.g. for parks, town centre and street environment

#### Tell us why these are most important to you:

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Austerity is not the solution. Get a new Mayor.

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

## Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal

**Tell us why:**This is not the time to add new spending.

#### Local Boards

## Waitematā Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Library opening hours and services, Arts and community centre programmes (at Ellen Melville Centre and Studio One Toi Tū), Community programme delivery e.g. community networks, youth and arts

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** Social services including homeless and low income family support, education and literacy including access to libraries, and water quality management should be prioritized because these investments will foster a more healthy and productive populace in the

Do you think there are other areas where we could make savings to our local budgets? Do not allow non-residential properties to opt out of council's recycling service. Consolidate Citizens Advice Bureaus.

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Grid AKL is invaluable for the entrepreneurial eco-system. Cutting funding would have long term negative consequences for both Auckland and NZ.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:  a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	I don't know
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	

Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	l don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

What do you think of these proposals? Grid AKL is invaluable for the entrepreneurial eco-system. Cutting funding would have long term negative consequences for both Auckland and NZ.

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Please maintain your funding to CAB organisations. If other social services are cut, at least these organisations will be able to inform people where they can find other help. CAB also does a huge amount of other work such as helping people fill out tax forms and advising on local services, which in fact takes some of the burden from local Council staff.

We always notice that when cuts need to be made both local and national government seem to see social services as the low hanging fruit. But in fact, when times are tough, that is when local community services are even more important. With the use of trained volunteer staff, local community services like CAB can provide services cheaper and more targeted than Council could ever do it, so cutting the funding to CAB is like an own-goal. It is a false economy and it is disappointing that Council cannot see this.

Council also has a mandate and a responsibility to it's citizens. This is more than rates and potholes. This includes the welfare and wellbeing of it's ratepayers. This kind of important work, especially in the wake of a disaster and rising cost of living and shortages can be best supplied via Community groups and organisations embedded in all communities.

For this reason I implore you to continue funding one of the most respected of institutions, the 33 Auckland CABs.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

## Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**Climate change will only continue to exacerbate these issues, and if large companies/leading polluters are not to be taxed to help mitigate the consequences of their approaches, then the money has to come from somewhere to help future proof. It will cost

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** not proceed with if any: Stop Arts funding cuts. Arts is vital to understanding and interacting with the world in which we live. Do not cut funding to this essential service.

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	

Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	l don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** The proposed budget cuts will reduce and/or remove many of the things that my friends and family value about living in Auckland, and it will remove many of the things that my friends and family RELY ON simply to live in Auckland.

Proposals to permanently cancel hundreds of buses a day as well as increasing the cost of catching them is simply unbelievable. Moving around the city in an effective and cost efficient way is challenging enough; this part of the proposal will be devastating to so many people's quality of life, independence and access to education and income.

To cut funding to community, culture, regional events, economic development and social services, to gut early childhood and Citizens Advice Bureaus, as well as halve Local Board discretionary spending, is also so destructive. These services provide so much support to our communities, especially our most vulnerable. The role of these services creates incredible social cohesion for my friends and family. Having these services funded by Council enables them to access essential health and well-being opportunities and services that would not be available otherwise.

Section (1)(b) of Local Governement Act states that the purpose of local government is to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future. The proposed budget cuts go against this.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Once they are gone, this asset can no longer be leveraged or support future revenue raising for Council.

Further, now is not an astute time to sell these shares - at a low point in the market.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt.

Based on Auckland Council's assumptions and modelling, the highest possible rates increase that they investigated (>13%) would fall well within the boundaries of wha

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**It is so important it is for Council to invest in stormwater infrastructure, especially in light of recent extreme weather events. Programmes and projects like the daylighting Waterview stream and introducing and retrofitting low impact stormwater solut

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt.

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Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

## What do you think of these proposals?

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Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: I don't want any cuts to the funding for the CAB. CAB meets community needs that Auckland Council and others cannot. As a free, independent service with 32 sites across Auckland, CAB is able to reach populations that other agencies struggle to connect with. The service is accessible - face-to-face, by phone and online. Help is not time limited, which allows volunteers to provide a level of empathy, impartiality and anonymity that can be hard to find elsewhere. As a universal service, there are no barriers for people seeking help. CAB is often a first port of call and is also where Council and others send people when they don't have answers or time to help. It's consistent with Auckland Council's role in promoting community well-being. CAB is a community service that is run and delivered by volunteers from the Auckland community. The Local Government Act places responsibility on Auckland Council for social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of local communities. This has been reflected in the Council's Thriving Communities Strategy - Ngā Hapori Momoho 2022-2032. Funding the CAB is an effective way for Council to meet its goals. The CAB has a key role to play in ensuring people are connected to the information, advice, support and services they need to navigate life's problems and challenges - which, for many, are increasing and becoming more complex. Auckland CABs are lean and cost-effective with a high return on investment. Auckland CABs receive around \$2m in Council funding each year. This funding provides the staff support, overhead costs, and local infrastructure to support 900 highly-trained volunteers to deliver the CAB service. Last year Auckland CABs helped over 163,000 people. CAB provides a significant return on investment for its funding, eg,

# 9843

Central government funding supports all Auckland CABs through its funding of CABNZ, the national body of CAB. Central government funding enables the underlying infrastructure, including the IT system, intranet and knowledge base, that all volunteers in Auckland use to deliver the CAB service. These are significant essential costs that Auckland Council does not have to cover. ☐ Auckland CAB is an essential service and has been in operation in Auckland for over 50 years. ☐ Staffed by over 900 fully-trained volunteers, the 32 CAB sites across Auckland provide free help to anyone to navigate their issues and problems and understand their options. ☐ This includes help with housing and tenancy, relationship issues, neighbour disputes, employment and small business matters, consumer protection, immigration, income support and access to food assistance, as well as local issues like rubbish and recycling services, rates, local body elections, parking, water, sewerage, noise and nuisance, and more. ☐ Last year, Auckland CABs helped 163,186 clients to understand their rights and responsibilities, and connect with services and support. ☐ Auckland CABs meet the needs of a diverse range of people. Clients span age groups and ethnicities. 53% of Auckland CAB clients are non-NZ European. ☐ Auckland CABs are responsive in times of emergency and crisis. Assistance provided during the recent severe weather has included access to emergency accommodation, food relief, support payments, advice about damage to property, blocked drains, trees, tenancy rights, and insurance.

ImpactLab measured the social good of assistance provided by CAB North Shore for clients with relationship issues. It found that it delivered measurable social good, equating to \$13.20 for every \$1 spent on the service. Annually, \$2m funding gives a potential return of \$26.4m. And for those who say that central government should be funding CABs...

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

workforce of volunteers who share their skills, time and aroha with Auckland.

☐ CAB also provides a significant place of community connection, belonging and contribution for our substantial

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

## Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

## Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Reducing funding to the arts will destroy them, and reducing services to those as well as libraries and the CABs will just widen the gap between the haves and have nots. Auckland should not be only user pays.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Just hedging against giving up all control

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

**Tell us why:** It's a lot harder to start things again once you've lost the resources - spend the money to save the community services and the arts!

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: Same as before. Save the arts and community services

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all **Auckland Council's shares?** I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing community and arts initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** The services propised for cuts are valuable and essential. If you're going to cut anything, cut the golf-courses!

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Don't hock off council assets.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

# Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Other

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	

Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

What do you think of these proposals? Auckland needs vision: not knee-jerk cuts.

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Arts, cukture, libraries and CABs are essential services: strengthen them with more funding, even if that means raising rates.

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I would not proceed with the reduction of funding for social services activities or local board funded activities. This is because I see these activities as investments that save money in the long run. Without expenditure here, we pay the social and environmental price in future. I support the other proposed reductions as these mostly limit nice-to-have services. My understanding is that the public transport staffing situation is so stretched that it would be unrealistic to expect an increase in those services anyway, so extra expenditure here would be a waste of money.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

**Tell us why:** Holding the shares does not seem to be financially sensible for the reasons outlined in the consultation document.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

Tell us why: A slight increase in rates seems preferable to borrowing and having to service further debt in future.

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**I support this as a necessary measure to response to the likelihood of more frequent severe weather events due to climate change, However, this should be coupled with intelligent consenting of new developments to ensure that ratepayers do not end up remed

#### 5. Local Boards

#### Waitematā Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why: These are all things that enhance the environmental health and overall liveability of the area.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Library opening hours and services, Protection and restoration of local waterway e.g. Te Wai Ōrea lake and wetland, Environmental restoration and pest control e.g. Waipapa Stream

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I think it is really important to keep books readily available to everyone (including those who may work long or unusual shifts). Environmental protection/restoration has short, medium, and long term benefits for the area and should not be neglected.

Do you think there are other areas where we could make savings to our local budgets?

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

# What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

## Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Maintaining decreased public transport options does not promote sustainable emissions. Not acknowledge the climate crisis that has recently devastated New Zealand.

It is a short term tactic to save money, that undermines infrastructure and middle to long term transport needs in the city. Reducing funding to the arts and community services also reduces services that promote mental health, and increases socioeconomic inequality.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Auckland airport has recently been affected by significant closures and damage after multiple climate crisis related events. Selling and privatising further because of an economic downturn, means ACC will have less ability to regulate and ensure changes t

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Set a higher general rates increase AND make greater use of Debt.

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

#### Aotea/Great Barrier Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I don't know

Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental restoration and pest control, Protection and restoration of local waterways, Local waste minimisation programmes including construction waste coordination

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** Climate crisis responses need to acknowledge restoration of ecological areas, and avoid further pollution from poorly maintained waterways/drain services.

#### Rodney Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Grants for community groups / organisations, Environmental volunteers in local parks, Ecological restoration programmes

#### Tell us why these are most important to you:

## **Upper Harbour Local Board**

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? Other

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental education e.g. our local streams programme (Sustainable Schools), Environmental restoration and pest control e.g. ecology initiatives assistance programme, Protection and restoration of local waterways e.g. Inanga spawning sites

#### Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### Waitākere Ranges Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Arts and culture facilities and events, Environmental activities e.g. pest control and wildlife protection on west coast beaches, Climate action and sustainability initiatives

#### Tell us why these are most important to you:

## Waitematā Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? Other

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Protection and restoration of local waterway e.g. Te Wai Ōrea lake and wetland, Community climate action and sustainability e.g. Low Carbon Lifestyles, Local waste minimisation activities e.g. Waitematā waste away

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

Do you think there are other areas where we could make savings to our local budgets?

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).  Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	Do not support
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Auckland council can afford to borrow, taking money from public transport, the poor and arts and culture is short sighted. Privatise the golf courses instead.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

Tell us why: You can afford to borrow more, you dont need to hit an already hurting population more in the pocket

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
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b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support

c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all **Auckland Council's shares?** I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## Waitākere Ranges Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Arts and culture facilities and events, Community facilities, services and activities, Climate action and sustainability initiatives

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

# Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

## Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at **aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy** and at our libraries and service centres) and with the

# # 10155

Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.





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#### Submitter details

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Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** not proceed with if any: Cuts to arts and cultural funding is not acceptable. The Arts are not an additional nice extra, they are the beating heart of the city.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** It is important to have a stake in important infrastructure.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: Climate change impacts are here and \$20m is a start but insufficient.

## 5. Local Boards

## Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

# Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Please do not implement any cuts that effect: regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$20 million.

SAVE: LIBRARIES
SELL: GOLF COURSES

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

#### Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

#### Tell us why:

Please rank our proposed local board priorities from most to least important to you:

Rank	Proposed Priorities
4	Investing in initiatives to reduce the impact of climate change, including tree planting, education programmes and environmental volunteers
1	Continue to provide residents with better quality facilities, parks and open spaces
2	Promoting activities to showcase our local arts and culture talent into career pathways
3	Continue to identify procurement, quality employment and social enterprise opportunities for our residents
5	Improving the well-being of our locals by supporting our local economy to become more efficient, resilient, and sustainable through our reduced budget

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Youth programmes, Library opening hours and services, Arts and culture programmes

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** These servidces are vital in engaging the minds of south Auckland youth.

How do you think we could support our communities to be better prepared and resilient to extreme weather events like the recent Auckland storm?

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Because Auckland City is in a strong financial position, regardless of what the fear-mongering mayor has to say on the matter. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future, not cut it off at the knees. Wayne's shortsightedness is symptomatic of bigots of his age and should NOT be a driving force in the future of Aotearoa's largest city.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Auckland Airport is a profitable asset for Auckland City to own. It will provide income for the city and be of benefit to the future of the city and the county. Wayne's shortsightedness is symptomatic of bigots of his age and should NOT be a driving force

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

**Tell us why:** Wayne's shortsightedness is symptomatic of bigots of his age and should NOT be a driving force in the future of Aotearoa's largest city.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**One of the contributing factors to the signficant negative impacts of Hale and Gabrielle is the lack of infrastructure and future planning expenditure. The longer it's left, the more expensive it is later on. Wayne's shortsightedness is symptomatic of big

## 5. Local Boards

## Waitematā Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why:** It is essential that spending be INCREASED, not decreased at this time. Investing NOW in strong communities, spongy and sustainable infrastructure, healthy residents, health environments and public transport will return dividends in the future. Wayne's sh

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental education e.g. Schools treasuring Waiōrea, Environmental restoration and pest control e.g. Waipapa Stream, Community climate action and sustainability e.g. Low Carbon Lifestyles

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** Picking 3 of this list is Sophie's choice. It does not reflect how equally important ALL of these services are. THERE SHOULD BE GREATER INVESTMENT AT THIS TIME! Wayne's shortsightedness is symptomatic of bigots of his age and should NOT be a driving force

Do you think there are other areas where we could make savings to our local budgets? I think that the council's 'financial black hole' is a straw man invented by a madman. THERE SHOULD BE GREATER INVESTMENT AT THIS TIME! Wayne's shortsightedness is symptomatic of bigots of his age and should NOT be a driving force in the future of Aotearo

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

What do you think of these proposals? I think that the council's 'financial black hole' is a straw man invented by a madman. THERE SHOULD BE GREATER INVESTMENT AT THIS TIME! Wayne's shortsightedness is symptomatic of bigots of his age and should NOT be a driving force in the future of Aotearo

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Wayne Brown is determined to destroy our city. His vision is twisted and he is a dangerous person. His hatred, venom and incompetence can only be countered by us. That includes you. The main theme of my submission is that I think that the council's 'finan

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interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.





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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** 'All services and funding proposed to be cut are vital for the health, safety, and liveability of Tamaki Makaurau for all its residents. Cutting these would severely and disproportionately impact people who are struggling already, while those privileged few won't notice the difference. For example:

- Cutting public transport services and increasing prices means those without their own transport cannot travel for work, education, or social and community activities. Losing work means losing income, further exacerbating poverty. Losing access to education means people cannot upskill, therefore preventing them from getting better-paid jobs and also reducing the capability of the city's workforce as a whole. Preventing people moving through the city destroys the diversity of each suburb, and creates divides between communities resulting in mistrust, misrepresentation, and misunderstanding of the huge variety of people in Auckland and each of their needs.
- The majority of people working in the tourism industry are less privileged and not highly paid. They need the work to support themselves and the people around them. Cutting tourism at a time when the city needs money, and when tourists are just beginning to return to the city and Aotearoa as a whole is short-sighted to the point of blindness: on the contrary the city needs to invest in its tourism sector to speed up its recovery, which can then feed back into the local economy and the council's income.

- Reducing social services simply means failing to serve the people of the city, which is the job of the council. Social services are already struggling to meet the needs of the most vulnerable members of our community, so reducing them means leaving people to get hungry, get sick, and die. There are those who, for many reasons, short- or long-term, cannot supply themselves with everything they need to live a full life. It is the job of council to make sure there are services in place to catch these people when they fall, and help them back to being able to support themselves as much as they are able to. Youth centres are essential for helping young people find a sense of community, belonging, and purpose, and play a huge part in creating a safe, vibrant, and prosperous city in the future. Reducing these services means the least privileged people will fall and stay down, and they will do so invisibly while those privileged enough to have never required these services continue to live their lives.
- Community, education, arts, and culture programmes and grants are essential for creating a vibrant and diverse city. People are not machines, they need to express themselves and come together to celebrate and learn about their similarities and differences. People need to have fun. People need joy. And when the city has been hit hard by three years of unprecedented events, including the devastation at the beginning of this year, that is the time when joy, fun, and community are needed most. The council's role is to facilitate these in any way possible.

TL:DR All these services are essential for the economic and social wellbeing and resilience of Tamaki Makaurau. Do not reduce any of them.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Selling shares at a low point in the market will yield low returns. Keeping them means we can leverage them in future and use them to support future revenue raising for the council.

# Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

# Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** A balance is required here: set higher general rates, but also take on more debt to continue to provide all services. Cutting services at a time when the city and its people need them most is irresponsible, and unnecessary if further debt is used to cush

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:** As part of this, ensure to invest in future-proof infrastructure to deal with extreme climate-related events, and also prioritise drastically reducing the city's environmental footprint to reduce the severity and impact of these events before they begin.

## Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

**What do you think of these proposals?** Waste management: all areas should have food waste collection available. This reduces the amount of waste going to landfill and is an easy way to begin creating a circular economy.

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Firstly the options have been worded to influence and prime the responder towards the desired option (reducing costs). Reducing corporate costs and overheads within Auckland council could be done instead of reducing vital community services.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Again the options have been worded to influence and prime the responder towards the desired option (reducing costs)

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

Tell us why: Multiple option selection is needed for this question

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

## Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
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Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

# Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

# Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Other

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

#### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? Other

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local community events, Programmes and activations in Epsom Community Centre, Community leasing charges

Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### Aotea/Great Barrier Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? Other

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Contestable local community grant rounds, Non-contestable local community group grants, Capital grants to sustain local community facilities

Tell us why these are most important to you:

## Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? Other

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental volunteers in local parks, Open space low mow / no mow areas

Tell us why these are most important to you:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?)

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).

• Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

# Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

# Henderson-Massey Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Discretionary community grants, Programmes and activations in community facilities, Funding and grants for arts centres and partners

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** Funding/support/opportunities for people within communities who are disadvantaged save money long term.

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

# Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

## Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

#### Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.		
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.		

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Do not proceed with:

Reducing regional contestable grants.

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited

These proposed cuts, which while small in terms of the Council's overall bud

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

# Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

## Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

# Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental restoration, volunteers and pest control, Community climate action and sustainability, Protection and restoration of local waterways

Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### Aotea/Great Barrier Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental restoration and pest control, Local waste minimisation programmes including construction waste coordination, Capital grants to sustain local community facilities

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

## Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Arts / community programmes and services, Environmental restoration and pest control, Funding support for youth activities

#### Tell us why these are most important to you:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?)

#### Franklin Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Protection and restoration of local waterways, Local climate action and sustainability initiatives, Environmental restoration and pest control programmes

#### Tell us why these are most important to you:

Our communities have told us that providing a network of pathways (walkways and cycleways) between and within our local villages and town centres will help locals access services and facilities, and live healthy active lifestyles.

Our budgets cannot deliver a network of this scale without additional funding such as via a targeted rate. To implement a new rate, we would have to investigate further and consult with you again in a future Annual Budget process.

Do you think we should investigate a local targeted rate to fund a network of pathways across the Franklin Local Board area? I don't know

## Henderson-Massey Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Funding and grants for arts centres and partners, Community-led environmental and water quality initiatives, and volunteer activities, Protection and restoration of local waterways, and ecological volunteers in parts

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

## Hibiscus and Bays Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community climate action and sustainability, Library opening hours and services, Protection and restoration of local waterways

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### **Howick Local Board**

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental restoration and pest control, Community facilities and services, Community climate action and sustainability

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### Kaipātiki Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Parks and open space low / no mow areas, Community climate action and sustainability, Protection and restoration of local waterways

Tell us why these are most important to you:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?):

## Mängere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

Please rank our proposed local board priorities from most to least important to you:

Rank	Proposed Priorities
1	Investing in initiatives to reduce the impact of climate change, including tree planting, education programmes and environmental volunteers
3	Continue to provide residents with better quality facilities, parks and open spaces
4	Promoting activities to showcase our local arts and culture talent into career pathways

Rank	Proposed Priorities
2	Continue to identify procurement, quality employment and social enterprise opportunities for our residents
5	Improving the well-being of our locals by supporting our local economy to become more efficient, resilient, and sustainable through our reduced budget

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental restoration and pest control programmes e.g. Pest Free Urban South, Parks activations and programmes, Community climate action and sustainability

Tell us why these are most important to you:

How do you think we could support our communities to be better prepared and resilient to extreme weather events like the recent Auckland storm?

#### Manurewa Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community programme delivery, Environmental restoration and pest control programmes, Protection and restoration of local waterways, environmental education, community climate action and sustainability

Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

# Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community climate action and sustainability activities, Environmental restoration and pest control activities, Protection and restoration of local waterways

Tell us why these are most important to you:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?) Community leasing charges

Do you think there are other areas where we could make savings to our local budgets?

## **Ōrākei** Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental restoration and pest control, Protection and restoration of local waterways, Youth initiatives

#### Tell us why these are most important to you:

In the Mayoral Proposal, agreed by the Governing Body, the proposed reduction in operating costs would require the Ōrākei Local Board to find \$650,000 in savings in 2023/2024 from a discretionary budget of \$1.4 million. In the time

frame available to us this discretionary budget is the only one we can access to make these savings. We have proposed where these savings might come from and how they would effect the activities and services we provide in our supporting information (pages 158-161)

.What do you think of the savings we've proposed across our activities and services? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## **Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board**

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

#### Tell us why:

Please rank our proposed local board priorities from most to least important to you 1 = most important, 5 = least important)

Rank	Proposed Priorities
2	Explore initiatives and actions raised through the safety networks to improve safety in our town centres and neighbourhoods
4	Invest in closing the digital divide by supporting community groups to upskill all residents with technology to enable work, schooling, and connection
3	Fund programmes aimed at upskilling our residents, particularly youth, for emerging sectors
5	Continue to improve our sports fields and facilities to encourage active participation and access to sports and athletic activities for organised and informal use
1	Continue to support environmental activities and initiatives, including community-led activities, to respond to climate change, reducing waste and protecting our environment

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Library opening hours and services, Environmental restoration and pest control programmes e.g. Pest Free Urban South, Community climate action and sustainability

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

## Papakura Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental restoration, pest control, community climate action and sustainability, Arts and culture facilities and programmes, Youth programmes

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

## Puketāpapa Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Activities in parks and parks planning, Environmental restoration and pest control, Community climate action and sustainability

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

## Rodney Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Library opening hours and services, Ecological restoration programmes, Construction and demolition waste minimisation programme

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

## **Upper Harbour Local Board**

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental restoration and pest control e.g. ecology initiatives assistance programme, Protection and restoration of local waterways e.g. Inanga spawning sites, Waste minimisation and sediment education e.g. construction waste education and leadership

#### Tell us why these are most important to you:

## Waiheke Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community climate action and sustainability programmes, Environmental contestable grants and pest control, Protection and restoration of local waterways

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

## Waitākere Ranges Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community facilities, services and activities, Environmental activities e.g. pest control and wildlife protection on west coast beaches, Climate action and sustainability initiatives

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

## Waitematā Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Protection and restoration of local waterway e.g. Te Wai Ōrea lake and wetland, Environmental restoration and pest control e.g. Waipapa Stream, Community climate action and sustainability e.g. Low Carbon Lifestyles

Tell us why these are most important to you:

Do you think there are other areas where we could make savings to our local budgets?

#### Whau Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local parks, community facilities, and sports and recreation programmes, Protection and restoration of local waterways, Local planning and development e.g. for parks, town centre and street environment

Tell us why these are most important to you:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:  a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,  b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	I don't know
(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of	Do not
the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Mates. Don't rip apart our environment. It's preaching to the choir but god forbid any of you have kids who have to live with the consequences of anti-ecological decisions you make. They'll be hating you for a long time. Just look out for the bloody commu

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** DONT :reduce the number of Public Transport Services..Climate Change demands MORE public transport services.

DONT Reduce regional services such as community and education services, homelessness services youth services etc etc. These programs benefit the more deprived in our society and the social cost of withdrawing funding is very shortsighted and will be very detrimental.

DONT withdraw regional contestable grants.. they do a lot of good.

Dont stop funding Early Childhood centres... not for profit centres are hard to find and are essential in providing support for many families.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Never sell the family silver... Again a shortsighted policy and a loss that could never be regained

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

**Tell us why:** Business should pay its share of the rate burden and pay more if they pollute the environment in their pursuit of profit. Our rates directly support the quality of our lifestyle. I want clean water, clean air, green spaces, a good range of social servic

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

## What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Other

**Tell us why:**I support the three waters concept. The unpredictability of future weather events and the huge responsibility and cost of providing safe drinking water, dealing with waste water and storm water require I think a countrywide approach.

## 5. Local Boards

## Rodney Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? Other

**Tell us why:** As a resident of Puhoi who seems to get nothing but rubbish collection from my rates I am not particularly impressed by our local board's priorities

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Grants for community groups / organisations, Library opening hours and services, Ecological restoration programmes

Tell us why these are most important to you:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	I don't know
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.  Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

The roads in our area are in appalling condition and are dangerous

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## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** It's important to maintain support for Auckland Art Gallery. it's by far the best collection in the country (compare with the paltry display of art at Te Papa in Wellington), it's especially important for primary and high school students, university students, visitors and other citzens, to say nothing of artists themselves. We are not just hunters and gatheres, we are not just farms and factories, we are not just drains and streetlights, we are a civilisation.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

# Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** not proceed with if any: I don't agree with cutting funding peublic transport, venue pricing, ECE. Sell a golf course or borrow either the ability we have to do so

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Borrow, sell golf courses

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

Tell us why: Commit to support 3 waters which will take care of our pipes. Increase business rates in line with residential

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal

**Tell us why:**Implementation policy to Remove use of contractors in councils. For the same price you could hire a fixed term or permanent person to shadow the contractor and take over their skills and roles

### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	I don't
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	know
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	

Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Stop slashing funding from the poor and needy while preserving amenities for the wealthy. Eg golf courses. Disgusting and shameful. I support citizens advice bureau

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

# Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

### Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

### Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

### Papakura Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

# Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental education, Environmental restoration, pest control, community climate action and sustainability, Arts and culture facilities and programmes

Tell us why these are most important to you:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:  a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	l don't know
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.  Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	l don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

### What do you think of these proposals?

### 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

# Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

### Tell us why:

### Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

### Franklin Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

Tell us why these are most important to you: Do not support reduced funding for boards

Our communities have told us that providing a network of pathways (walkways and cycleways) between and within our local villages and town centres will help locals access services and facilities, and live healthy active lifestyles.

Our budgets cannot deliver a network of this scale without additional funding such as via a targeted rate. To implement a new rate, we would have to investigate further and consult with you again in a future Annual Budget process.

Do you think we should investigate a local targeted rate to fund a network of pathways across the Franklin Local Board area? Yes

# Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:  a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: CAB, and homeless support for just 2...

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: The shares can always be sold later, but selling off assets is never a good thing, in general.

Yeah, flick off the golf-courses, as they are used by a minority of ratepayers.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

Tell us why: Because most people cannot afford a significant rates rise.

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal

Tell us why: Should already be in place - WTF have Council been doin?

### Local Boards

### Hibiscus and Bays Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support most priorities

Tell us why: My 86 year-old mother has a house in Torbay, which she's had since 1962.

Still waiting for a footpath on her side of the road...

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community programme delivery, Local community grants, Library opening hours and services

Tell us why these are most important to you: My values.

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).  Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.  Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	Do not support
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Stop buying fleets of cars - use public transport, in the way you're telling ratepayers to do.

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I do not agree to proceed with reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited

by \$44m, as it will leave the Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki with a bare bones

budget that won't cover salaries and programming. I do not agree to proceed with cuts

to opening hours and do not agree with introduction of entry charges. I also do not

agree to proceed with reducing access to the arts via cuts to regional services, local

board funded activities, and regional contestable grants. Artists and our communities will suffer.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

### Local Boards

#### Howick Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why: I do not support cuts to Local Board budgets. Supporting the growth of creative

communities through the arts is a key priority for all local boards. We need to invest in our

communities if they're going to grow and worldwide research shows the arts bring

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental education, Protection and restoration of local waterways, Arts and culture initiatives

Tell us why these are most important to you:

### 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

What do you think of these proposals? I do not support the introduction of entry charges to the Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki.

All evidence shows this results in damage to the gallery through reduced visitor numbers and reduced commercial revenue from other gallery-based services.

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

# Important privacy information

Auckland Council draft budget 2023/2024 Monday 20 March 2023

Submission: <u>Do not proceed with reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited, (TAU) as it affects the operating budget of the Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki. Do not proceed with reduced opening hours or introduction of entry charges at the Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki.</u>

A public art gallery is an institution for human flourishing, guiding us all to new possibilities as we imagine and create more fulfilling lives and thriving communities. Art changes lives and the Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki provides transformational experiences to a diverse audience.

Cuts already proposed to the Gallery's operating budget leaves it with a bare bones operating budget of \$9.5m pa, after shared TAU services fees are deducted. This is compared to \$32.2m and \$18.6m that Auckland Museum and MOTAT received in full respectively in 2022-2023. This imbalance between the city's major cultural institutions leads to a great loss for the city – of tangata/people, of access to and care of the art taonga/treasures and of the future creation of culture in Aotearoa. And, unbelievably, TAU is expected to propose even more cuts.

The tangata/people at the Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki believe deeply in the significance of art to impact our everyday lives. Their knowledge and experience cannot easily be replaced. Highly skilled in developing outstanding visual art exhibitions, public programmes and valuable archives, they provide stimulation, education and well-being for all who visit the gallery. Close to 500,000 will visit in 2023. (MOTAT, 2022: 100,554 visits, Museum, 2022: 488,553 visits)

As kaitiaki/guardians, skilled visual art specialists care for the Gallery's irreplaceable collection. The 17,000 artworks are our national treasure, owned by the citizens of Auckland, with national and international importance. As a leader, the Gallery then attracts bequests, gifts and long term loans.

Entry charges do not work. There is plenty of data from independent researchers to demonstrate that the introduction of entry charges to the Gallery in 2018/19 caused significant harm for the gallery – around 30% less visitors, 60% less people joining guided tours and significant losses for the Gallery's other income revenue offerings, such as the shop and the café.

We strongly advocate for Council to recognise how vital it is to support the very core of the human creative spirit in the city through the work of the Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki. The Gallery provides opportunities for people to understand and celebrate who they are, were, and might be. A well-resourced public gallery is at the heart of a city's creative economy and can lead change for our future. We need to be able to re-imagine that new future, for our communities and cities as creativity is fast becoming one of the most influential forces driving today's global environment. The Gallery plays a vital role in enabling Auckland Council to achieve its goals for the four well-beings, social, cultural, environmental and economic, to support a creative, flourishing city.

The Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki is a world class public art gallery where creative talents can shine —let it grow and flourish through an equitable and sustainable funding partnership between Tātaki Auckland Unlimited and Auckland Council.

"We need to build a city where the creative talents of all people are used to foster personal, social and economic fulfilment. Culture delivers identity, provides inspiration and delivers creative opportunities for everyone. Isn't this a major aspiration for local and central government?" Robert Gardiner ONZM, CNZM, founder of the Chartwell Trust.

Yours sincerely,





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Several budgets ago, then Mayor Phil Goff commented 'we've already cut the fat, now we are cutting down to the bone.' The cuts at this point are removing limbs. They leave no growth for the city and don't enable investment in wellbeing or other factors. The rates in Auckland are some of the lowest in the country when compared to property values. The rates in the city centre have been set too low for too long (hence the need for the central interceptor). Auckland has no choice but to increase rates and increase debt. The only alternative at this point is to address the funding system for local government, including reapportioning GST to the point of origin.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all **Auckland Council's shares?** I don't know

**Tell us why:** I would hesitate to sell a long term strategic objective to satisfy short term goals, particularly given the likelihood of other climate-related events in the future.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

**Tell us why:** 7% is lower than the rise other regions are facing. Reducing the environmental rate during a time of climate crisis is both short sighted and foolish.

### Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

# Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	I don't
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	know
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** All of the proposed budget cuts are to very important services and are unthinkable. Transport, social services, childcare and arts? This is heartless and ridiculous

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: It's the worst time to sell. Partial sale is better than full but no sale is best

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Do not reduce targeted rates

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Support

Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Reduce funding to Tupuna Maunga Authority. This will hopefully save many hundreds mature, healthy trees on Auckland's Maunga.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

#### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: Recent weather events have shown that upgrades for storm water systems is imperative.

### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Reducing funding to Tupuna Maunga Authority will save a lot of money, and save very many healthy, mature trees from the chainsaw.

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

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### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** "Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$20 million" reducing these is short sighted and puts people at risk, who may already be struggling. Connected communities are more resilient. Reducing regional events and economic development constrains opportunity to make financial gain.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

Tell us why:

# Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

**Tell us why:** People are already struggling, particularly those at the lower end of the spectrum. Make good use of debt to support the wellbeing of people and communities. Perhaps focus on increasing rates for those more wealthy?

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**Increased investment in infrastructure for storm (and other) events protects people and their livelihoods (paying rates and other taxes). Builds resilience and confidence.

### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** One's that are investments in infrastructure - free pools are great, but the experience of going a to pool isn't something that can be used by people in the future. Building a pool is better as it will still be there in 30-50 year time. Funding 'free' activities isn't an investment in the future, it's simply enabling the experience in the moment. Fund infrastructure. No one likes rates rises but they are better than long-term debt. What's happened in cities in the USA should be a cautionary tale.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** An airport is key infrastructure - as much of this publicly used infrastructure should remain in public hands. Increasing rates is one way to do this. Increasing costs for airport users is another. It's a limited, finite resource - supply and demand - if

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

Tell us why: A 7% rates increase doesn't even keep up with inflation! Make it higher.

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**It's investment in the future, therefore it's a justifiable spend. The Government of NZ needs to step up to help out with this too. There is a blueprint and precedent in the Government's response to the Christchurch earthquakes.

### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes		
Cost changes in waste management, including:		
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b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	know	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).		
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.		
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.		
Changes to other rates		
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support	

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Maintaining reduced public transport services doesn't seem in line with Council's commitment to addressing climate change.

Reducing funding to local boards so significantly will mean Local Boards aren't able to provide things that are very important to their local communities.

Reducing homelessness funding seems like a failure to address an important issue affecting Auckland.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Other

**Tell us why:** Firstly, I don't believe we crucially need to sell off assets to reduce debt, as debt is still within the allowed limit. If we do need to sell off assets to reduce debt, I would support selling off Council-owned golf course land rather than shares in Auck

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

**Tell us why:** A slightly higher rates increase that enables less cuts to be made to valued community services would be preferable.

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**Climate change makes more extreme weather events like this more likely, so it's important we mitigate risks of future storms and are well-prepared to respond.

### 5. Local Boards

#### Waitākere Ranges Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why:** I own a house and until recently lived in the Waitākere Ranges Local Board area. I also work in this local board area. Through my work I am aware of how important it is to Waitākere Ranges Local Board residents to continue to have support for the communit

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental activities e.g. pest control and wildlife protection on west coast beaches, Climate action and sustainability initiatives, Local community events

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** Through my work I am aware of how important it is to Waitākere Ranges Local Board residents to continue to have support for the community-led and/or community-supported work to protect and enhance the natural environment. Reducing the budget available for

### Whau Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why:** I work in the Whau Local Board area, and agree that all of the priorities the Local Board has identified are important for our community.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community programme delivery, Protection and restoration of local waterways, Local community events

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** Through my work I am aware of how important it is to Whau Local Board residents to continue to have support for the community-led and/or community-supported work to protect and enhance the natural environment, especially the Whau River. Reducing the budge

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
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a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	_
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

What do you think of these proposals? Re fee to residents wishing to change their bin size: this should only apply to residents who wish to increase their bin size. A fee for downsizing bins disincentivises waste minimisation which goes against Council's goal of zero waste by 2040.

Re food s

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).

- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Sell the golf courses, which are used by comparatively few people. Then continue to support such foundations of a free democratic society like CABs, libraries, arts, cultural programs, education events, and gardens.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Other

Tell us why: Keep shares, thereby continuing some public ownership of the airport.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** not proceed with if any: '- Reducing our funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited to save a further \$27.5 million. This will deplete arts funding which is imperative for the wellbeing of communities.

- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, etc. As above, depleting funding for the arts will be hugely detrimental to communities' wellbeing and sense of belonging. Arts and culture are huge drawcards for tourism and taking away resourcing will reduce visitation to Tāmaki, and spending in the city.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all **Auckland Council's shares?** I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

W	/aste management rates changes	
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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.  Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	l don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Selling aial shares is short sighted and a really terrible time to do it.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

Tell us why: Rates should climb by at least inflation otherwise you are setting up to fail.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

# Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

What do you think of these proposals? In general, I think it is important to increase costs where required. It is nonsensical to reduce services or costs.

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost more in the long run.

Anything that impact the arts sector in Auckland will eventually end up impacting the rest of the country, as the majority of the artists reside in Auckland their work is developed in Auckland and they are programmed in Auckland

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	l don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

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# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

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## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

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#### Your feedback

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## Henderson-Massey Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Programmes and activations in community facilities, Funding and grants for arts centres and partners

Tell us why these are most important to you: protect zeal!

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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#### What do you think of these proposals?

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

### Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** DO NOT! Reduce regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres. This is so important, it brings people together, helps with mental health, and increases conversation, tourism, and learning...so so much.

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** Council should both set a higher general rates to increase and make greater use of debt...make the rich pay more...

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was	Do not support

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

the arts is extremely important and an area which is already struggling for funding and it should not be cut even more!

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

I do not support the Tupuna Maunga Authority spending money on felling healthy trees.

# Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): OMEP (World Organisation for Early Childhood) Actearoa New Zealand

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** <u>not </u>proceed with if any: 'We are particularly concerned about the proposals to social, community, education, cultural and environmental services and events under Proposals A, B, C and D. A thriving city is one that enables a sense of belonging and wellbeing (see "The Auckland Plan" outcomes ) for all those who live there. Council has a responsibility to build community. Cuts to services and activities that enhance community belonging and wellbeing are short-sighted and may well lead to additional costs further down the track - in increased crime, homelessness, calls on welfare and health services, and impact of climate change, etc. It's not ok to move responsibilities that should be addressed now 'down the track' to future generations, with the likely effect of exacerbating problems and multiplying many times over the costs of remediation.

More specifically, we would not proceed with cuts to:

## Proposal A:

- ii. Education services, esp support for libraries and engagement with environmental issues
- iii. Regional events especially when, in your own words, such cuts might make the events no longer viable.

# 12167

- iv. We particularly opposed cuts to the CAB. CABs are unique as an accessible, affordable and very much valued source of advice to communities, especially to those who find it difficult for various reasons, including economic reasons, to access advice from fee-charging sources. They are already run with a very significant volunteer component.
- vi. Homelessness initiatives. This seems heartless in relation to those involved, and also likely to lead to moving costs to other social services. Plus, failing to care for those who are homeless and may have additional mental health and addiction problems gives a message both to residents and to visitors to the city that the Council doesn't care (and may also make the city seem less safe, whether or not that is a justified perception).
- vii. These initiatives, in your own words, support communities, including those most likely to be disadvantaged. They should not be under threat.
- ix. Climate action: we are particularly concerned that Council would consider cuts to community education and prevention programmes in this area. Climate action is needed urgently.

#### Proposal B:

We oppose these. Cuts to cultural and recreation facilities potentially impact on wellbeing - both physical and mental health. Neglecting these leads to increased costs on services in the longer-term. Play facilities, access to nature and natural environments are not 'nice to haves', they are vital to wellbeing and contribute to a low carbon environment.

#### Proposal C:

We represent members across the local boards, so will not be commenting on special local board areas. However, local boards have a vital role in their communities and it seems these cuts could have a major impact on their effectiveness.

#### Proposal D:

As an organisation with a specific focus on the rights of young children and their families, particularly in relation to education, we strongly oppose the proposed cuts to the provision of Early Childhood Education centres. The centres concerned are well functioning, with good ERO reports. Most importantly, they are of high quality, affordable and accessible to families. The Council's argument that there are plenty of other centres does not hold up. Alternative centres may not be located in areas of the city that house low income families and, sadly, the quality may be compromised by the profit motive of the owners. Also, affordability can be a huge barrier to the ability of families to enrol their children - the level of fees may make the centres unaffordable to many and, again, these are likely to be the children who could most benefit from the learning opportunities afforded by ECE. Moreover, quality early childhood services perform a role over and above their education function, in that they act as community hubs for support and advice to families and whānau. There are very few community based ECE services left in Aotearoa NZ. If Council withdraws funding, it is very likely that these valued ECE services will get picked up and franchised by corporate, profit focussed bodies, with the very likely result that quality will decrease and costs to families will increase.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** Council should both raise rates AND make greater use of debt. It is a responsible act to borrow for investment in activities that provide for longer-term essential services and facilities that build communities and a thriving, vibrant city. We oppose redu

## Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:** This section reads as though Council's proposals are focused on recent storms - which of course must be addressed, but Council should not be focussed only on repairs and replacements. Council must be proactive in the area of climate change - Council must

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

What do you think of these proposals? We oppose reductions in the National Environment Targeted Rate and Water Quality Targeted Rate. The proposed 'pause' may impact on essential work to protect biodiversity, wildlife and the wider environment.

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

The Auckland plan "identifies six outcomes that will deliver a better Auckland:

Belonging and Participation

Māori Identity and Wellbeing

Homes and Places

Transport and Access

**Environment and Cultural Heritage** 

Opportunity and Prosperity."

We support thes

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Organisation (if applicable):

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** not proceed with if any: These are all important expenditures for quality of life and living costs, especially for those who are suffering the most right now. It should not be sacrificed.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Having more government sway over AIAL is important in a climate and economic crisis, and right now AIAL is at a low point- not a good financial move to pull out right now.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** Auckland Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt. See what Greens have to say.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**Yes! Storms are going to keep coming, and we would be saving money by preparing for them, than only dealing with unmitigated impacts. My family's income is massively affected by storms, when the roads around Helensville get super flooded and they can't co

#### Local Boards

#### Rodney Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? Other

**Tell us why:** If the Council is going to renew the Helensville River Walkway viewing platform, wharf structure & cliver walkways improvements, then please also invest in good cameras etc, as it can be a dangerous area, and I don't want kids going there for fun, th

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Grants for community groups / organisations, Library opening hours and services, Ecological restoration programmes

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** Community groups and organisations use excellent resources and have unique access to resources, groups, and local knowledge, so are vital actors for solving local issues. They are also important for those that have low trust in government (for whatever re

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

# What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

We need climate action, climate change awareness, and to build our resilience, as natural disasters won't stop coming, and they will get worse.

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

These proposed cuts might seem small in terms of the Council's overall budget, will have a crippling impact on our arts, culture and creative sector, and youth and community programmes and services.

What does this mean for the rest of Aotearoa?? Will other councils follow suit and make cuts to the arts, a sector filled with already marginalized people? We're just trying to get by and each one of us offers a voice for many.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

#### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

### 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Tracto managoment rates onanges	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Local council has an obligation to look after its people. Reducing costs in community, social service, arts and creatives will directly effect those that contribute to our society in a way you will miss if they are no longer supported. Positive change only happens when it is collectively done. You cannot just fund the projects of those already privileged. Council and government means EVERYONE. Not just some. I do not support reducing costs for regional services.

# Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

### Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

### 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Do not support

b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** While funding community services and arts may not return in direct dollar terms, the services touch many many lives in positive ways. A vibrant and liveable city is needs more than infrastructure, it also needs the things that bring and hold a community together. Opportunities for people to gather and feed their spiritual resilience, to share each others culture, to be together and build a sense of belonging.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

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Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

### Local Boards

# Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
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Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

# 7. What else is important to you?

# Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with any of the reductions!! People are already struggling with limited public transport access. Reducing this would only further increase stress on roads as more people are made to rely on personal vehicles. Reducing access to things like zoo's and museums and art galleries due to relying on people to pay more is so stupid and unfair for families and tourists. You should NEVER reduce funds put toward education, arts and helping whānau access early childhood education. The funds are already stretched. To take them away completely is unfair and further punishing communities that need the help.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Selling these shares gets money short term not long term. You're making a mess for someone else to clean up.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

**Tell us why:** I'm not sure what impact this would have on renters. If it would mean that landlords would increase rent, I am against this. If it means that landlords will have to sell some of their multiple properties, I am for it.

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal

**Tell us why:**I do not trust that adding 20million will help fix this issue. It just means more money in the pockets of people who will sit around and talk about ideas but not actually get anything done. Money shouldn't be wasted on the promise of "the ability to prepa

#### Local Boards

# Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
--------------------------------	--

Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Do not
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	support
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not
	support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

# Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

# Important privacy information

Auckland Council draft budget 2023/2024 Wednesday 23 March 2023

Submission: <u>Do not proceed with reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland</u>
<u>Unlimited (TAU) as it affects the operating budget of the Auckland Art Gallery</u>
<u>Toi o Tāmaki. Do not proceed with reduced opening hours or introduction of entry charges at the Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki.</u>

A public art gallery is crucial to the social and political wellbeing of a city, and to the capacity of individuals within it to thrive. Art makes a difference in people's lives. Specifically, the Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki provides transformational experiences to a diverse audience and should be publicly resourced to continue doing so.

Cuts proposed to the Gallery's operating budget leaves it with an operating budget of \$9.5m pa, after shared TAU services fees are deducted. This is compared to \$32.2m and \$18.6m that Auckland Museum and MOTAT received in full respectively in 2022-2023. This imbalance between the city's major cultural institutions leads to a great loss for the city: loss of visitors, loss of access to and care of the contemporary taonga commissioned and held by the gallery, and loss of artists and others livelihoods, which are in turn integral to sustaining cultural practices and wellbeing in Aotearoa. And, unbelievably, TAU is expected to propose even more cuts.

The people who work for Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki are qualified to do a job that matters, and that they believe in: upholding the role of art in our everyday lives. Their knowledge and experience cannot be replaced. Highly skilled in developing exhibitions, public programmes, research, building and maintaining archives, and as kaitiaki of both visitors and of the collection, they provide education and points of access for all who visit the gallery. Close to 500,000 people are projected to visit the Gallery in 2023. (MOTAT, 2022: 100,554 visits, Museum, 2022: 488,553 visits.)

Entry charges do not work. Data from independent researchers demonstrate that the introduction of entry charges to the Gallery in 2018/19 caused significant harm – around 30% less visitors, 60% less people joining guided tours and losses for the Gallery's other income revenue sources, the shop and the café.

I advocate for Council's recognition and support of Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki's work. A well-resourced public gallery is an essential organ within a city's wholeness, and can generate much-needed change for our future. The

Gallery plays a primary role in enabling Auckland Council to achieve its goals for wellbeing – social, cultural, environmental and economic – and as such, must be considered foundational within a flourishing city.

Yours sincerely,





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** As someone who has just travelled to Auckland (from ChCh) in order to attend a dance performance and visit the Art Gallery for the Tate exhibition, i would suggest that reducing support for the arts would be counterproductive in lots of ways. Not only do the arts contribute to the personality of the city, they also attract visitors and spending.

I personally feel that Auckland is just beginning to establish itself as a worthy competitor to Wellington in the arts space and it would be a shame for any cuts to be made.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	

b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

# Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Because youth centres are incredibly important for struggling young people

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

# Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

### Local Boards

### Henderson-Massey Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I don't know

Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local community and civic events, including ANZAC events, Programmes and activations in community facilities, Funding and grants for arts centres and partners

Tell us why these are most important to you:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).  Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	I don't know
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

### What do you think of these proposals?

### 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: As a former intern of one of your CCO's I have seen the positive impact your council organizations can have both within Auckland and for us uni students looking for internships. I was an intern for COMET Auckland for more than 6 months in 2022. During that time I witnessed how COMET carried out its operations to help improve the learning of students throughout Auckland. Having said that this decrease in the council budget would result in COMET not being able to continue with its internship program. We are calling for Auckland council to deestablish COMET as a CCO and enable it to become a trust fund. Moreover, transitional funding for COMET over the next three years would greatly help in maintaining their operation.

Thank you for considering our request.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

# Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
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a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

### What do you think of these proposals?

### 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Do not proceed with:

Reducing regional contestable grants.

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited

These proposed cuts, which while small in terms of the Council's overall b

# Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at **aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy** and at our libraries and service centres) and with the

# # 13293

Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** You should refrain from making any decreases, unfreeze the Water Quality and Natural Environment Targeted Rates, borrow more money, and keep the current package of rates in place.

As additional financing sources, you could raising parking fees, creating targeted rates, request assistance from the central government, or raise general rates.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Any future chances for revenue from this asset or a say in how things are done at the airport will be forfeited to the global businesses that are likely to purchase these shares if shares are sold in this manner, ensuring just a one-time return.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

**Tell us why:** Rate modifications, such as the unfreezing of the Natural Environment Targeted Rate and the Water Quality Targeted Rate, will bring in much-needed funds that can assist fend off the planned cuts. It is anticipated that unfreezing these rates will result i

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

### Local Boards

# Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Don't cut out all the parts that make Auckland a great city. Events, culture are what give life to Auckland. The last 15 years of change in this area have helped completely change the perception of Auckland to not only locals but New Zealanders!

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

# Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	I don't
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	I don't know
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	

Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	l don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Sell other assests such as golf courses or pony clubs. Maintain critical community services even if debt increases are required

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

## Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

**Tell us why:** The long-term costs of destroying or under investment in community infrastructure and environments will be higher than the additional debt costs. Add higher rate increases for residential houses that are uninhabited. Increase rates on large lifestyle bloc

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

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- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Add higher rate increases for residential houses that are uninhabited.

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** The arts and public transport are massively important to the health, wellbeing and general day to day mood and lives of AKL citizens. The suggested reductions are not appropriate

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

## Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	

Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Proceed with the proposed reductions

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
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## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, and funding for youth centres

No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

#### Waitematā Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Protection and restoration of local waterway e.g. Te Wai Ōrea lake and wetland, Environmental restoration and pest control e.g. Waipapa Stream

#### Tell us why these are most important to you:

Do you think there are other areas where we could make savings to our local budgets?

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	l don't know
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	l don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** These cuts will disproportionately affect low income families and make life harder for people who rely on these public services.

Cutting funding to arts and community cultural services will make Auckland unattractive, unliveable, culturally barren, as well as economically untenable for thousands of artists and creatives to survive.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** This is economically the worst time to sell shares and will produce low return and long term negative outcomes.

Public ownership should be maintained.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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#### Debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt.

Based on Auckland Council's assumptions and modelling, the highest possible rates increase that they investigated (>13%) would fall well within the boundaries of wha

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Please do not cut funding of urgently needed climate action.

Please do not cut arts grants and spending.

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Your local board: Outside Auckland

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** not proceed with if any: Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$20 million? Who on earth would think that's the correct move? Auckland Council exists to provide those services, in my opinion. People pay rates and see returns in "free" support, so it goes back into their pockets basically. I cannot believe you would think reducing critical services is okay.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all **Auckland Council's shares?** I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	I don't
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	know
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	KIIOW

(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Organisation (if applicable): Regional Film Offices of New Zealand (RFONZ)

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I am making a specific submission on behalf of the Regional Film Offices of New Zealand (RFONZ) in support of Screen Auckland, a division of Tātaki Auckland Unlimited.

RFONZ members are concerned about the implications of the below proposed reduction in the draft budget and how it may affect Screen Auckland's operations:

• Reducing our funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited to save a further \$27.5 million, with effects on service delivery (including economic development and tourism promotion) and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues in Auckland.

Screen Auckland, a division of Tātaki Auckland Unlimited, is a valued member of the RFONZ network, and Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland—its locations, infrastructure, crew and businesses—is considered a vital asset to New Zealand's national screen sector. Auckland's screen industry is now worth more than \$1.5 billion a year and employs 8400 people, having experienced impressive growth and resilience over the last few years despite the impacts of the pandemic.

The RFONZ network takes an "NZ Inc." approach to collaborating across the country and acknowledges that Auckland's infrastructure and crew base in particular are vital in attracting international production to New Zealand, with benefits that then flow to the other regions.

Screen Auckland, as the region's dedicated film office, plays a key role not only in attracting screen production, supporting the screen sector and amplifying its economic benefit for the wider community, but in facilitating productions that film in the region. This facilitation role enables and supports productions to navigate and comply with often complex permitting requirements and regulations that are essential to maintaining harmony between productions, the community, iwi, landowners and other key stakeholders. This is a role that cannot be underestimated for any region wanting to sustain a high volume of screen production and requires dedicated skills and resources.

Any reduction to Screen Auckland's services would not only have a negative impact on the screen industry and related stakeholder community in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland, but will likely have a negative impact on the national screen industry, which has been a New Zealand success story on the world stage for decades.

As many of the regional film offices sit within local government organizations ourselves, we acknowledge the need for reductions to be made due to ongoing budget pressures. However, we urge decision-makers to consider all of the above when applying reductions to areas that may impact Screen Auckland operations.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

## Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at **aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy** and at our libraries and service centres) and with the Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any

interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.



23 March 2023

Kei te rangatira, tēnā koe,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Regional Film Offices of New Zealand (RFONZ) in support of Screen Auckland and in relation to the <u>Draft 2023/2024 Auckland City Council Budget</u> consultation.

RFONZ members are concerned about the implications of the below proposed reduction in the draft budget and how it may affect Screen Auckland's operations:

Reducing our funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited to save a further \$27.5 million, with
effects on service delivery (including economic development and tourism promotion) and
pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and
venues in Auckland.

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industry and related stakeholder community in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland, but will likely have a negative impact on the national screen industry, which has been a New Zealand success story on the world stage for decades.

As many of the regional film offices sit within local government organizations ourselves, we acknowledge the need for reductions to be made due to ongoing budget pressures. However, we urge decision-makers to consider all of the above when applying reductions to areas that may impact Screen Auckland operations.

I am available to answer any questions or provide further information if needed.

Kind regards,

**Kahli Scott** 

Chair – Regional Film Offices of New Zealand Manager - Film Queenstown Lakes Co-Coordinator - Film Otago Southland

E: kahli.scott@qldc.govt.nz

P: 027 596 0542





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Your local board: Outside Auckland

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Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

# What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** The services proposed to be cut provide valuable services to Aucklanders, and people from outside of Auckland visiting for recreational, family and community enrichment. Reducing funding for these services will disproportionately affect lower income Aucklanders, many of whom will not be able to afford substitutive services provided for profit by the private sector.

All of these things may deliver quick wins for this budget, but they will leave long-term lingering scars on Auckland communities that will take years to repair.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Other

**Tell us why:** Auckland Council's strategic role owning shares in Auckland Airport allows it to make strategic decisions about this core piece of Auckland infrastructure, influence it to support Council goals and contribute to the long-term future.

Selling it would be

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local arts programmes, Local community events, Community climate action and sustainability

Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local community events, Arts / community programmes and services, Protection and restoration of local waterways

Tell us why these are most important to you:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?) Contestable and non-contestable grants, Open space low mow / no mow areas, Charges relating to community leases and licences

## Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local community events, Community climate action and sustainability activities, Protection and restoration of local waterways

Tell us why these are most important to you:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?) Mowing service levels on reserves, Local community grants fund, Community leasing charges

Do you think there are other areas where we could make savings to our local budgets?

## Rodney Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support most priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Library opening hours and services

Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### Waiheke Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support most priorities

## Tell us why:

# 14397

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local community events, Community climate action and sustainability programmes, Protection and restoration of local waterways

#### Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### Waitākere Ranges Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Arts and culture facilities and events, Environmental activities e.g. pest control and wildlife protection on west coast beaches, Climate action and sustainability initiatives

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### Waitematā Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Arts and community centre programmes (at Ellen Melville Centre and Studio One Toi Tū), Local community events e.g. Parnell Festival of Roses, Community climate action and sustainability e.g. Low Carbon Lifestyles

Tell us why these are most important to you:

Do you think there are other areas where we could make savings to our local budgets?

## Whau Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local parks, community facilities, and sports and recreation programmes, Protection and restoration of local waterways, Local arts and culture activities and programmes

#### Tell us why these are most important to you:

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	

Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

# Important privacy information







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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Proceed with the proposed reductions

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

Tell us why: Reducing debt and reducing interest payments are the most important consideration.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	I don't
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	know

c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

What do you think of these proposals? Regarding the Climate Action Targeted Rate: the council should not be spending a single cent on so-called climate action. The climate will do what it does regardless of any human actions.

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

I would like to see Tupuna Maunga Authority abolished. Failing that, their deranged plan to remove all exotic trees from Auckland's volcanic cones should be stopped immediately, and any funding allocated to it should be removed.

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I would not proceed with any of these reductions. They will be harmful to communities, commuters and other workers, the elderly & pothers & pot

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

Tell us why: Holding airport shares is not appropriate for a council.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

**Tell us why:** Current ratepayers should cover current costs. Auckland has already incurred enough hidden infrastructure debt in years gone past to the benefit of its older and past residents and detriment of its existing and future residents. Debt should not be further

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Support

b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Cuts to contestable grants, the Regional Services budget, local board funding, and to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors, which are already underfunded. Artists are often expected to work for free, and face careers that have very little stability and security, yet they greatly increase the richness and vibrancy of our city.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter, when they are already operating on a shoestring.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run. It will make Auckland a less desirable place to live.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**It seems inevitable that we will be facing more extreme weather events as climate chance worsens, but the additional budget will need to be spent wisely.

#### Local Boards

#### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support most priorities

**Tell us why:** Art, events and supporting kids to swim are all hugely important.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local arts programmes, Local community events, Library hours

Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support most priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Library opening hours and services, Arts / community programmes and services, Environmental restoration and pest control

Tell us why these are most important to you:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?) Contestable and non-contestable grants, Open space low mow / no mow areas

### Papakura Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support most priorities

**Tell us why:** I do not support the cuts to art and environment.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental education, Environmental restoration, pest control, community climate action and sustainability, Arts and culture facilities and programmes

Tell us why these are most important to you:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:  a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,  b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and  c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	I don't know

Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Do not proceed with:

Reducing regional contestable grants.

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited

These proposed cuts, which while small in terms of the Council's overall budget,

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
<ul><li>a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,</li><li>b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and</li></ul>	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I would not cut the arts and culture funding because it is such an integral part of the spirit of the city.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

### Whau Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I don't know

Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local arts and culture activities and programmes, Local community events, Local community grants

Tell us why these are most important to you:

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).  Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	I don't know
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: I chose to go to Victoria University over Auckland University because Auckland is completely awful to get around. I will not pretend Wellington is perfect, but cutting public transport funding is the stupidest idea I have ever heard on a pointless quest to reduce debt. Now is the time to make investment, there's a couple of reasons Auckland is constantly expanding out and it's because people don't like living in it - it's impossible to get around, to experience what's going on and it makes the city feel lifeless and sad. Cutting public transport funding, local services funding and early childhood services is going to have long term negative effects on how communities in Auckland operate. It makes me feel very good about my decision to leave though.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Other

**Tell us why:** The airport would never do anything stupid that the council could want to be able to have a proper say on. Do you realise shares are an asset? They will probably increase in value - why not put to use some of the bad quality golf courses? You don't have t

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

Tell us why: It's not worth the sacrifices, just raise them more.

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

#### Rodney Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why: But also please please please just fix the roads, you actually make Northland look good.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Grants for community groups / organisations, Investigating plan / policy development to future-proof the development of local assets, Ecological restoration programmes

Tell us why these are most important to you: Cutting these programmes will have significant long term effects.

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	I don't know
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.  Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	l don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Just don't cut everything. It is so stupid.

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Because these are essential services and the council can safely take on more debt

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

## Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

#### Waitematā Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Protection and restoration of local waterway e.g. Te Wai Ōrea lake and wetland, Community climate action and sustainability e.g. Low Carbon Lifestyles, Local waste minimisation activities e.g. Waitematā waste away

Tell us why these are most important to you: Christ you can choose between these things this is why you shouldn't slash and burn the budget this way

Do you think there are other areas where we could make savings to our local budgets?

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Council should increase

rates and

make greater use of debt as appropriate in

order to reject the

proposed cuts to arts & amp; culture funding and protect the cultural wellbeing of T

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## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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#### **Debt**

aki Makaurau Auckland

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

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Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

#### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? Other

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local arts programmes, Local community events, Community climate action and sustainability

Tell us why these are most important to you:

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:  a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	I don't know
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	l don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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# Important privacy information

#### **Auckland Council**

Re. Proposed Annual Budget 2023/2024 ("Budget")

23/03/23

#### Kia ora koutou

I am a full time touring & recording artist and singer songwriter and am writing, as part of the music sector, to voice my deep concern at Auckland Council's recently proposed Budget.

Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland and its people are still recovering from the lasting impacts of COVID restrictions and recent severe flood and cyclone damage - including many people like me working in our music, arts & cultural sectors who have suffered through two years of job losses and cancelled events.

Now is not the time to undo the hard work of our sector and Auckland Council's previous investment by taking away the things that give 'colour' and joy to the city, and which keep people wanting to work, learn and visit here, and thereby keep our economy pumping.

#### **Submission**

I submit that Auckland Council's proposed Budget poses an immense and imminent risk to prosperity and opportunities for Aucklanders and their businesses, which will have a consequent economic effect nationally, and on the talent pipeline and international reputation of Aotearoa.

The proposed cuts to arts & culture funding would stifle the music ecosystem and the benefits that music provides; and threaten the cultural well-being of our communities and the overall liveability, vibrancy, social cohesion and identity of Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland.

Of particular concern to me are:

- the reduction to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited;
- the reduction to Regional Services such as music programmes, community development groups, regional events, social services and local board funding and to Eke Panuku Development Auckland Limited; and
- the negative impacts this will have on under-represented groups such as Māori, Pasifika, youth, refugee, new migrant and rainbow communities who benefit greatly from the Regional Services' cultural initiatives which will suffer from the proposed cuts.

These proposed cuts will inevitably result in:

- Fewer music events.
- Job and income loss.
- Reduced Tourism.
- Harm to our cultural heritage and community well-being.

#### Response to Auckland Council's Request for proposed solutions

I understand and appreciate the enormity of the task Council faces. However, it is difficult to propose detailed solutions/options to overcome the Budget shortfall due to the lack of detailed financial information, and especially economic analysis of the impacts of the proposed cuts on Auckland's economy and employment prospects in the Consultation Documents.

When faced with making difficult decisions – either in expenditure or in policy – it is my understanding that best practice is to start with an evidence base. I don't see an evidence base for the proposed budget and am very concerned that the Budget has been prepared without due diligence, and the impact on current and future generations of Aucklanders has not been properly considered and understood.

## **Request of Council**

We urge Councillors to:

- **Reject this current Budget proposal** specifically, the cuts proposed to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited, Regional Services, Eke Panuku, Local Board Initiatives and Contestable Grants.
- Reconsider the proposed approach to addressing the current shortfall. I request that
  Council considers a different mix of financial levers other than decimating community
  investment (such as targeted rates increases, borrowing and/or asset sales) when preparing
  a revised budget.
- **Undertake robust analysis** of the impact that any revised proposal will have on the long-term prosperity and prospects of all Aucklanders.

A city is more than its infrastructure – and now is the time to invest in the recovery, and future resilience and prosperity of Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland and its people.

As is reflected in Council's own *Toi Whīkiti - Auckland's Arts and Culture Strategic Action Plan -* 88% of Aucklanders believe that the arts are good for you, 86% agree the arts help to improve society and 90% agree that they learn about different cultures through the arts. Music is the most accessible of all artforms, able to be enjoyed almost anywhere by anyone at any time - and it plays a vital part in nearly all arts & cultural events and initiatives.

- Music Boosts the local economy.
- Music Supports education and creativity.
- Music Enhances Auckland's identity.
- Music Fosters community.
- Music Improves wellbeing and quality of life.

Music helps make a city live, and be liveable.

Yours sincerely





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Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board-funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

All of these affect arts funding in Auckland. I DO NOT support anything that The arts are vital and essential in times of crisis. Young people NEED the arts to feel part of a community. This is NOT a time to be downscaling arts. It is a time for politicians to understand how investing in the arts can actually help decrease spending in other areas such as health and education. Involvements in the arts increase wellbeing, FUND THE ARTS ( PLEASE)

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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## What do you think of these proposals?

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## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

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#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**Considering the impacts of climate change on weather events, events such as the recent storm will only get worse - the city should be prepared.

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I would not proceed with the following cuts: reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited, reducing regional services, reducing local board funded activities, and reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

As an alumni of UoA's Elam School of Fine Arts, who moved to Auckland to study from a small town in the EBoP, the arts scene in Auckland was the reason I spent 4 years of my life in the city. My education (both formal and informal) there influenced me to take on a job in the arts. I am struggling to support myself as an artist/arts facilitator in regional

Aotearoa; I empathise with the Auckland-based arts workers, whose livelihoods are linked to council-supported facilities and/or grants and services. It is already a struggle to operate in this system. The proposed cuts will make it untenable.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send the city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

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Tell us why:

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Tell us why:

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

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#### What do you think of these proposals?

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Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: • Do not proceed with:

- o Reducing regional environmental/biosecurity/biodiversity staffing or service
- o Reducing local board funded activities
- Reducing regional contestable grants.
- Do NOT proceed with reductions to Local Board budgets these are local and very targeted and in particular with the severe reduction in the Aotea Great Barrier Local Board budget and that of other Local Boards with large natural areas in their rohe (e.g. Rodney, Kaipātiki, Waiheke, Waitakere).
- Do NOT proceed with reductions in headcount/staffing ("Operational Costs") for teams working in the natural environment areas of Council on biodiversity, biosecurity and community conservation. These teams provide expertise and crucial support to communities working to restore the natural environment and increase our climate resilience.
- Why?

- o The combined effect of the proposed reductions above, along with pausing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) will be to gut community conservation on Aotea and across Auckland. No new NETR projects will be funded as the 22/23 budget is all allocated. No allowance has been made for delays to 22/23 projects due to COVID, supply chain issues or a very wet 22/23 season (the unspent portion should be carried forward to be spent as planned).
- These activities are not "nice-to-haves" or "wasteful" as the Mayor's introduction suggests. Auckland Council is already behind on its legislative obligations to maintain biodiversity, needing to make catchments and forests more resilient to extremes of heat and wet, when the public have clearly signalled support for natural environment investment in multiple consultations and when mental health researchers show a clear link between wellbeing and connection to nature. The proposal is out of step with all these factors and should not proceed in this form.
- o Environmental projects can't be turned on or off at will they require consistency of funding. A reduction of this size will send projects backwards and create dis-benefits as past pest management, planting and weed control efforts can't be maintained. The knock-on effect of the very sudden withdrawal of council funding could be disproportionately high on some projects, with reputation damage to Auckland Council resulting from wasted investment to date.
- o Auckland Council has acted as a seed funder for many environmental projects at critical times, allowing them to get started and attract volunteers and other private, philanthropic and government funding. This is very effective and efficient use of ratepayers dollars but is not recognised by the proposal at all.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

**Tell us why:** The Mayor's introduction to the proposal and the commentary are not neutral - steering responders down a particular path which:

- Frames community, arts and environmental spending as "wasteful" and "nice to have"
- Discourages an increase in debt above t

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

#### What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Other

Tell us why: Given the scrutiny on other spending in the proposal this \$20m item contains very little detail.

• What will this budget be used for? What will the criteria be for spending storm response budget? Who will have oversight of this to ensure equity of alloca

#### 5. Local Boards

#### Aotea/Great Barrier Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support most priorities

**Tell us why: •** I do not accept that such a sudden and dramatic a reduction in Local Board budgets is necessary. The cut disproportionately affects Aotea and there is no rationale given for this. On Aotea Great Barrier it will result in a reduction in OPEX from \$714k i

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental restoration and pest control, Protection and restoration of local waterways, Capital grants to sustain local community facilities

Tell us why these are most important to you:

## Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was	Support

established.

What do you think of these proposals? 1. Auckland Council will not meet its legislative obligations to maintain indigenous biodiversity under the RMA and LGA, nor will it be able to implement the NPS Indigenous Biodiversity or Freshwater.

2. There will be a negative impact on mana whenua if

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I would beg Auckland Council to absolutely never proceed with:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million. (If you maintain this and do not increase it NZ's attempts to mitigate Climate Change will not progress. Lower income families will not have as greater access to the region as higher income families who can afford petrol.)
- Reducing our funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited to save a further \$27.5 million, with effects on service delivery (including economic development and tourism promotion) and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues in Auckland (If you reduce this spending you'll be decreasing access to cultural and recreational activities!!! Young people, families, and adults NEED art and culture in their lives. These key venues offer this!)
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional
  events, economic development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$20 million (How DARE you. DO NOT REDUCE THESE
  SERVICES!!!!!!!! You cannot reduce the regions access to high quality arts and cultural events. You cannot afford to

neglect the homeless and housing insecure any more, you cannot afford to decrease community empowerment – community empowerment is how people get through a CRISIS LIKE THE FLOODING!!!!!)

- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million (If these activities are arts and culture activities DO NOT CUT FOR SAME REASONS AS ABOVE.)
- Reducing regional contestable grants to save \$3 million (If these activities are arts and culture activities DO NOT CUT FOR SAME REASONS AS ABOVE.)
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million. (HOW DARE YOU! Families need early childhood education to make their lives manageable. Young people need high quality education for their growth.
   The children of today are the adults of tomorrow if you neglect them now you are neglecting your future.)

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

**Tell us why:** Air transport needs to die. Climate Change is real and is risks everyone's lives. Please start to pull out from AIAL and use the money to invest in Arts and Culture and Education in the region.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

**Tell us why:** As economist Bernard Hickey keeps reminding the Govt and NZ – we can have more debt. We have an excellent Debt Rate in NZ, which means we are allowed to borrow more than we do. We can borrow LOADS more than we do. Make use of Debt to better the lives of t

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:** The Auckland Region needs to look ahead to Managed Retreat, investing in safer land for houses and community spaces, retro fitting land with better water management plans like in Stone Fields!

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:  a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	I don't know
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.  Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

There is plenty of Peer Reviewed Science in support of community spaces, arts, culture, and education as important things to invest in. Seek it out if there are people who don't think its worth while.

And, ask the councillors how many people watched Net

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Do not reduce spending on social, community and cultural spending. The impact on communities will be devastating and long term and end up costing more in the long run. When crisis happens, people turn to their communities. The mahi of organisations like TSI provides a huge return on investment and it is a short sighted idea to cut their funding. Tax the rich - for council this means rate payers.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

**Tell us why:** I think higher rates especially for people with more than one home or expensive homes/higher incomes is needed. Support increased debt also given the circumstances.

## Storm Response

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Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Culture and community is underfunded - do not cut services that help the communities that are persistently hardest hit.

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** <u>not </u>**proceed with if any:** Do not cut funding for the arts. We have already been so hugely impacted by covid and are still trying to recover. There are amazing dancers here in New Zealand. Known around the world but New Zealand doesn't know about that because there is already such limited funding. What a colossal oversight to dramatically cut arts funding. This would devastate the arts community for generations to come.

# Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all **Auckland Council's shares?** I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Support your artists. They bring culture, excitement, beauty and love. If you supported us we would bring more and give more to our community. Something that might enrich you and your family's life.

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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Reducing our funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited to save a further \$27.5 million, with effects on service delivery (including economic development and tourism promotion) and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues in Auckland

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

## Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	Do not
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	support

(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: It will make the bus service or miserable.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

# Hibiscus and Bays Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community climate action and sustainability, Library opening hours and services

Tell us why these are most important to you:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).  Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	I don't know
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I am dismayed by the proposed \$44M cut to arts budgets. Every thriving, renowned, iconic city has art and art museums at the heart of its identity. Art reflects who we are, brings joy and meaning, and demonstrates that we live in a society of many perspectives. It is provincial sad and short-sighted to propose these cuts, which will make the city's Art Gallery -- such a rich free resource for all, a place that should be celebrated and supported -- a shadow of its former self. That will be a shameful legacy and one that makes Auckland a poorer place.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	

c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Cutting funding to public engaging groups and services such as the zoo and museum is a short-sighted view on saving money at the expense of community wellbeing and vibrancy. With the climate crisis evident in flooding events around the country, the decision to maintain a reduced public transport service flies in the face of responsible action to try and reduce the amount of carbon emitted through transport.

# Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** The selling of state owned assets for short term benefit has been shown to result in lower quality and higher cost services in the future which negates any initial influx of money.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

#### Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:** Alongside an increase in rates to address storm responses there must also be action taken to reduce the impact of storms through promoting actions that lower carbon emissions and mitigation.

#### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
--------------------------------	--

Cost changes in waste management, including:	
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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

# What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

# Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

# Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	

Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

#### Tell us why:

## Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	I don't know
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not
	support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

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Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send the city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

As a Wellingtonian, I travel to Auckland frequently to engage with arts and culture, and would like to continue this long tradition.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

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Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** The role of council is to represent the intwerests of all citizens, not merely those, like myself, who are ratepayers. The proposed cuts will improportionately impact those who can least afford it. Cuts to education, the arts and social programmes will damage the wellbeing of communities, especially younger people.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** If Auckland is to remain a leading international city it must retain control of key infrastructure like the airport. The privatisation of airports internationally has frequently led to profit gouging at the expense of service and quality, while extra cost

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** A mix of extra rates and debt are a sensible approach. The city faces unprecedented issues largely as a consequence of underinvestment over decades.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Other

**Tell us why:** The proposed \$20m spend is a pop-gun response to the charging elephant of climate change and weather events.

## 5. Local Boards

# **Howick Local Board**

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Protection and restoration of local waterways, Community facilities and services, Arts and culture initiatives

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** The fact that one is limited in the number of responses one can make to this question demonstrates that the Council has little interest in changing its direction. The question is a "Where would you like us to kick you the least?" approach.

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

I'm an older educated person with time on my hands. I'm therefore able to read the necessary information and take time to complete this response. What is being done to gain input from those who are not time-rich and used to responding to surveys like thi

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** not proceed with if any: The proposed cuts to the Regional Services budget, contestable grants, local board funding & Damp; Tātaki Auckland.

I am not an Aucklander, but look to the super-city as a beacon of art and culture within Aotearoa. I believe the cuts would negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

Culture and Arts are not just nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future: When a city's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our country more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

As a immigrant from the UK - the belief that I was moving to a country with a rich and diverse art and cultural sector was key in my decision to bring my family, and gain citizenship here. I had an established career in visual arts in UK before deciding to emigrate to NZ. Were I faced with the decision again, knowing I was entering an environment of cuts in the

sector I might make a different decision to bring my expertise here and contribute to this sector. I am sure other people would make simialr decisions based on the health of Arts and Culture in Auckland.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. Visitors like myself and my family who are based in the South Island but travel to Auckland to experience this culture will be less inclined to come. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

A reduction of this size will send Auckland backwards and Aotearoa backwards.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

## Tell us why:

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all **Auckland Council's shares?** I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).  Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	I don't know
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

# Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** not proceed with if any: Seek other means to increase revenue, secure central government support for specific initiatives/services, increase debt.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Maintain degree of local control and influence of strategic asset/service/contested land

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Both higher rates and greater use of dept. Rates/Tax is love.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

#### What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Other

**Tell us why:**Prefer to maintain all/some of the proposed \$125 million cut initiatives rather than increase operating costs by \$20m for storm preparedness/response work as an reactionary response to recent floods which I believe should be /are systems that are already

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	Support
(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	

c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

What do you think of these proposals? Support more public transport, safe cycle/walkways; increase parking fees.

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** The arts already struggle enough trying to find funding and raise money to proceed through with projects. Space and Financial Aid are already difficult to find in this industry so by reducing this, the arts will suffer more immensely.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:  a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	I don't know
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	

Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	l don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	l don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$20 million.

This is not specified well enough for people to understand impacts. The activities, events, programmes should be described more so that people can provide feedback on each.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** You haven't differentiated between types of businesses in your approach. Some larger businesses should be paying more tax possibly.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

# What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

**Tell us why:**You haven't described what the things are that will improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. What are they and are they one off or ongoing costs? Will they work? Is there an expert opinion you can cite?

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	

b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Please don't cut arts & Decause Wayne Brown doesn't understand their importance. They're really important for making Aucklandothe city it is.

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** DO NOT cut "regional services" that include arts & amp; youth groups. They are essential to the survival of our arts community & amp; Arts are essential for everyone's wellbeing & amp; artists livelihood.

Taking away opportunities for Aucklanders will also have follow on impacts to artists & amp; musicians around the country - who are still barely surviving post-pandemic.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

w	aste management rates changes	
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Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

# Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Do not proceed with CAB funding reductions as it is such an important service to the community/

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

Tell us why: Councils dont need to own these assets.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	Support
(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	

c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

# Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

## Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Other
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

What do you think of these proposals? Downgrade the whole criteria for pool and spa fencing. It has gone way past common sense and is now costing everyone far too much money- including council. We are an island nation surrounded by water, fencing off all private pools/spas to this level is nu

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Organisation (if applicable):

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## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

#### Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

## Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

## Whau Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support most priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Protection and restoration of local waterways, Local arts and culture activities and programmes, Local planning and development e.g. for parks, town centre and street environment

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** The environment and the health thereof is critical, and to underfund it would be a disaster not just for climate adaptation and mitigation in New Zealand's biggest city. The negligence can't go on any longer or be ignored/tolerated.

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:  a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,  b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and  c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Do not support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Proceed with the proposed reductions

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

#### Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

## Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

#### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community development and support, Parks planning, Protection and restoration of local waterways

#### Tell us why these are most important to you:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Proceed with the proposed reductions

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

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Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

## Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal Tell us why:

## Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
<ul> <li>a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,</li> <li>b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas</li> <li>(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and</li> </ul>	Support

c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions? I don't know

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

#### Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:  a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,  b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	l don't know
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).  Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

#### Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

## Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support any priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local community events, Sports and activities in parks, Library hours

Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### Franklin Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support most priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Franklin Sport and Recreation plan grants, Arts and culture programmes, Youth connection programme

#### Tell us why these are most important to you:

Our communities have told us that providing a network of pathways (walkways and cycleways) between and within our local villages and town centres will help locals access services and facilities, and live healthy active lifestyles.

Our budgets cannot deliver a network of this scale without additional funding such as via a targeted rate. To implement a new rate, we would have to investigate further and consult with you again in a future Annual Budget process.

Do you think we should investigate a local targeted rate to fund a network of pathways across the Franklin Local Board area? No

### Henderson-Massey Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Discretionary community grants, Programmes and activations in community facilities, Community-led environmental and water quality initiatives, and volunteer activities

Tell us why these are most important to you:

# Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

#### Tell us why:

Please rank our proposed local board priorities from most to least important to you:

Rank	Proposed Priorities
2	Investing in initiatives to reduce the impact of climate change, including tree planting, education programmes and environmental volunteers
1	Continue to provide residents with better quality facilities, parks and open spaces
5	Promoting activities to showcase our local arts and culture talent into career pathways
4	Continue to identify procurement, quality employment and social enterprise opportunities for our residents
3	Improving the well-being of our locals by supporting our local economy to become more efficient, resilient, and sustainable through our reduced budget

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local events e.g. Movies in Parks, ANZAC and local civic events, Community programme delivery e.g. community activations and placemaking, Youth programmes

#### Tell us why these are most important to you:

How do you think we could support our communities to be better prepared and resilient to extreme weather events like the recent Auckland storm?

#### Manurewa Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community lease charges, Environmental programme volunteers, Protection and restoration of local waterways, environmental education, community climate action and sustainability

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### Papakura Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support most priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental education, Environmental restoration, pest control, community climate action and sustainability, Protection and restoration of local waterways

#### Tell us why these are most important to you:

## Puketāpapa Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support most priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community lease charges, Environmental restoration and pest control, Community climate action and sustainability

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

## Waitākere Ranges Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support any priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental activities e.g. pest control and wildlife protection on west coast beaches, Climate action and sustainability initiatives, Local parks and facilities maintenance

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Do not support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions? I don't know

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

## Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Other

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	l don't
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	know
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	

Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Stopping provided early childcare as it prevent mother from working and will further the gender pay back due to mothers being held back due to child care duties as well as discouraging women to give birth to children

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Because it will mean that future investment and returns will be received just not as signficant and the council will still have a say in the going of the airport

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

**Tell us why:** Because increases in rates are not applicable to some families as they will be unable to form it. Increasing debt in also better then solely passing it on to the consumer

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: It is important to make sure that future instructure is suitable for stroming conditions.

#### Local Boards

## Ōrākei Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why: Because it will significantly beneficial for the community

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental education, Protection and restoration of local waterways, Youth initiatives

Tell us why these are most important to you: Because they are besa rey for the future viablity of the community

In the Mayoral Proposal, agreed by the Governing Body, the proposed reduction in operating costs would require the Ōrākei Local Board to find \$650,000 in savings in 2023/2024 from a discretionary budget of \$1.4 million. In the time frame available to us this discretionary budget is the only one we can access to make these savings. We have proposed where these savings might come from and how they would effect the activities and services we provide in our supporting information (pages 158-161)

.What do you think of the savings we've proposed across our activities and services? Support Tell us why:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Scrap the light rail project and stop doing unessacary projects

# Important privacy information





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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Proceed with the proposed reductions

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

## Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

## Tell us why:

## Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal Tell us why:

## Local Boards

## Aotea/Great Barrier Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Contestable local community grant rounds, Environmental restoration and pest control, Protection and restoration of local waterways

Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### Howick Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental education, Protection and restoration of local waterways, Environmental initiative volunteers

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

## **Upper Harbour Local Board**

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental restoration and pest control e.g. ecology initiatives assistance programme, Protection and restoration of local waterways e.g. Inanga spawning sites, Waste minimisation and sediment education e.g. construction waste education and leadership

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

## Waiheke Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental programmes and volunteers, Community climate action and sustainability programmes, Protection and restoration of local waterways

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was	Support

established.	

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Do not support a reduction in early childhood education services because new parents will struggle with the financial strain.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

**Tell us why:** Selling shares will make greater prpfit than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

Tell us why: N/A

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed.

## Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	Do not
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	support

(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

N/A

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## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Transport is quite a basic necessity, so funding should not be cut as it would severely harm the vulnerable groups in our community.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Keep some proportion for future benefit, but sell some to alleviate the current pressures of budget deficit.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

**Tell us why:** This aligns with progressive tax system as homeowners are more likely to be higher income groups, meaning they are more able to pay these rates, which will be directly supporting the community and council.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

## Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Support

b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	
(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

## Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

## Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal Tell us why:

## Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Do not
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	support

c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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# 1. Operating spending reductions

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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Public transport is a very very important thing, it should be increased not decreased as that is taking a step backwards.

Other programs all have a purpose and it would be a shame if they went away

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

## Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal Tell us why:

## Local Boards

## Rodney Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I don't know

Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Grants for community groups / organisations, Investigating plan / policy development to future-proof the development of local assets, Ecological restoration programmes

Tell us why these are most important to you:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	Support
(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	0.000
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of	Do not
the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

At is very important to me that it stays operating maybe even at an increased rate. We should do more development to expand the at routes like light rail

# Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Auckland city should be at the forefront of cultural and environmental development. By all means streamline management but these services are essential to a world class city and if anything need more funding not less.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

# Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: More debt and higher rates. They're not mutually exclusive!

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	I don't know

Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

# Important privacy information





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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

## Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

## Local Boards

## Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Mana whenua

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

## Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Support
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	l don't know

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Selling the airport shares does not financially add up? Lossing the 18% sharehold in the Auckland International Airport would make the city fundamentally poorer and would take away Aucklander's level of control over a strategic asset. The Council does not

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

## Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

**Tell us why:** I have a proposed alternative budget attached as a supporting document.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Other

Tell us why: I have a proposed alternative budget attached as a supporting document.

## 5. Local Boards

# Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

**Tell us why:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Please rank our proposed local board priorities from most to least important to you:

Rank	Proposed Priorities
3	Investing in initiatives to reduce the impact of climate change, including tree planting, education programmes and environmental volunteers
4	Continue to provide residents with better quality facilities, parks and open spaces
2	Promoting activities to showcase our local arts and culture talent into career pathways
1	Continue to identify procurement, quality employment and social enterprise opportunities for our residents
0	Improving the well-being of our locals by supporting our local economy to become more efficient, resilient, and sustainable through our reduced budget

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Grants e.g. Community Grants programme and contestable grants

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

How do you think we could support our communities to be better prepared and resilient to extreme weather events like the recent Auckland storm? More education in schools, and work with climate experts to design a city that is built for our weather-changing patterns. Build a strong community to be able to deal with climate change as well.

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	I don't
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	know
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned,	Support

to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR	was
established.	

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

This is the time to invest. Not a time to cut.

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Please reconsider ceasing to fund arts and culture activities, particularly in terms of local unique museums and most in particularly Te Toi Uku Crown Lynn Museum. Crown Lynn is an important part of Auckland's and West Auckland historical tapestry. A now iconicly recognised part of nationwide culture but more particularly for Auckland. A diverse number of people and cultures came together to make it a successful innovator in New Zealand industry across many decades and there is no other institution like TTU to keep this piece of historical importance alive. So many people how have worked tirelessly to put the museum together and keep it running, it appeals to a diverse range of people. It is firmly in place now as a true heritage place and a keeper of Taonga which would otherwise be hidden away or forgotten about. I know they have exciting plans for the future to further connect, educate and engage with the community. I urge you to reconsider ceasing funding for this important place.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

Tell us why: Capitalise on the investment as it seems that now is when it is needed most

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	I don't
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	know
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	l don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

# Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

### Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

# Tell us why:

### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Arts, culture, venues and events are at the heart of Tāmaki Makaurau. If I am to pay for Eden Park, as a non-rugby person, then I want to ensure arts and culture infrastructure to be supported too. There is much evidence of the impact on individual and collective wellbeing when it comes to artistic and creative experiences and I strongly believe the impacts on the arts sector of these cuts will be felt long into the future.

# Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** If this means arts and culture programes, venues and events are able to survive this round of cuts, then I am all for saving elsewhere.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

### Tell us why:

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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•	i

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

# Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Do not cut arts, culture funding or community services. These are vital services contributing much to our city. An Auckland without a vibrant arts and culture sector is not an Auckland worth living in. Continue to invest in initiatives like Polyfest, Matariki Festival, Big Gay Out, Diwali, The Lantern Festival, Music in Parks, UpTempo, the Arts Festival, the Art Fair, the Writers Festival and CultureFest. These events are social infrastructure, supporting connection, community resilience and boosting the wellbeing of all who participate and attend. Keep Auckland's soul strong by contributing to fund these vital services.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all **Auckland Council's shares?** I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

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### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

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### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

# Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

### Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

# Henderson-Massey Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Discretionary community grants, Programmes and activations in community facilities, Funding and grants for arts centres and partners

Tell us why these are most important to you:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** None of these reductions should proceed. These reductions are all aimed at the citizens of Auckland and the reductions would severely deprive them of many aspects that make a community a rich and diverse place. Why is council not looking at reducing the amount of money spent on consultants fees, excessive salary packages, exorbitant contractor pricing and any other reductions that could be made inhouse where individuals gain exponentially financially before cutting community services.

# Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Selling the airport shares is a short sighted decision as the selling off of state assets has shown us. These shares belong to Aucklanders, keep them and make your cuts elsewhere.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

**Tell us why:** As the cost of housing has risen so should the rating value rise.

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:** Also get rid of the mayor who has shown he is incapable of managing any response to an emergency. His actions or lack of actions in the Anniversary weekend storms are indicative of his inability to lead.

### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes
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Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	I don't
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	know
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

**What do you think of these proposals?** Scrutinise those providing these services so that ratepayers are getting value for their money. It is no secret that contractors regularly charge councils more than is necessary.

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Mayor Brown has clearly shown that he is incompetent and has no respect for those he us meant to be serving. It is truly embarrassing that he is allowed to stay on in that position. I would like to register a vote of no confidence on behalf of all Aucklan

# Important privacy information





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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** The changes proposed appear vindictive and will gut the creative industries and the provision of social support and community support in greater Auckland, and by impact, beyond. These are all key aspects to life in cities and communities, and the minimalist, punitive government approach being pursued by the Council will do significant damage to Auckland's reputation and status as a desirable and liveable city

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all **Auckland Council's shares?** I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

### 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
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(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** These services don't sound like nice to haves, they sound like essentials for people to thrive and not just survive. I believe the proposed changes will hit the poorest the hardest.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase Tell us why:

### Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community climate action and sustainability, Protection and restoration of local waterways, Library hours

Tell us why these are most important to you:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	l don't know

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Climate action, community support, frequent and reliable public transport that is a feasible alternative to driving.

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): TAHI New Zealand Festival of Solo Performance

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

# Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

# Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

This is a time to keep the lights on and the life in our city.

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** 'As an artist and designer who makes a living from the already struggling arts sector I would like to suggest the following.

Do not proceed with:

- -Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,
- -Reducing regional services,
- -Reducing local board funded activities, and
- -Reducing regional contestable grants.

I have personally seen so many artists and creatives leave their creative sectors to go overseas or move into higher paying Jobs. The impact that the arts have on society is huge and should not be defunded. We will lose hard won infrastructure and support networks for artists and creatives if these cuts go ahead. I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

# 18748

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

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We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

**Tell us why:** This is not my field. I would hope that the government listens to professionals who study these issues and make decisions accordingly with the future of our people and planet in mind. I appreciate having a say but i feel that it is more important to pay h

### 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** Based on Auckland Council's assumptions and modelling, the highest possible rates increase that they investigated (>13%) would fall well within the boundaries of what they consider 'affordable' (that is, less than 5% of the median annual household inco

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: With the impact of climate change we need to invest now in infrastructure that will secure our future.

### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Better public transport run by non-privatised companies and an airport bus service.

# Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Playmarket

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Reduction of funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reduction of regional services,

Reduction of local board funded activities, and

Reduction of regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. Any reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and have huge impact on Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

(If you can think of any specific ways this will impact you or your organisation, please include those as well.)

We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

# What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

# Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

#### **Otara-Papatoetoe Local Board**

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

### Tell us why:

Please rank our proposed local board priorities from most to least important to you 1 = most important, 5 = least important)

Rank	Proposed Priorities
0	Explore initiatives and actions raised through the safety networks to improve safety in our town centres and neighbourhoods
0	Invest in closing the digital divide by supporting community groups to upskill all residents with technology to enable work, schooling, and connection
0	Fund programmes aimed at upskilling our residents, particularly youth, for emerging sectors
0	Continue to improve our sports fields and facilities to encourage active participation and access to sports and athletic activities for organised and informal use
0	Continue to support environmental activities and initiatives, including community-led activities, to respond to climate change, reducing waste and protecting our environment

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community programme delivery e.g. community activations and placemaking, Protection and restoration of local waterways, Community climate action and sustainability

# Tell us why these are most important to you:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not
	support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Rates are relatively speaking low when compared with other countries major cities. Politicians need to make the hard decisions cutting services is an easy decision.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

Tell us why: to cut services but to keep shares is a luxury services should be the last thing to be stopped.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

**Tell us why:** rates should go up it you dont have enough money to deliver services. Once services are cut it is very very rare that they come back.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**Local Authorities should be there when the community need them to build up reserves for this purpose just makes common sense.

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes		
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Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Do not proceed with any reductions and instead unfreeze the

Water Quality and Natural Environment Targeted Rates, increase borrowing, and maintain the general rates package.

An increase in general rates, a request for central government support, new targeted rates, and a lift in parking charges as alternative funding mechanisms are better options.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** The sale of shares like this ensures a one-off return only - with all future possible opportunities for income from this large shareholding or a stake in what is carried out at the airport lost to the multinational corporations who are likely to buy these

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** Rate changes, including unfreezing the Water Quality Targeted Rate and the Natural Environment Targeted Rate, will generate much needed revenue that can help avoid the proposed cuts. Unfreezing these rates for the coming year is estimated to raise over \$5

### Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

#### Hibiscus and Bays Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### Waitākere Ranges Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community facilities, services and activities, Environmental activities e.g. pest control and wildlife protection on west coast beaches, Parks volunteers and restoration of local waterways

Tell us why these are most important to you:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
<ul> <li>a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,</li> <li>b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and</li> </ul>	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

# Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at **aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy** and at our libraries and service centres) and with the Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any

# # 18864

interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

# Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

### Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

## Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Arts and events are an essential part of Auckland City. They bring in families and large crowds into the CBD which then add to the economic growth of the city.

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Keep the 10% and continue to collect dividends.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

## Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

# Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Support
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	

(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Being an artist myself where most if my income is derived through national artshows I do not support any cuts to the Arts sector as this will most definitely impact my livelihood

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** Residential rates are already barely manageable by the average wage earner...raise commercial and industrial rates only.

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Movement Of The Human

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The reductions have direct impact on People in multiple ways - INCOME, SERVICES, MENTAL HEALTH, EXPRESSION, The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and local wellbeing AND it affects the national arts and culture sector as a result. It will devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors which are already in crisis post covid.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future and the health and well being of the arts community is a life line to the health and well being of its people.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. Young people benefit - These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain residents and industry new and existing. The benefits and trickle on effect of the Arts is WELL DOCUMENTED and RESEARCHED - ARTS boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous. The ARTS is a holistic practice - the benefits of investment is expansive.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

With cuts direct jobs will be lost - people will loose their practice and we loose expertise and capability within our sector that will affect the entire country - and many of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run. Wellington city council made cuts in 2012 and in the Global financial crisis which cost it in the long run and have to invest in redeveloping creative assists it lost with short term thinking and cuts... its not a sensible decision - for the money spent there is a huge return throughout communities.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

## Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

# Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

#### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local arts programmes, Environmental restoration, volunteers and pest control, Protection and restoration of local waterways

Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Contestable and non-contestable grants, Arts / community programmes and services, Protection and restoration of local waterways

Tell us why these are most important to you:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?) Contestable and non-contestable grants, Arts / community programmes and services, Protection and restoration of local waterways

## Henderson-Massey Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Discretionary community grants, Funding and grants for arts centres and partners, Protection and restoration of local waterways, and ecological volunteers in parts

Tell us why these are most important to you:

## Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

#### Tell us why:

Please rank our proposed local board priorities from most to least important to you:

Rank	Proposed Priorities
2	Investing in initiatives to reduce the impact of climate change, including tree planting, education programmes and environmental volunteers
0	Continue to provide residents with better quality facilities, parks and open spaces
1	Promoting activities to showcase our local arts and culture talent into career pathways
3	Continue to identify procurement, quality employment and social enterprise opportunities for our residents
0	Improving the well-being of our locals by supporting our local economy to become more efficient, resilient, and sustainable through our reduced budget

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Grants e.g. Community Grants programme and contestable grants, Arts and culture programmes, Community climate action and sustainability

Tell us why these are most important to you:

How do you think we could support our communities to be better prepared and resilient to extreme weather events like the recent Auckland storm?

### Manurewa Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Reduction in service levels for community centres and arts centres (Nathan Homestead), Local community grants, Protection and restoration of local waterways, environmental education, community climate action and sustainability

Tell us why these are most important to you:

## Waiheke Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community grants programme, Community climate action and sustainability programmes, Protection and restoration of local waterways

Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### Waitākere Ranges Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Arts and culture facilities and events, Parks volunteers and restoration of local waterways, Local community grants

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

# Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** As the great philosopher John Dewey said "If art becomes the beauty parlor of civilization, neither art nor civilization can survive". In other words, art is a key component of society. It is simply unfair that the arts (and lower income brackets) become further victims of failed neoliberal dogma - using inevitable economic downturns as excuses for furthering the greed and folly of neoliberalism through continued cuts... while the nation grows richer.

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** I know that we are in an economic downturn, but the best remedy is not to cut programmes that will likely never be replaced, particularly in the arts. The arts have been ravaged in recent years -failing to keep up with inflation in de facto cuts of well o

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

**Tell us why:** The bottom line that in spite of a temporary downturn, real (inflation-adjusted) GDP Growth Rate in New Zealand has been "an average rate of 3.1 %" from Jun 1983 to Dec 2022 according to CEIC data. And there is no indication that this trajectory will not

### Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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I know that we are in an economic downturn, but the best remedy is not to cut programmes that will likely never be replaced, particularly in the arts. The arts have been ravaged in recent years -failing to keep up with inflation in de facto cuts of well over 30%, and it shows in a marked decline in quality. Cuts in the main arts center of Auckland will further accelerate this decline.

The bottom line that in spite of a temporary downturn, real (inflation-adjusted) GDP Growth Rate in New Zealand has been "an average rate of 3.1 %" from Jun 1983 to Dec 2022 according to CEIC <u>data</u>. And there is no indication that this trajectory will not continue.

So we (and Auckland) are overall wealthier than ever. It is just that the wealth has become concentrated in the upper brackets. Cutting the budget will simply hasten this inequality in economic and cultural terms. I think that some rate increase is reasonable. Rates affect disproportionately affect the upper incomes. The top wealth brackets own the lion's share of tax-free (long-term capital gains tax-free) properties. This should be combined with some debt increases. Growth will continue and inflation will decrease so the debt can be paid off.

As the great philosopher John Dewey said "If art becomes the beauty parlor of civilization, neither art nor civilization can survive". In other words, art is a key component of society. It is simply unfair that the arts (and lower income brackets) become further victims of failed neoliberal dogma - using inevitable economic downturns as excuses for furthering the greed and folly of neoliberalism through continued cuts... while the nation grows richer.





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Jazz Aotearoa

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Firstly, the proposal to reduce social services is a shocking one in a time of greater material hardship for New Zealanders, especially with regard to services for the homeless.

Secondly, as an artist, I believe arts funding should not be cut: New Zealand already spends paltry amounts on the arts in comparison to other OECD countries, and limited opportunities for artists reflect this. Cuts by the council would force even more artists out of the industry, which has been hit hard by COVID, and this loss would be felt economically and socially by the city, and by extension the country, for years to come.

Instead of taking money away from Aucklanders with the least, the council should increase rates, targeting the wealthiest households, as Wellington City Council has opted to do.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

**Tell us why:** It seems to me the blocking stake is important so that the people of Auckland have some say over the future of the airport. However as this doesn't guarantee that a takeover can be prevented, I can't decide if this is an important enough factor to have an

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

**Tell us why:** Property owning New Zealanders have benefited hugely from our bloated and unfair housing market. Those with the means can and should help pay for our social services. If rates increases are too much, they can always sell their overpriced assets.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: This seems like a no-brainer given the impacts of cyclone Gabrielle

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Transitioning the ECE's to other providers seems a reasonable and equitable option. Other cuts will have lasting impact on the city and it's communities.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: The airport is critical infrastructure. Losing influence over the airport will damage Auckland's economy.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

**Tell us why:** Council can afford to take on more debt (see Bernard Hickey's analysis) and residents can afford to pay more rates - particularly if they can see the benefit in their local communities.

## Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

## Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

What do you think of these proposals? Ensure funding for public transport - doing otherwise will make Auckland unliveable for current and future generations.

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Maintain funding for TSI - this organisation is building economic sustainability from the ground up - it enables south auckland residents to engage in democracy and build sufficient financial resilience to pay the rate increases that will be needed in the

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: 'Do not proceed with:

- Reducing regional services
- Reducing regional contestable grants
- Reducing local board funded activities
- Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited

I do not support these operating spending cuts as they will have a severe and permanent impact on Auckland's arts and cultural sectors with a negative impact on the city's local economy.

Maintaining investment in Auckland's future through arts and culture, is vital to ensure the city recovers from its current challenges.

The services, activities and grants being targeted by the proposals improve social cohesion, wellbeing and quality of life for Aucklanders. Arts and culture makes the city more inclusive, welcoming and attractive for new residents, tourists and industry. They make the city more prosperous.

These proposals reflect a lack of understanding in how arts and culture are a vital part of the everyday fabric of Auckland. Cutting this funding will negatively impact Auckland's local economy, including small businesses, hospitality, and retail sectors. These proposals will also disproportionately impact young people, Māori, Pacific peoples, migrant communities, and people living with disabilities.

Please do not proceed with these proposals and consider alternatives. The Annual Budget must appropriately recognise and value the role arts and culture plays in the city.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all **Auckland Council's shares?** I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).  Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	l don't know
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	l don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Please manage the budget shortfall through alternative measures to retain investment in the city.

# Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: I would see a reduction in funding to the arts a huge loss for Auckland and New Zealand on a whole. Auckland often leads the way on the arts and we look to the vibrancy of public programmes there. In times of anxiety and uncertainty the arts are a grounding and connecting element for the community. The likes of Depot and Northart contribute much to the arts community and the wider community. Once something is gone you can't get it back. These organisations enable creativity, connect people, provide jobs and opportunities. I live outside of Auckland but the only reason I ever visit is to see exhibitions or music/performance events.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

## Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

### Tell us why:

### Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions and am frankly, bemused that the council and Mayor would think this is an idea worth considering. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, well-being and our quality of life - this is evident in the Post-Quake environment of Ōtautahi, when arts and culture funding increased, and with it, the moral, well-being and community

engagement of the people of Ōtautahi. Culture makes our cities more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industries. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make our cities more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

Reducing this size will send Auckland backwards and cost the city and it's residents more in the long run.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all **Auckland Council's shares?** I don't know

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

Tell us why: And make a greater use of debt.

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**Our local infrastructure across the country is outdated and ill-equipped to deal with natural disasters - this was evident recently with Cyclone Gabrielle and the flooding throughout Auckland/Northland—however, a delay to current investments in a short-si

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Do not support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Other

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

## Important privacy information

Kia ora koutou,

My name is and I am an art curator and facilitator, based in Ōtautahi Christchurch. I am submitting feedback to the Auckland Council, specifically regarding the intended slashing of the Regional Services budget, local board funding, and to Tataki Auckland and am deeply against these. In fact, I am bemused these are even up for discussion, given how much research has been conducted globally about the prosperity of cities that incubate culture and communities. I am submitting this feedback as someone who regularly travels to Tāmaki to engage with the arts, visit world-class exhibitions, attend dynamic and exciting festivals, and generally stay in touch with a wonderful network of makers who lives in Tāmaki. These people and events, frankly, make Tāmaki an interesting place. Without artists, makers, thinkers, and innovators, cities are lifeless.

Auckland's arts, culture and creative sector make Auckland an enjoyable place to visit - as mentioned, my family and I make the effort to travel there regularly to engage with this magnificent arts community. Auckland's arts events, cultural festivals, and theatre, dance, music, comedy and other creative activities bring life to Auckland and bring the wider Auckland, National and international communities together.

An example of this is the upcoming Auckland Writers Festival - this is a world-class festival happening in your backyard, with accessible ticket prices and a dynamic, interesting and engaged programme of speakers. It offers communities the ability to hear leaders in thought, engage in masterclasses with these leaders, and generally, have the opportunity to meet and hear from nationally and internationally recognised writers and creatives when this opportunity is not offered otherwise.

The proposed cuts to contestable grants, regional services, local board funding and Tataki Auckland, while small in terms of the Council's overall budget, will have an outsize impact on our arts, culture and creative sector. If you have followed the news regarding arts and culture funding over the last few years, you would recognise that artists are sinking - the size of funding available to us is becoming harder and harder to access and is, due to this, silencing our talents and all-in-all, encouraging us to move overseas and take our talents elsewhere. Artists are struggling to live and I beg you to not make it even more difficult for us - we will leave in order to survive.

Central government COVID-19 funding reduced the impact from 2020 to 2022. That funding is now coming to an end, and our arts community is getting back on its feet. A range of festivals, art events and performing arts are coming back to Auckland. They bring with them tourists and money to local industries, including hospitality and tourism — if you are aiming to increase the revenue of the city, removing organisers and creatives from being able to create attractive events for tourists is not the way to do it, but the opposite.

Auckland Council funding is central to the post-COVID-19 recovery of Aucklands creative sector. The Council's continuing support for the creative community, commissioning of creative work, the grants available to support arts organisations, and the Council's support for arts infrastructure, such as our theatres, are essential to the recovery of Auckland and Aotearoa, by proxy.

Now is the time to invest, not a time to cut.

I ask, actually I beg, Auckland Council not to proceed with the proposed cuts to contestable grants, regional services, local board funding and Tātaki Auckland Unlimited and tautoko all of my colleagues who have spent countless hours advocating against these cuts - all done in a voluntary capacity. I encourage you to listen to those who make your city the vibrant place it currently is — without them, you will be left with a lifeless concrete jungle with nothing to do. In Ōtautahi, where the arts were nourished and incubated in times of uncertainty, retained its thriving, caring community of makers who now work hard to ensure our city is innovative, experimental and bustling with life - we advocate for it, not against it, as will occur if you remove artists and creatives ability to live in Auckland.

While you're welcome to contact me, I encourage you to contact those who live in your city, who advocate for the arts in your city and those who make it colourful. These people are speaking on the radio, and writing in the newspapers and who have submitted what I assume will be a huge number of submissions. Listen to them because without them, you have very, very little.

Ngā mihi nui,

Curator and Arts Facilitator





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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** No reducing regional services. This would be disastrous to the community.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

Tell us why: Seems like a good way to reduce debt

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

Tell us why: Makes sense to me.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: It's only going to get worse. This needs to be a priority

#### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	I don't
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b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	KIIUW

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: '- The Operational Cost reductions are not necessary and save little anyway. These have a clear ideological drive and do not provide best efficiency for Council service delivery. The mean-spirited cuts of some relatively low-cost (yet high-impact) programmes such as the Citizens Advice Bureau and in-Library pre-school sessions should particularly be avoided.** 

- Reducing public transport Opex at a critical time for Climate Mitigation and the need to rapidly transition away from private vehicle use cannot occur.
- Council has an obligation to support equal access, meaning that funding for social/cultural/sports programmes must be increased for disadvantaged groups.
- The artificial debt-ceiling does not need to be adhered to Auckland would remain in a strong financial position even with greater debt.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** '- As a key greenhouse gas emission source, it is important that Council retains a decision-making stakeholding in the Airport so that a transition away from high-emitting air travel modes is viable in future. This transition would be harder to influence

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

**Tell us why:** '- The artificial debt-ceiling does not need to be adhered to - Auckland would remain in a strong financial position even with greater debt. It is of little consequence what Report Card rating international private firms such as Moody's and Standard&P

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: '- I suspect Council will need much more than an additional \$20m/year for Climate Adaptation.

- Re-allocate funding from lower priority social programmes to Climate Mitigation to reduce the need for more costly Adaptation in future. Secure additional Cent

### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	_
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

What do you think of these proposals? '- Make full use of the CATR for climate mitigation measures, focussing on public and active transport transitions to maximise the efficiency of CATR spending.

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

- '- It is urgent to transition Auckland away from high-GHG emissions. The proposed mean-spirited and ideological cuts to services risks this Climate Mitigation transition at a critical time.
- Making greater use of debt for Climate Adaptation and large-sca

## Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** The arts and culture are a crucial part of Auckland's success as a city. The sector is already under pressure. Cuts would result in a dramatic loss to all audiences and citizens of Auckland, reduce the attraction of Auckland as a destination, make life even harder for arts practitioners, and cause lasting damage. Once arts venues and practices are gone it's incredibly hard to get them back. The city would be much greyer, much more boring, and much less lively as a result.

Therefore I would not make cuts to contestable grants or the Regional Services budget, nor to local board funding and Tātaki Auckland Unlimited. I am an arts practitioner who has lived in Auckland and continues to have art work produced in Auckland, and I raised my children in Auckland. I would urge you not to make cuts to ECE services either. Auckland is a vibrant city for all ages, and the health of the arts and the health of children are essential to the quality of life there.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

## Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Look into other ways of raising revenue.

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres are all critical to growing a city that people want to live in, where they and their culture feel seen, valued and recognised and where the city takes some responsibility for helping those who through circumstance beyond their control need a hand.

Do not proceed with reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$20 million.

Arts and culture programmes

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

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Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

**Tell us why:** This feels like a no-brainer if the reduced interest costs on debt are greater than that expected to come from dividends.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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#### Debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.  Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	l don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Cause the arts make Auckland vibrant and interesting for the people living in the city and VISITORS. !!

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Support
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	

c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

The fiscal crisis is overstated and mischaracterised by Council.

Decisions are being made too quickly for cuts of this scale

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

## Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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### What do you think of these proposals?

#### 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

The arts are vital to a thriving city and are needed more than ever as a way to recover after the series of disasters - from the ongoing global pandemic to floods and slips.

These cuts will have ramifications beyond Auckland, as it supports many creative

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  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I would not proceed with any of those cuts. Every single one makes peoples lives substantially worse, not just in that particular area, but across the board. Absolutely none of these 'cuts' save a single dollar in practical terms. It is some lines on a spreadsheet immediately and then billions of dollars of increased costs in the coming years.

If you don't invest in your public transport - you have failed your communities and environment. Jobs, school, life, all negatively impacted.

If you make cuts to Tataki it's a false saving. It will cost you more in the long term because now the assets are run down, guests don't visit (can't, the public transport isn't working), jobs are lost, revenue is lost. So you cut money now to hemorrhage money later.

If you cut your community investments - you have failed your community. You have pushed people out of the shared safe spaces and into unsafe and possibly criminal events. These all COST you money. So as with everything else, you haven't actually saved anything, you've merely cost yourselves an even bigger bill in the future.

If you cut local board funding - well that work still needs to be done? So what, you hire contractors instead of employees? Now you've just increased the bill, not saved anything. A purposeless cut.

3 million in grants? Are you kidding me? That's nickle and dime shit. Take it from a golf course water budget and get on with the day, this is a ridiculous cut not worth the time it took to include it.

Cut early childhood services - so now we're pushing an entire cohort of parents into unemployment, at a social cost to both Auckland and NZ, in the millions upon millions of dollars in social welfare costs, and other support. Because of 1 million dollars, which is such a small number in the scheme of things I can't even round it up to 1%.

You want to make cuts, that will cost people their lives, freedom, jobs and sanity. Over something that is so tiny.

Once again, maybe look at the golf course water bills and take it from there?

These cuts are illogical and end up COSTING Auckland a substantial amount of money in the long term. Has literally any of the people involved run a functional budget before?

You can run your car engine with no oil in it because it was 'cheaper' not to buy oil and not realise replacing the entire engine a week later is WAY more expensive. The oil was the cheaper, better option in every way.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Stop trying to 'save money' now when it's so clear it's going to massively cause debt in mere weeks or months. Think the entire process through.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

Tell us why: The rates increase is a red herring and the media/mayors team know it.

The actual cost is mere DOLLARS a week, even at the highest rate. Over the course of the year it is a couple of hundred dollars.

Stop hiding behind alarmist headlines and actually I

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

#### What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Other

**Tell us why:**You've got people in leadership who don't even believe in climate change. They shouldn't be going anywhere near something as vague as a 'storm' budget. This needs actual scientists, iwi knowledge seeing as these storms are happening on their stolen land

#### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).  Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.  Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	I don't know
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	l don't know

What do you think of these proposals? If you're rich enough to have a pool or spa at home, you're rich enough to pay the licencing fee to make it safe. Fair is fair. You want the asset/toy, you pay for it. Other people shouldn't be subsidizing your private plaything.

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

I'm still gobsmacked that apparently competent people don't understand how budgets and money works in real life.

None of these 'savings' are savings. They're just a way to cross a line out in a budget right now, that will cost everyone, and I mean eve

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** i want to strongly oppose the reduction of funding towards arts and culture in auckland.

The arts are as inherently human as walking or talking.

The measure of a healthy society is the measure of our arts and culture sector. We should not be reducing any support in this area, instead we should be increasing it.

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt.

## Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

### 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. Stripping away and eroding these services will erode the social fabric of Auckland City at a time when investing in the arts, in people, in wellbeing and connection is the most important for our future. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion and connection, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

For example, libraries are a key service in communities for many people. Reducing their services and hours and staffing has much more vast impacts than just access to books. Libraries provide FREE spaces for families, for adults, for students, for all people to connect. Access to the internet and printing services. Somewhere warm and dry to spend time.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Reductions to the arts and youth sector will harm the futures of young people living and growing up in Auckland. Art and youth programs provide safe spaces for young people to learn how to be upstanding citizens and participate in a society that is rich in culture. Funding cuts in these sectors will be devastating to the lives of vulnerable people.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Other

Tell us why:

# Managing rates and debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal Tell us why:

### Local Boards

## Henderson-Massey Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why:** There are so many organisations that rely on council funding. With a funding cut of 16 million, the priorities listed above are unlikely to be met. How can a local board say their priorities are supporting community organisations and community-led initiat

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Discretionary community grants, Programmes and activations in community facilities, Funding and grants for arts centres and partners

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** Auckland has such a rich arts and culture sector. Henderson has a beautiful community sector. The community organisations within Henderson help so many people. They are the backbone of the community. When the floods occurred, who responded to help their p

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** The middle of a cost-of-living crisis is not the time to cut back on services, it's a time to invest in the collective good. Many of the services facing cuts are ones that make our communities resilient and connected - exactly what we need in the face of the kinds of emergencies and events that have occurred in recent times.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Selling off shares provides a one-off return but cuts off any future income Aucklanders could receive from this asset.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt

No one likes paying more in rates, but it's important we invest in the things we need and the things that make Auckland a well-functioning, resilient city where people want to live. To put

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**This spending is the absolute minimum necessary to help keep us safe from the effects of future storms and flooding.

## 5. Local Boards

#### Franklin Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Protection and restoration of local waterways, Arts and culture programmes, Library-based programmes

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** All are important, there should be no cuts. Auckland is a rich city and businesses could withstand even a 20% rates increase to fund this great city

Our communities have told us that providing a network of pathways (walkways and cycleways) between and within our local villages and town centres will help locals access services and facilities, and live healthy active lifestyles.

Our budgets cannot deliver a network of this scale without additional funding such as via a targeted rate. To implement a new rate, we would have to investigate further and consult with you again in a future Annual Budget process.

Do you think we should investigate a local targeted rate to fund a network of pathways across the Franklin Local Board area? Yes

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tupuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Council should demand that central government gives greater financial support to New Zealand's largest city

## Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Brown Bread Ltd

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I believe that the wellbeing and prosperity of Aucklanders will be greatly affected if you are to reduce the following two items below.

The World Health Organisation cites the arts as especially essential for communities to thrive - especially through times of natural disasters, social division and economic hardship.

Our business works mostly in Tāmaki, however we live in Ōtautahi. The arts have helped us navigate the uncertainty of the last 10 years. This has helped us be resilient over multiple disasters.

Auckland is also famous for its diverse communities and to lose funding around festivals, community programmes and the arts will decrease the tourism and reason to live offer. You need everything you can get at the moment - with the cost of living - to say in the city. We are already seeing a migration down here. A further broken creative sector will not incentivise people to stay living there.

These are the main two budget items of your plan that we don't think should be cut.

Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$20 million

Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** It's important to have some buy in to a prosperous tourism industry.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

## Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

Tell us why: Use more debt this year. Then consult properly for the LTP on the major issues you are proposing to cut.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: Climate change is real. This is small change to start some band-aid work.

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).  Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.  Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	I don't know
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

# What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

arts arts. They need to be valued.

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Hospitality New Zealand

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

### Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

# Important privacy information



# Hospitality New Zealand

TO AUCKLAND COUNCIL

SUBMISSION ON
ANNUAL BUDGET 2023/2024

28 MARCH 2023

Hospitality New Zealand

www.hospitality.org.nz

# **About Hospitality New Zealand:**

- 1. Hospitality New Zealand ("Hospitality NZ") is a member-led, not-for-profit organisation representing approximately 3,000 businesses, including cafés, restaurants, bars, nightclubs, commercial accommodation, country hotels and off-licences.
- 2. Hospitality NZ has a 121-year history of advocating on behalf of the hospitality and tourism sector. We work tirelessly on behalf of our members to promote the industry, partner with government to prevent restrictive legislation, protect commercial interests and to spearhead innovation for a sustainable future.
- 3. As the trusted body, we seek to unlock the industry's full potential as a significant engine for growth in the New Zealand economy and to ensure that the industry's needs are represented by engaging with the Government and wider industry.
- 4. Hospitality NZ also administers the Accommodation Association NZ. The purpose of the Accommodation Association is to ensure that the accommodation sector is well understood by central, local government and regulators.
- 5. This submission relates to the **Annual Budget 2023/2024.**
- 6. Enquiries relating to this submission should be referred to Sam MacKinnon, Senior Policy Advisor, at <a href="mailto:sam@hospitality.org.nz">sam@hospitality.org.nz</a> or 021 026 72441.

## Overview:

- 7. Hospitality New Zealand welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Annual Budget.
- 8. Hospitality is important to local communities. We offer vibrant and diverse options for food and beverage, enhancing any community's quality of life and visitor experience. We provide safe and responsible accommodation options that contribute as rate-paying businesses to the local economy. We present job creation, development opportunities and career pathways for young people joining the workforce. And we support entrepreneurship through small business ownership in local communities.
- 9. We value strong relationships with local government as key partners. As with Central Government, the industry by and large looks to local government to set the right parameters to inspire business confidence, attract skills and investment to their region.

# Funding for Tātaki Auckland Unlimited

- 10. Of specific interest to Hospitality New Zealand is the proposed reduction in funding for Tātaki Auckland Unlimited (TAU).
- 11. The document outlines specific areas for TAU that could see funding reduced to balance the budget:
  - Reducing the role in marketing Auckland internationally to attract investment, business and visitors
  - Reducing economic growth and visitor attraction activities, including reduced spend in support for business events and major events attraction and bidding, and the marketing of Auckland as a tourist destination
  - Removing rates funding of economic development activities, so these will only proceed if they can be fully funded by central government or external partners
  - Reviewing pricing, opening hours, staffing costs and programming at regional facilities, which may involve the introduction of user pays in areas previously not charged for both Aucklanders and international visitors
  - Reducing subsidised access provided to regional facilities and community events that are currently free to the public
  - Developing industry funding models to support ongoing destination activity.
- 12. Hospitality NZ is hugely supportive of the work of Tātaki Auckland Unlimited. Their work in economic development and visitor attraction is significant to the vibrancy of the city, providing jobs and money for the Auckland economy.
- 13. While we recognise that the Council document signals TAU will still support a major events programme, limited or no investment in TAU from Auckland Council will no doubt have an impact on the agency's ability to deliver on the things the city has come to expect.
- 14. It is short-sighted to only view big-ticket events such as the FIFA Women's World Cup as those worth investing in. Ten events between July and October 2022, which were supported by Tātaki Auckland Unlimited on behalf of Auckland Council and with an investment of \$4.8 million:
  - Attracted a total live audience of 517,000
  - Generated an estimated 167,000 visitor nights
  - Injected \$18.7 million into the region's economy
- 15. More recently, sporting and cultural events held in Auckland between September 2022 and February 2023 brought \$38.2 million to the local economy.
- 16. There is a real potential that by reducing economic development and visitor attraction activities (both domestic and international), Auckland's reputation as a destination will stall,

and future investment in the city will be hampered. Auckland could drop off the radar for concert tours and sporting events, and the new International Convention Centre business could be rather confined to domestic conferences.

- 17. It is also worth noting that the visitor economy provides benefits for Auckland ratepayers when it comes to entertainment options, and drives the vibrancy of hospitality offerings. Without the visitor economy, Aucklanders will have less choice, lower quality and less competition.
- 18. Hospitality NZ recognises that there are funding pressures facing Auckland Council. However, we do not believe cutting funding to the Council's destination, events and economic development arm is the right decision. As tourism recovers globally, no other city in the world is restricting investment in these areas.
- 19. We also recognise that there are nationwide challenges to appropriate tourism funding. We are actively working with other business organizations, such as Heart of the City, Auckland Business Chamber, Auckland Airport, local boards and tourism development organisations in order to work out fair and appropriate funding model with the goal that the costs are shared equally among Council, Central Government and the private sector.
- 20. While industry continues to work on addressing those challenges, we recommend Auckland Council provide TAU with enough funding to keep the lights on, retain the expertise and intellectual property within the organisation and some event funding, so TAU can come back stronger once appropriate funding models are operational.
- 21. Any discussion around developing industry funding models to support ongoing destination activity needs to be broad-based and appropriately ringfenced, ensuring funding models are fair and equitable and that all businesses who will benefit from funding are captured in collection.

## Other Funding Opportunities

- 22. A particular area of missed opportunity for increasing local government funds is short-term rental accommodation (STRA).
- 23. The significant growth in STRA through providers such as Airbnb or Bookabach, has raised a number of concerns for the accommodation sector, particularly relating to the fact many peer-to-peer accommodation providers are not required to meet the same regulatory requirements of traditional accommodation providers, presenting an uneven playing field.
- 24. The STRA sector operates mainly in residential areas, only pays residential rates, operates with less regulation, and often escapes appropriate taxation. Where councils have tried to

regulate STRA operators, barriers for regulation include identification of STRA properties and lack of cooperation in data capture from operators and booking platform providers. In some parts of the country, the preference for rental property owners to convert to Airbnb or similar, is resulting in a lack of available long-term rental accommodation for workers and families, and impacting on the community feel of suburbs.

- 25. Hospitality NZ is advocating for the creation of a register of short-term rental accommodation properties, one that has a centralised national framework that councils are able to enforce locally. We believe there is a need to ensure appropriate health and safety and compliance requirements on peer-to-peer house letting is set at a national level, removing the need for local councils to come up with the rules and moving towards fair regulation of STRA operators.
- 26. Hospitality NZ believes proper identification of these properties, especially those essentially functioning as commercial operators, will allow them to be appropriately rated and provide some additional revenue generation for Auckland Council. It will also assist with addressing the housing shortage, offer downward pressure on rental costs by increasing housing supply, and provide Auckland Council with more control around urban density and improving community outcomes.

## **Conclusion:**

27. Hospitality NZ thanks Auckland Council for the opportunity to comment on the budget report.





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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

## Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## Whau Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support most priorities

Tell us why: I do not support funding for Te Toi Uku being cut or library services.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local arts and culture activities and programmes

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** Small museums like Te Toi Uku hold collections just as important as those held in the larger institutions such as Auckland Museum. Auckland Museum receives a blank cheque from the Council every year. If anything it would make sense to reduce the funding f

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I believe the servics to be affected by these cuts are important for the social cohesion and well-being of Auckland. So I don't support any reductions.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Council should still keep some ownership so it can sway future policy. I believe there is too much focus on the airport, and with the need to reduce emissions the value of the airport needs to be scaled back, not increased The plan to spend nearly \$4b on

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

Tell us why: We can't continue to burden future ratepayers for tasks that need to be paid for now.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

## Kaipātiki Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support any priorities

**Tell us why:** As mentioned before I do not approve of any reductions because the services to be cut are most important for the social well-being of the local community.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

Tell us why these are most important to you:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?):Community leasing charges, Parks programme volunteers, Parks and open space low / no mow areas

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
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b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

What do you think of these proposals? Some bus routes carry very few passengers. Use smaller busses or even mini buses on these routes.

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tupuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

I agree with the Mayor that road works sometimes restrict traffic flows unnecessarily, with inappropriate management. I also agree that speed bumps can be a waste of money and increase pollution.

Cycling is really important to reduce emissions and I cycl

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## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Please do not cut the funding to Auckland CABs and Libraries. These services are hugely important for older people or other people who are digitally excluded. Many people go to the CAB as they no longer get adequate help or resources from central government. I take your point that central government should pay but you should be pushing them to pay more since you are picking up the slack for them. MSD do not provide printed documents and this is hugely disadvantageous to people are are already facing disadvantages. You should put up the prices for events/tickets as this would not affect those on the lowest or fixed incomes. Tourism development should be running on a cost neutral basis as there are many companies in this sector that have shareholders and huge marketing resources.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all **Auckland Council's shares?** I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

## What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Other

**Tell us why:** Property developers are for profit - the infrastructure should be adequately priced so that they make a profit but not at the price of the ratepayers.

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

## Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Please DO NOT REDUCE FUNDING TO THE FOLLOWING 3

DO NOT Reducing our funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited to save a further \$27.5 million, with effects on service delivery (including economic development and tourism promotion) and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues in Auckland

DO NOT Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$20 million

DO NOT No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

Kia ora, The above are all essential to the health and well being of a community, supporting people in beyond so many ways.

I was born and raised in Auckland Tamaki Makaurau, and now live in Nelson. I regularly visit Auckland for the Arts and Culture, it is the closest thing I can get to an overseas experience. For example - the Auckland Art gallery, Auckland Zoo,

stadiums, etc frequently exhibit international art and culture. This is important for growth and development within our own country. To be challenged by new and previously unseen, unattainable extends our matauranga / knowledge. It offers an escape from reality while also supporting reality. They are places of fun, calm and escape while soothing also educational, engaging and inviting conversation. Providing meeting places, jobs, security, etc in unknown times. These are pillars of society and give people focus. Something / somewhere to comfort and challenge PEOPLE.

I visit from Nelson regularly, to be extended by the International Arts and Culture available that I cannot access readily in the real in my local community. If this is of benefit to myself, it must also be to others near and far. It opens doors, thought and possibilities. everyone needs a little possibility / hope in times of despair.

In Christchurch the first thing they reinstated after the devastating quakes were the play grounds and sports facilities and the arts.... kids and children were the first priority. This then fed into the community bringing joy to all.

Joy is a currency. Joy is sought by all. It sustains us.

On a more personal level, a very long time ago, when I found myself in extremely dark times - the Auckland Art Gallery - and the ability to visit and be cocooned by the art, with it's hugs and secret whisperings, literally saved me, directing my future vocation. Please NEVER EVER DISCOUNT THE VALUE OF ART AND CULTURE IN EVERYDAY LIFE. It unites, even if unliked! It is normally the art that is most hated that generates the most thought - it is the art that will be remembered and create discussion, which creates connections.

Art / culture sustains life - even for those who consider themselves un-arty!?

Survey those who visit an art gallery. It is all ages. It is all cultures. It is all people - not just artists. Ask them what their favourite art experience is - recently our Mayor surprised us - stating he loved 'crane ballet' - this event was held in a quarry! This immediately bought rapture to the audience.

#### PLEASE DO NOT DISCOUNT THE VALUE OF ART AND CULTURE.

It exists on so many levels, that destabilizing this would impact beyond imagination. It would impact the creators who create, the galleries who provide opportunities for the public to experience the art, institutions who display and share this treasure, along with all the behind the scenes employees, employers, marketeers, etc, etc.

INSTEAD PERHAPS - go to the ARTS for a solution. Find a more creative solution to fix this problem. Perhaps higher valued areas / properties are rated higher and lower areas less.

DO NOT CHARGE FOR ENTRY INTO THE GALLERY, ETC.... KEEP IT FOR ALL. KEEP IT COMMUNITY. ART IS FOR ALL.

The cave man drew for all after him to enjoy. We still do! We still marvel!

Or have optional rates increases - so the people choose the rates they pay. Alternatively (because not all a home owners) include a 3% tax on wine and cheese to contribute... probably not that one. However there needs to be a solution that maintains and even better enhances the current facilities, etc while solving the problem of a deficit.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** I swing between the Do NOT sell and only sell a few. I think once sold they can never be recovered. Then Kiwis will be at the mercy of other investors and we are already living on an expensive Island because monopoly and lack of supply controls living co

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** I am not a money person - this needs better than me to advise, however I do feel there has to be better options than flat out rates increases. What about one percent of all car sales goes towards the fund. etc, etc. Everyone seems to have a car or even tw

# 4. Storm Response

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Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

### Local Boards

## Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** The cuts to arts and performing arts should not go ahead.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: We need to hold steady in this crisis and not be afraid of debt.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

**Tell us why:** Debt is not something to be afraid of at a regional council level. Anyone with any economic expertise can tell you that it is something we should not be afraid to leverage in tough times like these.

## Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

**Tell us why:**I don't feel qualified to comment on storm recovery and don't think the information provided on this went far enough.

## Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Support
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support

c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** It would be like selling your house to reduce debt.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

### Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

### Local Boards

## Kaipātiki Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Funding arts and culture groups, Library hours and services, Protection and restoration of local waterways

Tell us why these are most important to you:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?):

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	l don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	l don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** These cuts are short sighted and will negatively impact many communities.

Do not reduce or cut any of these.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Do not sell at a low point in the market.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

#### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

Tell us why: I oppose the idea of cuts to these crucial public and community services.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local arts programmes, Environmental restoration, volunteers and pest control, Library hours

Tell us why these are most important to you: Public spaces for all, and looking to the future of te taiao

## Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

Tell us why: Do not cut community services.

Please rank our proposed local board priorities from most to least important to you:

Rank	Proposed Priorities
5	Investing in initiatives to reduce the impact of climate change, including tree planting, education programmes and environmental volunteers
2	Continue to provide residents with better quality facilities, parks and open spaces
1	Promoting activities to showcase our local arts and culture talent into career pathways
3	Continue to identify procurement, quality employment and social enterprise opportunities for our residents
4	Improving the well-being of our locals by supporting our local economy to become more efficient, resilient, and sustainable through our reduced budget

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Grants e.g. Community Grants programme and contestable grants, Library opening hours and services, Arts and culture programmes

Tell us why these are most important to you: Public places for all, nourishing creativity in a time of global crisis.

How do you think we could support our communities to be better prepared and resilient to extreme weather events like the recent Auckland storm?

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

What do you think of these proposals? All areas should have food waste collection available.

I do not support Council reprioritising the Climate Action Targeted Rate which was established just last year with overwhelming public support. The Council is now planning to plunder the Climate Acti

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Arts funding should not be cut. During difficult times creativity can greatly improve the health and well being of communities.

Citizens Advice Bureau should not be cut!

NO MORE CUTS!

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: These cuts are short sighted and will negatively impact many communities.

Do not reduce or cut any of these.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Do not sell at a low point in the market.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

#### **Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board**

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

#### Tell us why:

Please rank our proposed local board priorities from most to least important to you 1 = most important, 5 = least important)

Rank	Proposed Priorities
3	Explore initiatives and actions raised through the safety networks to improve safety in our town centres and neighbourhoods
1	Invest in closing the digital divide by supporting community groups to upskill all residents with technology to enable work, schooling, and connection
4	Fund programmes aimed at upskilling our residents, particularly youth, for emerging sectors
5	Continue to improve our sports fields and facilities to encourage active participation and access to sports and athletic activities for organised and informal use
2	Continue to support environmental activities and initiatives, including community-led activities, to respond to climate change, reducing waste and protecting our environment

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local grants e.g. Community Grants programme and contestable grants, Arts and culture programme, Library opening hours and services

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

What do you think of these proposals? All areas should have food waste collection available.

I do not support Council reprioritising the Climate Action Targeted Rate which was established just last year with overwhelming public support. The Council is now planning to plunder the Climate Acti

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Arts funding should not be cut. During difficult times creativity can greatly improve the health and well being of communities.

Citizens Advice Bureau should not be cut!

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# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: I don't think that the Council should cut or reduce funding for the Auckland Citizens Advice Bureaus (CABs). The CABs are centrally funded, and run by volunteers, it is a well-run service that has been in service for over 50 years. The services that CABs provide include help with housing and tenancy, relationship issues, neighbour disputes, employment and small business matters, consumer protection, immigration, income support and access to food assistance, as well as things like rubbish and recycling services, rates, local body elections, parking, water, sewerage, noise and nuisance and more. They are also responsive in times of emergency/ crisis. The CABs provided assistance during the recent cyclone/ extreme weather events including access to emergency accommodation, food relief support payments, advice about damage to property, blocked drains, trees, tenancy rights, and insurance. I don't think that an essential service like this, for people that can't get free help/ advice from elsewhere like councils, lawyers, unions, government or ministers, should be cut or reduced. It seems incongruous to the ideals of a council whose priority is to maintain the welfare of their people, who at this time, and into the future, are going to face difficulties in relation to cost of living, cyclone damage/ recovery, further natural disasters, poverty, job loss/ redundancies, and the everyday struggles that come with living in a large, dispersed and expensive city, to cut funding to a well-oiled machine that is centrally funded and volunteer run and lose all the benefits and assistance that comes with this service. A rates increase may or may not be welcomed by the Auckland population, but I think many would agree that a basic service such as the one that Citizens Advice Bureaus provide should not be

compromised at a time like this. I think priority may have to lie elsewhere, for the sake of the peoples welfare, access to free impartial services, and for the good that it does for many people and families in the community for little cost, and even for a potential return. We must not leave people behind, we succeed and flourish together, through supporting and thinking of those at the bottom, or who are quickly falling behind. An investment in the people is an investment in Auckland. Ngā mihi.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

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Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

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## Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

## 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Public transport services are vital to low income households. They reduce per capita emissions, which is essential to meeting Auckland's climate ambitions as a C40 city, and, y'know, preventing worse climate disasters than cyclone Gabrielle in future. Oh, they also make commute times better for those who choose private transport, by reducing the number of single occupant metal boxes on the road. So this proposed reduction is foolish.

The other reductions are foolish also. These are not simply costs to a ratepayer, but investments in its residents. The amount of money that an individual ratepayer contributes towards these activities is relatively small and the benefit of publicly-funded services generally exceeds what could be had if we instead adopted a user-pays system.

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Selling at a low point in the market is not very smart.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** The council should set higher rates and make greater use of debt. It needs to raise funding in order to invest in the city, and in particular to adapt to climate change - Auckland will see more and more weather events that were confined to the tropical zo

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:** The science tells us we continue to get storms like this, and worse - especially if continue to put climate mitigation in the 'too hard' basket. If the cost of human suffering due to such events doesn't move you, then the economic argument should - it wil

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
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a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

What do you think of these proposals? The Climate Action Targeted Rate is well supported. Aucklanders understand the necessity of climate action and have agreed to help pay for it. The council should absolutely not abandon a necessary and popular fee, and has no mandate to do so.

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Reducing our funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited to save a further \$27.5 million, with effects on service delivery (including economic development and tourism promotion) and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues in Auckland - this has negative impacts on the quality of life for people in the city, the arts and tourism is integral to ensuring cities have culture and pull to bring others into the city and keep artists employed.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: This will mean you can draw on this lever in the future as costs continue to rise.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

**Tell us why:** Now is a time where people can't afford not to rely on council services. Budget cuts also means cuts to services. Councils need to maintain their service levels to ensure communities are safe and healthy places to live work and play.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Short term thinking

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
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  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I do not want any cuts to the funding of the CAB. The CAB is an essential service. It promotes equity in our community because it provides access to helpful information regardless of the background/money of the person seeking the advice. My dad used the CAB to apply for visas amongst other things- this reduced a lot of stress.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** People who pay rates enjoy the benefits of capital gains exemptions, they aren't accruing debt so much as making money from their investments, every year. Why not save some council money by introducing a capital gains tax and distributing that amongst your pockets?

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** These answers are so pointed, did Wayne write these himself? It's very important for the council to maintain control over the airport so as to provide an affordable SERVICE not an unchecked money making business. Connection to the rest of the country is s

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**No surprises here. Your council response was pitiful and had to draw on WCC staffing to help you through. I can't imagine Wayne was very happy having to interact with Tory Whānau in a tone that wasn't condescending and obviously racist. Your funding needs

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes		
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Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	l don't know		
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.			
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.			
Changes to other rates			
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't		
	know		
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.			

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Your attitude towards climate and arts funding is worrying at best and idiotic at worst. To cuts arts and climate funding is to deny Auckland its only desirability - do you think people go there to experience the motorway? Do you think tourists give a shi

## Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I support not proceeding with any reductions. Instead unfreeze the Water Quality and Natural Environment Targeted Rates, increase borrowing, and I'm potentially supportive of increasing rates.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** It's important that the whenua remains publicly owned to keep open the possibility of return to mana whenua. Sale is a drastic decision with irreversible consequences.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** Revenue should be raised in other ways to avoid budget cuts, e.g. raising rates and unfreezing the Water Quality Targeted Rate and the Natural Environment Targeted Rate.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**Impacts of natural disasters such as flooding are so much worse as the direct result of underinvestment. It is absolutely crucial that we invest in better infrastructure and resiliency as these events are expected to continue.

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Support

b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The overall effect of these proposed reductions show a lack of vision, multigenerational understanding, and will have a long-term negative effect on the wellbeing, sustainability, social cohesion, and structure of not only the arts, culture, and community sectors, but also the wider majority of the local economy, the liveability of the city, the potential for tourism, and the flow on effects for other collective benefits. This cost saving seems to have been suggested without a proper cost-benefit analysis that looks at the net wellbeing of the city something that must be held to the highest levels of focus.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future. You have to invest now to establish stronger community bonds and set clear intentions for the communities of tomorrow.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. There are countless examples of how this is true. The services these funds provide directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. The vision for a city that is inclusive, joyous, welcoming, and attractive are important features for any city, and the require ongoing investment and support. They tangibly boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous - but also can be experienced by all Aucklanders though a vision for accessibility and community support.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact so many facets of how this city works, and the lasting impact will be complex to recover from. This will flow beyond the immediate cuts and the flow through effect will be more complex than seems to have been currently considered. This has impacts for the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These features are core business. They are essential civic infrastructure that contribute to the future vision of our cities. They can't be value-engineered out. They are a requirement of a city. They are an expression of place. They are a fundamental part of humanity, and as a wellbeing focussed country there are expectations from our civic leaders to hold community wellbeing to the forefront - this seems to fly in the face of that.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run. Please ensure that this decision doesn't go ahead.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

**Tell us why:** There is more in the threshold available, and this can be supported with rates increase and additional debt to work through the next period.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

## Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at **aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy** and at our libraries and service centres) and with the Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any

interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Parents for Climate Aotearoa

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Do NOT maintain the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024. Bus services across Auckland have recently become unreliable, including leaving students stranded on public bus routes without being able to get to school, which leads to safety issues, distrust and ultimately less patronage. Reducing transport emissions is critical to slowing climate change. Funding to increase public transport options should be a priority. Mode shift from car dependency to bus (and train and ferry) use is low hanging fruit with a high return on investment in productivity, health and environmental outcomes. More frequent bus routes, free fares and, rapid decarbonisation of buses is necessary - not a reduction in funding and services as proposed in this plan.

Do NOT reduce regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres.

Do NOT reduce local board funded activities across all boards at the rates suggested as this will undermine local services and make suburbs and communities less self sufficient and resilient.

Do NOT reduce investment in regional contestable grants - removing the Regional Environmental and Natural Heritage Grant, will undermine the innovation and significant volunteer hours that are delivered in support of environmental outcomes.

Do NOT reduce funding of sustainability education for our children including EnviroSchools programmes.

Do NOT cut regional support for community gardens across the region;

Do NOT reduce funding for the Climate Action grant, the Live Lightly programme, Home Performance Advice and sustainability support for marae.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

**Tell us why:** We do not support any cuts to the Natural Environment and Water Quality Targeted rates which fund conservation and the health of our waterways and beaches.

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: (Themed as per attached)

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes		
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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).		
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.		
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.		
Changes to other rates		
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.		
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.		

What do you think of these proposals? There should be no charge (or the first swap free) if the bin swap is for a downsize of a refuse bin or an upsize of a recycling bin. There should be no barriers to reducing waste, in keeping with the intent of the council's Waste management and minimisa

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

(Themed as per attached)

## Important privacy information

## Parents for Climate submission to Auckland Council Annual Budget 2023/2024

March 27, 2022

Contact: hello@parentsforclimatenz.org

Parents for Climate Aotearoa is a group of largely parents and wider whānau throughout Aotearoa, including Tamaki Makaurau. We are deeply concerned for our families and particularly the future of our tamariki and mokopuna in a rapidly warming world. Our parents come from a range of backgrounds and experiences, who stand for climate justice, to ensure all children have a safe climate and world to live in. We are very concerned for those already vulnerable, marginalised and whose voices are ignored in our society. They are most at risk of the consequences of climate change and by poorly thought out mitigation measures. Our society's role, led by the central and local government, is to ensure that no one is left behind. Our lack of urgency and action is being felt today with worsening mental health of our tamariki, rangatahi and parents and will be felt by our children tomorrow - many people, particularly women and children are hurting today around the world, from the consequences of global warming.

We support investment in climate action now

We need increased climate action across Tamaki Makaurau to ensure we have a safe future for our children and future generations. Council declared a climate emergency nearly 3 years ago - and subsequently introduced the Climate Action Targeted Rate which we support. We must invest in action now or it will be too late. We need to keep temperatures to 1.5 degrees if we are to minimise the impact of climate on our health, jobs, homes and way of life across the motu. Paying a little now to reduce emissions will mean we will have reduced severe weather events and impacts, resulting in adaptation and recovery response costs in the future.

In addition climate justice should be a criteria for spend - not everyone across the region has equitable access to public transport, active transport networks or a similar level of greenways and tree canopy cover. This should be addressed as a principle of the council annual budget allocation.

We do not support reduced investment in initiatives to reduce emissions and climate change

We have noted that there is an eroding of the council budget in this annual plan that impacts on the council's long-term plan, and investment in public transport as well as council and community-led climate action initiatives. Delaying and cutting climate action funding is detrimental as the cumulative effect of emissions heating our planet, means we will not only miss council and government emissions reduction targets, but we will have missed an opportunity to stop irreversible damage to our children's futures. We can not leave it to future generations to bear the brunt of climate impacts and also to pick-up the costs of making change - even with a high cost of living, this generation must continue to invest in necessary changes now to avoid increased costs later.

We are opposed to any reduction in spend on community-led climate action, including regional contestable grant funding (question 1 & 6).

Councils have begun to lead action across our communities and with that comes with significant challenges. Some of these challenges are funding and resources and crucially, a widespread lack of public understanding of the issues and the need for solutions. Councils cannot do this alone. We encourage you to continue to work with community groups and organisations, who can support community-led climate action to reduce emissions and minimise climate impacts. Auckland council must be a leader in climate action, as it has a significant influence and impacts a large proportion of the nation's population.

## Specifically we oppose:

- the reduction in funding and depriortisation of sustainability education for our children including EnviroSchools funding;
- cutting regional support for community gardens across the region;
- reducing the Climate Action grant, the Live Lightly programme, Home Performance Advice and sustainability support for marae;
- removing the Regional Environmental and Natural Heritage Grant, which will undermine the innovation and significant volunteer hours that are delivered in support of environmental outcomes; and
- any cuts to the Natural Environment and Water Quality Targeted rates which fund conservation and the health of our waterways and beaches.

We are opposed to the reduction in spend on public transport (question 1)

We are opposed to the approach to maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save money. Bus services across Auckland have recently become unreliable, including leaving students stranded on public bus routes without being able to get to school, which leads to safety issues, distrust and ultimately less patronage.

Reducing transport emissions is critical to slowing climate change. Funding to increase public transport options should be a priority. Mode shift from car dependency to bus (and train and ferry) use is low hanging fruit with a high return on investment in productivity, health and environmental outcomes. More frequent bus routes, free fares and, rapid decarbonisation of buses is necessary - not a reduction in funding and services as proposed in this plan.

Transport services must not only be geared for peak commuter users - but also for parents, grandparents and caregivers. This means including services on weekends and non-commuter hours like pre and post school times, to cater for things like travel to sports, after school activities or shift work.

We are supportive of the increased funding allocated to storm response (question 4)

There will likely be more severe weather events in the future due to the impacts of climate change - we need to make sure there is sufficient budget available to meet the needs of the community when these events occur. Changes to how we invest in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed, not just storm or flood response..

Funding can not only be provided for response services. There MUST be sufficient budget allocated to both mitigation to prevent further climate change and funding for adaptation measures to minimise climate impacts.

We caution the significant reduction of Local Board Funding to deliver local priorities, community and environmental outcomes (question 5)

Investment in local community facilities is critical to vibrant suburbs and community gatherings and maintaining community services, including library resourcing ensures access to knowledge and safe spaces free for those who most need support. Investment in local waste minimisation and climate action/sustainability is foundational to self-sufficient, resilient and empowered communities that rely less on support from council over the long-term.

We are supportive of some of the changes to Waste Management fees and charges (question 6)

We do not support the introduction of a \$40 bin swap for all refuse and recycling bins regardless of the nature of the swap.

There should be no charge (or the first swap free) if the bin swap is for a downsize of a refuse bin or an upsize of a recycling bin. There should be no barriers to reducing waste, in keeping with the intent of the council's Waste management and minimisation plan, required under the Waste Minimisation Act 2018. A cost recovery charge for upsizing a refuse bin or downsizing or removing a recycling bin is acceptable. The annual plan supporting information does not supply sufficient justification from across the country or overseas for applying a flat fee to all bins swaps. Applying the type of fee system we have suggested would not be out of step with the range of current practices in operation; and most importantly would support the council's need to reduce waste.

We support a new smaller reduce bin being made available to households in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas

We are supportive of the option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas. Access to a smaller and cheaper bin size is important to deliver on council's goals of reducing waste.

We support a tiered charging approach to refuse bin sizes

The smallest size bin 80L must be priced the lowest and be the cheapest per annum for a household to use. There is conflicting information in the additional information document on this (pages 39 and 104).

## Additional focus required in this year's annual plan

## **Education**

While we acknowledge the challenges councils face, councils are leaders in their community and so have an important role in community education. There is currently a lack of sufficient and sustained investment in climate education, behaviourally informed campaigns and effective climate action communication provided by Auckland Council.

Education and effective climate communications are a fundamental part of change. The council needs to make public education a focus and partner with its community in a range of ways. People trust leaders in their local communities, as well as friends and family. Studies have shown that one of the strongest climate actions individuals can take is discussing climate change with friends and family. A behaviour change campaign centred around community discussions, changing social norms and collective action, not just individual change, would help to bring more people along on the journey.

Education campaigns also need to work with a recognition that people are in different stages of life, different communities, and different stages of their climate journey. Communication plans could also include differentiated messaging for people already engaged, people firmly against, and people who can be persuaded. Our communities need storytelling and a strong vision, brought to them with creativity and imagination. Rather than technical detail, people need to see a positive vision for the better world we can create together. Minds and hearts aren't changed by facts and figures, they're changed by stories and values and discussions with trusted family and friends.

Nga mihi

Thank you for the opportunity to submit





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# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: I would not proceed with any reductions listed above. ALL options will harm the residents in Auckland. Reducing public transport will contribute to more road issues, more traffic, likely more road works, more petrol emissions, etc. Reducing funding to arts, zoos, stadiums, venues, etc, harms the community and how they interact with each other. Arts are vital for communities, it brings people together and increases happiness and the overall wellbeing of Aucklanders. Also reducing funding to homeless people is the most disgusting thing I've read. You will cause more homelessness, which will cause harm and complaints from Auckland residents; same goes for things like cutting economic development. Cutting community empowerment and funding for youth centres will cause more harm to youth, and likely more mental health issues. Reducing help for early childhood education is also disgusting, as with the current cost of living crisis it is VITAL for parents to be able to take their children to school. It is already getting harder and harder for parents to access, do not make it worse. Citizens Advice Buearu is also an essential service, that many Aucklanders need to access. Removing that access for Aucklanders will quickly cause issues for the wellbeing of residents and also harm the environment.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** As it is a low point in the market for shares, it is inappropriate to sell these shares, as more revenue could be acquired when the market picks back up again. Selling it now means this asset can no longer be leveraged or support future revenue raising fo

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** The Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt. Reducing funding to the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) is extremely inappropriate and irresponsible given the MULTIP

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**It is a priority for the Council to invest in making Auckland more resilient in the face of climate change and extreme weather events. The floods damaged so many livelihoods, housing, businesses, retail, the environment, etc, and to ignore that is irrespo

## 5. Local Boards

#### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support most priorities

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**Tell us why these are most important to you:** Local arts and events are extremely important for the health and wellbeing of Auckland residents. It brings people together, it encourages community, it encourages connections - people get fulfilment from these, and it greatly improves their lives. Protec

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

What do you think of these proposals? The Climate Action Targeted Rate was established just last year with overwhelming public support. Reducing services and funding to public transport is extremely damaging. It helps improves the lives of those who \*need\* public transport. Petrol costs, cost

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

I would like to emphasize on everything I have written above. Buses, Arts, CAB funding, community event funding, waterway funding, climate action, everything I have listed above in this feedback form is vital and essential for the entirety of the Auckland

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Don't reduce any budgets, increase debt

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

#### Tell us why:

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## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

# Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

These budget consultation documents need to be made accessible so that as many people in the community can contribute their feedback. For example, the information should be provided in easy read, braille, large print and audio - as well as NZSL.

It is re

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## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants

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- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
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a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Reducing funding in arts programmes is the surest and fastest way to lose the draw to a city. A terrible idea. If the future of auckland is to be on par with international cities, the only way forward is to increase, support and focus on the exceptional a

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: I support the AT system and arts funding. I don't want these funds to be reduced.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Other

Tell us why: Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Set higher general rates and make more use of debt.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

#### Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support any priorities

Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Library opening hours and services, Arts / community programmes and services, Protection and restoration of local waterways

Tell us why these are most important to you: I support sustainable movements in support of the environment. I do not want art services to be underfunded.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?) Local community events, Open space low mow / no mow areas, Charges relating to community leases and licences

#### Rodney Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support any priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Library opening hours and services, Ecological restoration programmes

Tell us why these are most important to you:

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Do not support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Funding for community empowerment and longer term art projects with roots and momentum/intention are the life blood of the Aotearoa creative energy. We need as much creativity, calm, community that we can give space to going forward. A cut to the arts sector is a blow for all of us. It is not happening in siloed communities - it has ripples out into all strata. Let's please decide with more love/abundance not fear/scarcity. Easier to say than do, but yah know what I mean? ;-) Thanks

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

**Tell us why:** We don't need more investment in Airports - it can go into more local hearty life force things - but I'd be careful about who the sale goes to!

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

Tell us why: Higher rates for rich (!) and cheaper for poor yes? That'd be the best one.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Communities need support. Without Arts and Culture you don't have a city with life and vibrancy and connection for all people. Auckland needs positive events and access to joy and community building through Arts and helping people who need it most.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** As soon as you sell shares you will be charge to use them anyway, private ownership is not the answer in the longterm,

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

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#### Debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

## Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Stop the cuts!

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Please do not reduce regional services - these community lead activities promote cohesion and climate resilience. By supporting these activities AC supports communities to face climate change.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

Tell us why: Avoiding debt where possible has many benefits.

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

## Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all **Auckland Council's shares?** I don't know

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	l don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

# Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Slashing the Arts and culture budget will be devastating to many organisations and community groups who are only just surviving coming out of Covid. If we lose funding now, it will be impossible to re-establish jobs at a later date and the loss of Arts and culture in the community will be felt exponentially moving forward.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	

Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal

## Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

#### Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local community events, Arts / community programmes and services, Funding support for youth activities

Tell us why these are most important to you:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?) Environmental volunteers in local parks, Open space low mow / no mow areas

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).  Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	l don't know
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

### 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Most of these initiatives have benefits that far outweigh the cuts that are planned. And would have many far reaching negative social impacts if they were cut.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

#### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local arts programmes, Community climate action and sustainability, Protection and restoration of local waterways

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** Community climate action and protection of our waterways is important to me because it's IMPORTANT For EVERYONE.

#### Aotea/Great Barrier Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

Tell us why these are most important to you:

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** These cuts will deplete the liveability of the the region. The arts and culture events and facilities bring also bring in economic benefits

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

### Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

#### Henderson-Massey Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why:** This is a time to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Discretionary community grants, Local community and civic events, including ANZAC events, Programmes and activations in community facilities

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	l don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Auckland Council funding is central to the post-COVID-19 recovery of our city's creative sector. The Council's continuing support for our creative community, commissioning of creative work, the grants available to support arts organisations, and the Coun

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: '-transport services

- -tātaki auckland unlimited
- -regional services
- -local board activities
- -early childhood education

These all play a HUGE part of what brings communites in auckland together and would be a massive setback socially and economically

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

# Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

## Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Economic Development NZ

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

# Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Please find attached Economic Development NZ's submission, which is primarily concerned with the reduction in funding for TAU.

## Important privacy information



## EDNZ Submission to Auckland Council - 2023/24 Budget.

26 March 2023

#### **EDNZ**

Economic Development NZ is a national, not for profit organisation that represents thousands of economic developers throughout Aotearoa-New Zealand. EDNZ exists to support its members and the goal of an inclusive economy through building capability, collaboration and thought leadership that is trusted and valued at a local, regional and national level.

#### **SUBMISSION**

Tātaki Auckland Unlimited (TAU) is a key, highly valued Economic Development Agency (EDA).

Considering the flow on impact to the wider Aotearoa-New Zealand Economic Development ecosystem, EDNZ is concerned with the proposed sudden and immediate reduction in operational budget for TAU. This potential reduction in TAU's budget does not allow opportunity to find alternative methods of funding. This will not just impact on Auckland's short and long-term economic performance, but also impact on the national economy.

This flow on impact confirms the scale and importance of the Auckland Economy to the nation and the role of Auckland as a primary international gateway.

We are particularly concerned about the following implications identified in the proposal document:

- Removing local funding for economic development activities will significantly impact on the
  national economy's ability to make productivity improvements. This is because the
  innovation within firms based in Auckland flows through the wider industry or value chain.
  This reflects the significance of Auckland and its scale advantages on the country as a whole.
- Reducing international marketing and attraction activity in Auckland will have significant
  impacts on tourism in Aotearoa-New Zealand. Auckland's role as the primary gateway to the
  country means the promotion of Auckland is equal to the promotion of Aotearoa-New
  Zealand. Any reduction in international marketing and attraction activity in Auckland is likely
  to impact visitation, investment and skills attraction more widely.
- Reducing support for major and business events in Auckland will limit the ability to promote
  Aotearoa-New Zealand through international events. Having events with international reach
  provides valuable exposure and allows regions to leverage off one another. TAU has
  partnered with a number of other EDA's over the years to attract such events. An example is
  SailGP, in partnership with ChristchurchNZ. This would not be possible moving forward given
  the proposed budget reductions.

In short, for EDA's to have powerful short to long term impacts, investment in economic development needs to be long term, certain and strategic. Stability, a clear focus and a funding commitment also provides confidence from international and national investors.

We strongly encourage Auckland Council to reconsider reducing TAU's operating budget.

Thank you all for consideration of EDNZ's submission.

Sincerely

Tania McInnes Chief Executive Officer





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

### Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal

#### Local Boards

#### Aotea/Great Barrier Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support most priorities

### Tell us why:

Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Contestable local community grant rounds, Environmental restoration and pest control, Capital grants to sustain local community facilities

Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### Hibiscus and Bays Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support any priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Funding for arts centres and partners, Environmental education, Open space low / no mow areas

#### Tell us why these are most important to you:

## **Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board**

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support most priorities

#### Tell us why:

Please rank our proposed local board priorities from most to least important to you 1 = most important, 5 = least important)

Rank	Proposed Priorities
0	Explore initiatives and actions raised through the safety networks to improve safety in our town centres and neighbourhoods
0	Invest in closing the digital divide by supporting community groups to upskill all residents with technology to enable work, schooling, and connection
0	Fund programmes aimed at upskilling our residents, particularly youth, for emerging sectors
0	Continue to improve our sports fields and facilities to encourage active participation and access to sports and athletic activities for organised and informal use
0	Continue to support environmental activities and initiatives, including community-led activities, to respond to climate change, reducing waste and protecting our environment

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local events e.g. Movies in Parks, ANZAC and local civic events, Parks activations and programmes, Protection and restoration of local waterways

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### Waitākere Ranges Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support most priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

### Tell us why these are most important to you:

### Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** <u>not </u>proceed with if any: The arts sector is a lifeline of enjoyment and livelihood for everybody- we cant underappreciate the providers of the content we enjoy to consume, and it maintains a rich and viable culture for our communities. Not too mention the absolute necessity of funding fundamental care and skills to those at risk- reducing homelessness funding even slightly is criminal- if anything there should be more support provided to those that are houseless, everybody deserves their basic necessities to assure them of safety at the very least, comfortability an aim and thriving the intended outcome! This proposal to reduce funds seems to mock pillar movements that help people remain happy and safe and equipped to move through life with community and some ease.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all **Auckland Council's shares?** I don't know

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes
--------------------------------

Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

# Important privacy information





Note: this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): John Walker Find Your Field of Dreams Foundation

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Regional contestable grants - agree that some cuts need to be made but there are some very valuable programs currently being funded that benefit local communities hugely.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

#### **Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board**

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

#### Tell us why:

Please rank our proposed local board priorities from most to least important to you 1 = most important, 5 = least important)

Rank	Proposed Priorities
2	Explore initiatives and actions raised through the safety networks to improve safety in our town centres and neighbourhoods
4	Invest in closing the digital divide by supporting community groups to upskill all residents with technology to enable work, schooling, and connection
1	Fund programmes aimed at upskilling our residents, particularly youth, for emerging sectors
3	Continue to improve our sports fields and facilities to encourage active participation and access to sports and athletic activities for organised and informal use
5	Continue to support environmental activities and initiatives, including community-led activities, to respond to climate change, reducing waste and protecting our environment

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local grants e.g. Community Grants programme and contestable grants, Community programme delivery e.g. community activations and placemaking, Parks activations and programmes

# Tell us why these are most important to you:

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	l don't know
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

I am the General Manager of the John Walker Find Your Field of Dreams Foundation and we are submitting the attached in support of the continued funding of our operational expenses to ensure sustainability of our programs.

# Important privacy information



24<sup>th</sup> March 2023

#### Re: Submission on the proposed Annual Budget 2023/2024

Attention: Mayor Brown and Fellow Councillors,

The John Walker Find Your Field of Dreams Foundation (FYFOD) would like to provide feedback on the council's proposed Annual Budget 2023/2024.

#### **Background to John Walker Find Your Field of Dreams Foundation (FYFOD)**

FYFOD is now in its 15<sup>th</sup> year of operation, and we currently engage over 60,000 young people across 10 programs delivered predominantly in South and East Auckland. Our programs are as follows:

- Community Swim
- Community Survive
- Primary Sport
- Lift for Gold
- Run Jump Throw for Gold
- Intermediate Sports Camps
- Kowhai Hearts Wellbeing Workshops
- Momentum Hub Leadership Academy
- Multiball
- Hungerball

The Foundation also partners with Camp Quality (kids living with cancer) and the Halberg Foundation to provide experiences and opportunities otherwise not available to them.

Our flagship program is Community Swim which we run in all 5 South and East Auckland aquatic centres. We currently put 20,000 Year 3-6 students from 91 schools through the program each year, covering the Water Skills for Life program. Each student receives 8 free lessons (inclusive of transport from school to the pool and back, pool entry, lane hire, professional tuition) which equates to 160,000 free lessons delivered. To date, the Foundation has delivered over 1.6 million free lessons to some of the most at-risk communities in Tāmaki Makaurau.

Historically Māori, Pasifika and Asian communities have been over-represented in New Zealand's drowning statistics, so the Community Swim program has been vital in providing water safety education to the children of South and East Auckland.

FYFOD receives funding from Auckland Council to support the operational arm of the Foundation which ensures programs continue to be delivered in our communities. This funding currently comes from the Regional Sport and Recreation Grants Program, and we have 1 more year to go of our 3-year contract. Given that this contestable funding is being reviewed, we would like to add our submission to support the continuation of the funding that allows our Foundation to achieve the results that it does.



#### **Return on Investment**

For every dollar that Auckland Council invests in FYFOD operations, the Foundation raises \$6.50 in return that goes directly to delivery of our programs. This return does not include the social value and impact that our programs have.

Since the inception of FYFOD in 2008, over 15 million dollars has been raised by the Foundation and injected straight back into the community.

Initially, FYFOD was solely reliant on Manukau City Council and then Auckland Council funding for all operational expenses including office space, IT, vehicle, and day to day administrative expenses. Over time, FYFOD has worked proactively to ease the burden on Council's finances by sourcing funding for these.

Over the past 15 years the overall amount of funding that we receive from Auckland Council has diminished considerably, while the number of programs and the reach of each of our programs has increased exponentially from 8000 participants in 3 programs in 2008 to over 60,000 in 10 programs today.

#### **Our Proposal**

The Foundation understands the financial challenges facing Auckland Council and that cuts do need to be made. However, we believe greatly in the work that we do in our communities and our outcomes and deliverables speak for themselves.

With this in mind, we propose that future funding of FYFOD falls under the Long Term Plan (LTP) to ensure the sustainability of our work over a greater period of time. The Foundation will be putting forward an application to be included in the LTP at the appropriate time later this year.

Thank you for taking the time to read our submission, and we look forward to a positive response and the continuation of our valued partnership with Auckland Council.

Regards,

Sir John Walker (Founding Chairman)

Richard Walker (Current Chairman)

Rick Pickard (General Manager)



### This submission is endorsed by our Board of Trustees:

Anna Soons
Armin Lindenberg
Arthur Anae
Colin Girven
Clyde Young
Sir John Walker
Richard Walker
Wendy Petrie
Sir Noel Robinson (Founding Trustee)
Gary Troup (Founding Trustee)

## This submission is also supported by the following people and organisations:

Andu Iordache (Founder and Chief Executive Officer – Hungerball) <a href="mailto:andu@hungerball.com">andu@hungerball.com</a>
Dave Lockwood (Group Manager – YMCA North) <a href="mailto:dave.lockwood@ymcaauckland.org.nz">dave.lockwood@ymcaauckland.org.nz</a>
David Comery (CEO – Waka Pacific Trust) <a href="mailto:david@wakapacific.org.nz">david@wakapacific.org.nz</a>
Deborah Malcolm (Deputy Principal – Chapel Downs School) <a href="mailto:deborahm@chapeldowns.school.nz">deborahm@chapeldowns.school.nz</a>
Finbar Marshall (Camp Manager – Camp Quality) <a href="mailto:c-m.akld.nth@campquality.org.nz">c-m.akld.nth@campquality.org.nz</a>
Gavin Walker (General Manager Partnerships and Funding - Water Safety NZ)
gavin@watersafety.org.nz

Hamish Imrie (Managing Partner – Platform 29) <a href="mailto:hamish@platform29.co.nz">hamish@platform29.co.nz</a>

Horst Miehe (Director – Swimgym) horst@swimgym.nz

Judy Tipping (New Zealand Manager – Watermark Training and Consultancy) judy@watermark.ac.nz

Kevin Williams (Operational Support Manager – Aristocrat NZ) kevinw@aristocrat.com

Rex Maddren (Principal – Leabank Primary School) rexm@leabank.school.nz

Richard Wright (Senior Lecturer – AUT Sport Leadership) Richard.wright@aut.ac.nz

Samantha McCloy-McKenzie (CEO – Ted Manson Foundation) samm@manson.co.nz

Sean Tagg (Co-Founder – Mixed Reality Sport) <a href="mailto:sean\_tagg@yahoo.com.au">sean\_tagg@yahoo.com.au</a>

Simon Kent (President – Weightlifting New Zealand) simon@navigateperformance.nz

Ted Manson (Managing Director – Manson TCLM) ted@manson.co.nz

Tom Smith (CEO – Halberg Foundation) tom@halberg.co.nz

Vaughan Couillault (Principal – Papatoetoe High School) vaughanc@papatoetoehigh.school.nz





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Wētā Workshop

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Who we are

Wētā Workshop is an award-winning concept design and manufacturing facility founded by Richard Taylor and Tania Rodger. For over 30 years, we have applied our innovation and artistry to the world's creative industries. Our work spans across design and manufacturing for film and television projects, location-based experiences (LBE), tourism experiences, consumer products, interactive and game development.

#### Our Auckland connections

In Auckland, we operate the award-winning Wētā Workshop Unleashed experience in the SKYCITY precinct, which opened in December 2020. We designed and built the travelling Bug Lab experience which was hosted at Auckland Zoo in 2017-2018. We also collaborate with film and television productions based in Auckland and, most recently, worked on Avatar: The Way of Water and The Lord of the Rings: The Rings of Power and M3GAN, all of which were filmed or partly filmed in Auckland (ASB Showgrounds, Auckland Film Studios).

For these reasons, we have a strong interest in the health of Auckland's creative, cultural and tourism sectors and the support these sectors need, especially as Aotearoa continues to build back from the impacts of COVID.

#### Our feedback

While Councils are having to adapt spending to a slowing economy and the impacts of COVID and the recent severe weather events across the North Island, we believe there is a critical role for local authorities to play in enabling and facilitating economic development opportunities and in promoting your region and city to potential visitors both in Aotearoa and offshore, notably Australia.

Specifically, the proposed significant reduction in budget for Tātaki Auckland Unlimited will materially affect the organisation's (and therefore the city's) ability to support the tourism and screen sectors.

These are both sectors that already make a major contribution to Tāmaki Makaurau's economy. The Auckland screen sector alone generates more than \$1.5 billion per annum and supports 8,400 jobs.

As inbound tourism continues to recover, this is a sector that could make a major contribution to Auckland and Aotearoa's economic recovery.

However, if your primary economic development agency is starved of resources – both human and financial, the key enabling function that supports activities such as screen production attraction, facilitation of screen projects and promotion of Auckland as a tourism, investment and creative destination will be lost.

We see this as an investment by the city that will definitely generate an economic return. Without it, opportunities will be missed not only in the short term, but over the medium and long term.

It should also be noted that Tātaki Auckland Unlimited does not operate in isolation in regards to promotion but that it plays a critical role in partnership with the business sector. It also works in tandem with central Government (e.g. New Zealand Film Commission, Tourism New Zealand, New Zealand Trade and Enterprise etc) to leverage the government's investment in and promotion of these sectors. For example, the government's investment via the Screen Production Grant incentivises and enables major film and television projects to film their projects in New Zealand. These opportunities rely on local authorities to facilitate and support projects through location and permitting advice, access to facilities and connections to local industry.

In a similar way, Tātaki Auckland Unlimited helps encourage tourism buyers, agents and aggregators and media, to promote Auckland to consumer and business travellers and for travel packaging and events. There is a risk that many of these opportunities could be lost without an active, resourced and engaged local government partner.

For these reasons, we would respectfully oppose the proposal to "reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited to save a further \$27.5 million, with effects on service delivery (including economic development and tourism promotion)."

We appreciate that there is an opportunity cost inherent in any decision to maintain, reduce or increase funding of Council activity.

In this case, however, we believe that a reduction in spending on economic development and on promotion and facilitation of sector activity will have a negative impact on regional GDP and, as Tourism Industry Aotearoa has pointed out, on the wider Aotearoa economy.

As the owner of a business in central Auckland, we would urge you to reconsider these proposed spending reductions and to find a more nuanced approach to balancing savings with investment.

Sincerely,

David Wilks

General Manager

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

# Important privacy information



# Making imaginary worlds a reality

## Wētā Workshop - Submission to Auckland Council on 2023-2024 Budget Proposal

Kia ora Councillor,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on Auckland Council's proposed 2023/24 budget.

### Who we are

Wētā Workshop is an award-winning concept design and manufacturing facility founded by Richard Taylor and Tania Rodger. For over 30 years, we have applied our innovation and artistry to the world's creative industries. Our work spans across design and manufacturing for film and television projects, location-based experiences (LBE), tourism experiences, consumer products, interactive and game development.

#### **Our Auckland connections**

In Auckland, we operate the award-winning *Wētā Workshop Unleashed* experience in the SKYCITY precinct, which opened in December 2020. We designed and built the travelling *Bug Lab* experience which was hosted at Auckland Zoo in 2017-2018. We also collaborate with film and television productions based in Auckland and, most recently, worked on *Avatar: The Way of Water* and *The Lord of the Rings: The Rings of Power* and *M3GAN*, all of which were filmed or partly filmed in Auckland (ASB Showgrounds, Auckland Film Studios, Kumeū Film Studios).

For these reasons, we have a strong interest in the health of Auckland's creative, cultural and tourism sectors and the support these sectors need, especially as Aotearoa continues to build back from the impacts of COVID.

## Our feedback

While Councils are having to adapt spending to a slowing economy and the impacts of COVID and the recent severe weather events across the North Island, we believe there is a critical role for local authorities to play in enabling and facilitating economic development opportunities and in promoting your region and city to potential visitors both in Aotearoa and offshore, notably Australia.

Specifically, the proposed significant reduction in budget for Tātaki Auckland Unlimited will materially affect the organisation's (and therefore the city's) ability to support the tourism and screen sectors.

These are both sectors that already make a major contribution to Tāmaki Makaurau's economy. The Auckland screen sector alone generates more than \$1.5 billion per annum and supports 8,400 jobs.

As inbound tourism continues to recover, this is a sector that could make a major contribution to Auckland and Aotearoa's economic recovery.

However, if your primary economic development agency is starved of resources – both human and financial, the key enabling function that supports activities such as screen production attraction, facilitation of screen projects and promotion of Auckland as a tourism, investment and creative destination will be lost.

We see this as an investment by the city that will <u>definitely</u> generate an economic return. Without it, opportunities will be missed not only in the short term, but over the medium and long term.

It should also be noted that Tātaki Auckland Unlimited does not operate in isolation in regards to promotion but that it plays a critical role in partnership with the business sector. It also works in tandem with central Government (e.g., New Zealand Film Commission, Tourism New Zealand, New Zealand Trade and Enterprise etc) to leverage the government's investment in and promotion of these sectors. For example, the government's investment via the Screen Production Grant incentivises and enables major film and television projects to film their projects in New Zealand. These opportunities rely on local authorities to facilitate and support projects through location and permitting advice, access to facilities and connections to local industry.

In a similar way, Tātaki Auckland Unlimited helps encourage tourism buyers, agents and aggregators and media, to promote Auckland to consumer and business travellers and for travel packaging and events. There is a risk that many of these opportunities could be lost without an active, resourced and engaged local government partner.

For these reasons, we would respectfully oppose the proposal to "reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited to save a further \$27.5 million, with effects on service delivery (including economic development and tourism promotion)."

We appreciate that there is an opportunity cost inherent in any decision to maintain, reduce or increase funding of Council activity.

In this case, however, we believe that a reduction in spending on economic development and on promotion and facilitation of sector activity will have a negative impact on regional GDP and, as Tourism Industry Aotearoa has pointed out, on the wider Aotearoa economy.

As the owner of a business in central Auckland, we would urge you to reconsider these proposed spending reductions and to find a more nuanced approach to balancing savings with investment.

Sincerely,

David Wilks

General Manager Wētā Workshop





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Your local board: Outside Auckland

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Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Do NOT reduce funding to homeless support unless you want an increase in crime and a further rebellion from people who are desperate in the forms already seen such as ram-raids and daylight holdups. Keep the poverty of this city at the fore front of any decisions you make for the sake of everyone!

Do NOT reduce funding for public transport, do not reduce these services, More people should be able to use public transport to nullify the rising costs of roads and the rising emissions of private vehicles and the rising effects of climate change!

If you are to reduce support to the ARTS sector this should be done with careful scrutiny to discover which arts operations cater to the wealthy and which provide aroha and peace of mind for the underprivileged. DO NOT reduce funding to those arts organizations which provide something supportive, good and important for people who struggle financially .

Do NOT reduce funding for libraries! But support these facilities to reach out to communities who need them most - to read is to have empathy and for many this is something which is being lost in our communities. Ask for and encourage paid voluntary memberships from people who can afford it.

Find more philanthropy contributions to make up the shortfall - Auckland is home to some of New Zealand's wealthiest people , but also a huge majority of its poorest.

To live in a city can be cruel but to live in one with no culture and no soul would be crippling.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** This seems like a knee jerk reaction but I don't know the logic behind it. I think it should be publicly scrutinised and all reasoning should be revealed before a decision is made.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

**Tell us why:** Apparently there is a school of thought that rates should increase alongside a higher use of debt. I don't have the expertise to comment but more public debate should be held on this.

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).  Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.  Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	I don't know
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	l don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

What do you think of these proposals? It is hugely important that swimming pools are accessible to everyone, along with museums, zoos, art galleries and theatre. Perhaps better use can be made of COMMUNITY SERVICES CARDs so that those who are able to afford higher entry fees will pay them an

### 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

It has been reported that the Auckland City golf courses are costing the council and ratepayers \$162 million a year to run and have a net worth of over \$2.9 billion. How can this sport which is only accessible to a privileged few continue to be supported

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Organisation (if applicable): Ara Taiohi

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Please see attached submission

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Other

### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Other

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Other
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Other
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Other

### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Please read our attached submission

# Important privacy information

# **Submission on the Proposed Budget for Auckland Council**

Date: 27 March 2023

### Ara Taiohi

<u>Ara Taiohi</u> is the peak body for youth development in Aotearoa. We are a membership organisation for the Youth Sector, and all our members work with Rangatahi. Approximately one third of our members work in Tāmaki Makaurau. We estimate that through our membership we engage with two thirds of the Rangatahi in Aotearoa.

We have grave concerns about the proposed budget cuts, and the impacts for the Rangatahi of Tāmaki Makaurau, and through them for their whānau and communities.

### Our concerns:

The proposed cuts are interconnected and will all have unintended consequences. While we believe all the proposed cuts are both ill-considered and rash, we have particular concerns around the proposed cuts to regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres, as well as the reduction of local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million.

### Rationale:

- Te Tiriti o Waitangi: The Auckland Plan 2050 recognises te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of
  Waitangi in Auckland's past, present, and future and states it is the foundation on which
  local government in Auckland works to deliver Māori aspirations. These proposed cuts will
  see a disproportionately negative impact on Māori in Tāmaki Makaurau who access these
  services/support from these organisations. Further, the cuts will in our opinion violate the
  articles of Te Tiriti and will further perpetuate the inequities faced due to the impacts of
  colonisation.
- Impact on wellbeing of young people: The proposed cuts and reductions of funding are short sighted and will impact directly and negatively on the wellbeing of Rangatahi and their whānau across Tāmaki Makaurau. Key relationships and programmes will be stripped from young people who are already vulnerable due to the impacts of the floods, Covid-19 and the cost of living.
- Youth Development works: The youth development sector is committed to ethical youth development practice, aligned to the principles of <a href="Mana Taiohi">Mana Taiohi</a> and the <a href="Code of Ethics">Code of Ethics</a> for Youth Work in Aotearoa. These practices are evidence based, informed by Te Ao Māori and based on the voices of both Rangatahi and those who work with them. These approaches are preventative and proven to work long term. Our strong membership in Tāmaki Makaurau hold expertise and are best situated to journey with Rangatahi from your rohe to support their positive youth development. Implementing budget cuts diminishes the impact of youth development and adds further strain on the already stretched youth sector to support Rangatahi in Tāmaki Makaurau.

- Process and timing: The speed and transparency of the process for consultation places huge pressure on the community including young people to ensure their voices are heard. The Auckland Council has recognised the importance of the voice of young people in recognising the value of a youth advisory panel to provide knowledge on issues that are important to young Aucklanders, as well as how to engage effectively with them. The process around the proposed budget cuts completely undermines this commitment.
  We believe the process also contravenes Article 12 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child gives children and young people the right to express their views freely in matters which affect them. The Mana Taiohi principles and in particular the principle of Whai Wāhitanga outline how effective youth voice and participation can be established.
- Real cost: The real cost of the proposed cuts has not been taken account of. In the long term the proposed cuts will cost Council significantly due to the failure to invest in the social fabric that supports Rangatahi and their whānau to thrive. Research shows that for every \$1 invested into strong youth development programmes \$7.80 is returned to the NZ economy. We would argue these figures could be extrapolated looking forward for every \$1 saved now it will cost 780% more in the in the future to address the deficit. This only addresses the financial costs and doesn't even start to reflect less tangible and more important impacts on Rangatahi, whānau and communities.

### **Recommendation:**

We support the Better Budget for Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland as a far better way to address the shortfall and provide a budget for Rangatahi, whānau and communities of Tāmaki Makaurau that is more flexible, fairer, and better in the long term.

We further note that true consultation requires participants to be aware of all the options for funding cuts. This information has not been provided in through the engagement process.

For more information please contact Jane Zintl, CEO, Ara Taiohi (executive.officer@arataiohi.org.nz/0278007395)





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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

### Tell us why:

### Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal Tell us why:

### Local Boards

## **Upper Harbour Local Board**

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why:** It is important that funding does not get reduced for libraries and local community organisations to maintain the health and wellbeing of our community

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local events e.g. Movies in Parks and event partnership fund, Community programme delivery, e.g. connected community programmes, Community lease charges

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I started a business (dance school) where I leased a community venue and if the lease charges are increased this business may have to close. This would effect peoples incomes and the health of wellbeing of over 130 children/teens/adults who attend this d

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Do not support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

### 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

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### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

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Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	

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### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with any of the above.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

**Tell us why:** While this sounds like a good idea, you have not told us what the repercussions of selling the shares would be. The advantages and disadvantages include the financial impacts but what about beyond that. How might this impact users of the airport? What are

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

### Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**Storms are going to happen more frequently.

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	

Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

# Important privacy information





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### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Taking away from community led and council funded/supprted events will lead to reduced community moral and educational deficits. In doing this you are making your city undesirable and isolated from its people who need these spaces to connect and create healthy relationships across intersections of identity. Reducing funding might save 'you' as a council member but not the people you are working for. Arts and culture funding is key to growth and harm reduction.

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: This will happen more and more. To think otherwise and not plan ahead would be foolish.

### 5. Local Boards

### Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Support

b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

What do you think of these proposals? Place more value on free education services and cultural needs. Tax the richer areas to compensate for poorer areas. Trickle down economics does not work. Look at equity.

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Performance Art Week Aotearoa

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: 'Do not proceed with:

- -Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,
- -Reducing regional services,
- -Reducing local board funded activities, and
- -Reducing regional contestable grants.

A city without arts and cultural events, isn't a place people want to live in or visit, it is essential to a thriving city and I want to see Auckland continue to be somewhere people feel excited to visit. Cutting arts funding will devastate an already struggling industry, when you look to other countries you see how much they invest and support the arts which creates vibrant places people want to visit, New Zealand is already way behind internationally because of its lack of support in arts and this would make it a lot worse, making Auckland a truely backwards city.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

Tell us why: Public ownership is a good thing.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

## Tell us why:

### Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

DON'T CUT ARTS FUNDING.

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### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** arts is vital to the community. you will ruin a lot of peoples lives by reducing their income, meaning they can no longer create, which will in term do long term damage to arts in nz as a whole, something that will take a horrifically long time to repair if you ever can.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

### Rates

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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Wow, cutting social/cultural/arts programs, community and educational initiatives, public transport!? How to turn a vibrant city into crapsville! I suggest you listen to calmer heads and raise the rates or wait it out, but certainly no need to panic and reverse course on putting people and communities first.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Classic short-term thinking.. So dumb (or maybe political "accounting", either way, DUMB for Aucklanders)

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** Considering the fact that the council is operating within budget and has a good credit rating there is no need to continue freezing rates on business. Boost the general rates more than proposed and borrow within the cap. It's been an unprecedentedly tough

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

### Local Boards

## Ōrākei Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental education, Environmental restoration and pest control, Protection and restoration of local waterways

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** More frequent and stronger storms and droughts are predicted by science. This is not the time to cut funding to environmental protection or the building of resilience into waterways and green spaces.

In the Mayoral Proposal, agreed by the Governing Body, the proposed reduction in operating costs would require the Ōrākei Local Board to find \$650,000 in savings in 2023/2024 from a discretionary budget of \$1.4 million. In the time frame available to us this discretionary budget is the only one we can access to make these savings. We have proposed where these savings might come from and how they would effect the activities and services we provide in our supporting information (pages 158-161)

.What do you think of the savings we've proposed across our activities and services? Other

Tell us why: It's heartbreaking and shameful to put this kind of pressure on local communities. I can't support any of the proposed cuts. There are alternatives.

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Overall the budget proposed focuses on cuts to the heart and spirit of a city.. all the things that make a city alive, liveable, interesting for visitors, resilient and healthy. Please don't skimp on the people, on the communities of Auckland, on the envi

## Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at **aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy** and at our libraries and service centres) and with the Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any

interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.





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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all **Auckland Council's shares?** I don't know

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

### Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community development and support, Local arts programmes, Local community events

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

### What do you think of these proposals? Do not proceed with:

Reducing regional contestable grants.

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited

These proposed cuts, which while small in terms of the Council's overall b

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

· Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).

- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Do not proceed with:

Reducing regional contestable grants.

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited

These proposed cuts, which while small in terms of the Council's overall b

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

Tell us why:

### Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	l don't know

### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

# Important privacy information

#### Do not proceed with:

Reducing regional contestable grants.

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited

These proposed cuts, which while small in terms of the Council's overall budget, will have an outsize impact on our arts, culture and creative sector, and youth and community programmes and services.

Our social infrastructure – including our arts, culture and creative sector – is needed more than ever as our communities try to move on from three years of COVID-19 disruption.

This is a time to invest, not a time to cut.

Our arts events, cultural festivals, theatre, dance, music, comedy and other creative activities bring life to our city, bring Auckland communities together, and attract domestic and international tourists. This has a positive knock-on effect to our restaurants, hotels, transport and other sectors.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services improve social cohesion, make our city more inclusive and welcoming, help us to attract and retain new residents and industry, boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Our arts, culture and creative sector jobs, organisations and facilities are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost, some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter, and some facilities will struggle to survive.

This is a time to keep the lights on and the life in our city.





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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

#### 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

#### Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

#### 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

#### 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

#### 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** <u>not</u> **proceed with if any:** Arts funding and early childhood communication are two of the most important services a council can provide to ensure wellbeing and help to break the poverty cycle.

#### 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

#### 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt.

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**We need to start investing in making Aotearoa more resilient in the face of climate change, as these extreme weather events will become more and more frequent.

#### 5. Local Boards

#### Waitākere Ranges Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community facilities, services and activities, Climate action and sustainability initiatives, Parks volunteers and restoration of local waterways

Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

#### 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

More funding NEEDS to be given to climate change resilience and sustainability initiatives - the storm has shown us the importance of this. Equally as important is retaining funding for community and welfare-based funding such as early childhood education

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

#### 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

#### 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all **Auckland Council's shares?** I don't know

Tell us why:

#### 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

#### 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

#### What do you think of these proposals?

#### 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

#### 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** These cuts will really affect creatives and creative services in the city. These are so important for the culture of the city.

#### 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

#### 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

Tell us why:

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

#### Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I don't know

Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Arts / community programmes and services, Environmental volunteers in local parks, Funding support for youth activities

Tell us why these are most important to you: These are all important parts of the community

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?) Open space low mow / no mow areas

#### 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

#### 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

#### 1. Operating spending reductions

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

#### Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

#### 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

#### Tell us why:

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

#### 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

#### What do you think of these proposals?

#### 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Please find attached the formal submission by the New Zealand Children's Commissioner, Judge Frances Eivers.

#### Important privacy information



# OCC Submission on the Auckland Council Annual Budget 2023/2024

Submission to the Auckland City Council on the proposed cuts to the Annual Budget

March 2023





### Introduction

I welcome this opportunity to submit on the Auckland Council Annual Budget for 2023/2024.

As the Children's Commissioner, I have a statutory responsibility to advocate for mokopuna's interests, rights and welfare, including advancing and monitoring the application of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Children's Convention) by departments of State and other Crown instruments.<sup>1</sup>

My office has previously made submissions to the Auckland Council on decisions impacting the wellbeing of children and young people in Aotearoa. This includes the recommendation to adopt the UNICEF Child-Friendly Cities Framework when considering the urban planning and built environment.<sup>2</sup>

This submission is focused on the proposed Auckland Council Annual Budget, and its impact on children and young people in Auckland.

# Recommendations of the UN Committee on the Rights of a Child

The New Zealand Government ratified the Children's Convention in 1993 and, in doing so, agreed to bring New Zealand's laws and policies in line with its provisions and principles. The Children's Convention therefore provides a framework upon which policy and legislation that affects children and young people (aged 0-17 inclusive) ought to be built.

The provisions in the Children's Convention also apply to the functions of local government authorities who wield delegated authority from the Crown through legislation. Article 4 of the UNCROC imposes specific measurable obligations on States Parties to respect, protect and fulfil children's rights by requiring that "States Parties shall undertake such measures to the maximum extent of their available resources".<sup>3</sup>

In their recent Concluding Observations on New Zealand, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended under 'General Measures of Implementation,' the need for child-specific budgetary mechanisms, specifically:<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Children's Commissioner Act 2003, section 12(1)(f)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Submission on the 'Draft Long-Term Plan 2012-2022 – Making Auckland a Great Place for Children'

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Convention on the Rights of the Child. Refer here: Convention on the Rights of the Child | OHCHR

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Concluding Observations on the sixth periodic report of New Zealand. Refer here <u>2023 Concluding</u> <u>Observations UNCRC.pdf</u>



- An assessment of the budget needs for children in addition to those aimed at reducing child poverty
- Budgeting processes are transparent and accessible to children and assess how investments in any sector will serve children
- Budgetary lines are given for all children, with special attention to those in disadvantaged situations that may require special measures, such as Māori and Pasifika children, and make sure those budgetary lines are protected.

# Building a child-friendly city

A child-friendly city is seen as the 'embodiment' of the implementation of the Children's Convention at a local level. Planning for children at local body level is important to ensure the progressive realisation of the rights of a child.

UNICEF sets out an internationally recognised Child Friendly Cities Framework for implementation. This framework translates the processes needed to implement the Children's Convention by central government into local government processes.<sup>5</sup>

One of the key elements of the framework is ensuring adequate resource commitment and budget analysis for children. Decisions made during budgetary processes directly impact children, therefore budget analysis forms an important aspect of child impact assessment.

The city of Manchester, England is an example of a child-friendly city and is recognised by UNICEF as part of the Child Friendly Cities Framework programme. The Manchester City Council are ensuring children and young people have their views heard and taken seriously in all council decisions, ranging from major policy decisions around the care they receive, as well as opportunities to design local services and spaces.<sup>6</sup>

# Children and young people's view

OCC recently engaged with more than 6,000 children and young people across Aotearoa, resulting in a report, *What Makes a Good Life?*<sup>7</sup> Some of the voices by mokopuna captured in the report highlight the need to be intentional with governance decisions to ensure we build a child-friendly city.

"The location of things cause most of the support or fun things is outside of our community. We can't afford to go there." – Rangatahi from Gisborne

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Building Child Friendly Cities, a Framework for Action. Refer here: <u>CFC Booklet GB2004 (unicef-irc.org)</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Manchester makes early New Year resolution to realise its ambitions for children and young people | Manchester City Council

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> What Makes a Good Life, 2019. Refer here: What Makes a Good Life? | Office of the Children's Commissioner (occ.org.nz)



"If people in the community are caring and are respectful for each other and the environment, everyone would have a happy life because they would feel respected and that is a big thing."

- 15 year old girl

#### **Conclusion and recommendations**

I strongly recommend Auckland Council considers the impacts the proposed Annual Budget 2023/2024 will have on children and young people, including the longer-term implications on their wellbeing and development.

Councils and Local Bodies are equally bound by the Children's Convention and have an obligation to ensure the progressive realisation on the rights of a child.<sup>8</sup>

Placing children and young people at the center of policy and planning for the next generation requires forward-looking planning and socially and environmentally sustainable policies. A child-friendly city benefits all of society and helps 'future-proof' the city through promoting vibrancy and a sense of community.<sup>9</sup>

I strongly endorse the international frameworks established under Children's Convention and the UNICEF Child Friendly Cities initiative and remind the Council to utilise these frameworks to assist them when making decisions for its community.



Nāku noa, nā Judge Frances Eivers

Te Kaikōmihana mō ngā Tamariki | Children's Commissioner Te Kaikōmihana mō ngā Tamariki o Aotearoa | Office of the Children's Commissioner

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> UNICEF Child Friendly Cities and Communities Initiative, 2017. Refer here: <u>CFCI\_TOOLKIT\_24.02.17.pdf</u> (<u>childfriendlycities.org</u>)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> R Kearns, University of Auckland, *Enlarging a view of children and well-being in our cities, presentation to Waitakere City,* 30 October 2008







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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

#### 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

#### 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

#### 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

#### Whau Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local parks, community facilities, and sports and recreation programmes, Community programme delivery, Local community events

Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

#### What do you think of these proposals?

#### 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

#### Important privacy information





Note: this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Deaf Action NZ

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

#### 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Do not reduce funding or grants that enable people to learn and use NZ Sign Language.

Without NZSL, Deaf residents and Deaf Visitors will end up having communication barriers.

As an official language, the Council needs to ensure that all services and community is accessible in NZSL.

#### Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all **Auckland Council's shares?** I don't know

Tell us why:

#### 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

#### Tell us why:

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

#### 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Support

b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

#### 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

#### Important privacy information





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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

#### 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

#### Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

#### 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

#### Tell us why:

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

#### Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:  a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Do not support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

#### 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

#### 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Cutting public transport and other key services exacerbates a majority of the key problems that Auckland faces. Buses are a reliable way to get to and from work, whilst they equally bring cars off the road and help go some way to reducing congestion issues. My experience of living in Auckland has been one of continuous stress in having to manage a vehicle and getting stuck in consistently bad traffic. At least with buses, I have the ability to reduce some of my day to day stress on my commute to work. Additionally, from a community perspective, there are a range of initiatives that would potentially be cut that make me feel positive about living in Auckland and help reduce the stress of every day life - I see it as incredibly important to continue investing in public services that contribute to enhancing community across Tāmaki Makaurau.

#### Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** You only need to look at New South Wales in Australia to see the damages that privatisation has on every day households, particularly in the midst of a cost-of-living crisis. In NSW, consecutive governments have chosen to sell off public assets - Sydneysi

#### 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** The Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt. Based on your own councils modelling, the highest possible rates increase would fall well within the boundaries of what is considered 'affordable' - we are looking a

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**We have to continue to invest in and prepare for climate related disasters, as these are only going to become more frequent and catastrophic. There is a sense of fear and limited sense of safety amongst my whānau and my friends when it comes to living in

#### 5. Local Boards

#### Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support any priorities

**Tell us why:** Increasing the rents that tenants pay for community organisations will have a detrimental impact on the sense of community across our local council. Having lived in Hauraki for some time, this has been one of the key aspects to life in Auckland I have com

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local community events, Environmental restoration and pest control, Protection and restoration of local waterways

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** The key priorities for me across the board are protecting our community and ensuring that we continue to bring people together to form community bonds, as well as ensuring we do our utmost to protect the environment around us. We have to protect our peopl

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?) Contestable and non-contestable grants, Charges relating to community leases and licences

#### 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

What do you think of these proposals? I am concerned about the Council reprioritising the Climate Action Targeted Rate fund, which has been overwhelmingly supported by people across Tāmaki Makaurau. The whole purpose of this fund was to address and improve services that have a positive impact

#### 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Across the board, what is most important to me is protecting the people of Auckland, preventing privatisation, as well as protecting the environment and enhancing our sense of community. This budget approach is looking at pure numbers rather than the nega

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

#### 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** It's false economy to reduce spending in the arts, culture and community education areas - these are our future: Covid should have taught us all how much value there is in creativity, and the connectedness and mental wellbeing that it brings, alongside economic benefit (if this is allowed to grow and not be stifled by old fashioned, limited and biased attitudes)

#### 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

#### Tell us why:

#### 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

#### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community development and support, Local arts programmes, Community climate action and sustainability

#### Tell us why these are most important to you:

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

## Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Museums Aotearoa

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Auckland Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**It is important to invest in resilience for communities and infrastructure, including buildings and collections of significance.

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

# Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Museums and galleries are significant economic contributors to their regions - they are tourist attractions, large employers and the carers of our cultural history. They provide resources for important scientific research relating to climate change, land

## Important privacy information



28 March 2023

Tēnā koe,

I am writing in response to Auckland Council's proposed budget cuts, on behalf of museums and galleries across Aotearoa New Zealand. As a sector, we are shocked at the proposed funding cuts to the cultural, heritage and arts activities and entities in our largest city.

Making such drastic reductions in funding for operations will severely impact the many functions museums and galleries perform for the city and their communities. They will need to review their opening hours, staffing levels, viability of exhibitions and cutting on necessary spending that affects the collections, such as air conditioning, closing parts of the spaces and galleries and cancelling education programmes and other outreach programmes.

Museums and galleries are not places to go and look at things on the walls. They are providers of educational services, centres of scientific research, caretakers of our histories and valuable tourism attractions. They are employers of paid staff and a large volunteer work force. Nationwide they provide \$272m of economic activity to Aotearoa and have a collective asset value of over \$5.6b. They are very much part of the economic engine and are not passive places.

Coupled with the reduction in funding for Tātaki Auckland Unlimited to cease the promotion and support of events and tourism, the fear of what these cuts will do to the attraction and liveability of Auckland is very real. Tourists bring vibrancy and have direct economic benefits to a city. Tourism has traditionally been one of Aotearoa's largest export earners and needs to be supported by the Council, not chopped off at the knees.

Tourists support our museums by spending at their retail spaces and cafés. Around 45% of our visitors to museums and galleries are international visitors – to lose them (again) would greatly amplify the pressure our valuable institutions are under to survive.

Proceeding with the proposed budget cuts will remove access to arts, culture and heritage, impacting the health and wealth of Auckland city and its communities. Taking away investment now will be very hard, if not impossible to recover from. Future growth will be unachievable.

Nāku iti noa, nā

Adele Fitzpatrick Chief Executive

Museums Aotearoa





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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

# What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Please cut funding for new roads, and down-size or repurpose existing roads to encourage mode shift and reduce costly maintenance. Car dependency and sprawling suburbs increase the costs of running a city. Sprawl means more infrastructure to maintain, more of expensive roads, more noise and pollution from cars, and a longer time to get to work (reducing productivity).

Increase funding for active and public transport. Cutting measures like active and public transport will increase the costs in the long run. To save costs, we must increase support for active and public transportation, as well as encourage mixed-used zoning and higher-density living. Many beautiful cities in Europe have proven that this is enormously popular and saves money.

Develop city-owned golf-courses into mixed use medium-density housing that is well-integrated with public transportation and provides facilities like attractive walking trails and cafes to the surrounding community rather than a very small number of golfers who can easily afford private clubs. This could raise significant revenue for the city, while creating wonderful public venues, vibrant new town centers, and compact affordable infrastructure.

I agree with not funding stadiums and golf courses. Those can be supported most efficiently by private enterprise and the wealthier Aucklanders who attend these places. User-pays works well for these as they offer little community value.

Activities oriented towards families, education, local cultural heritage, and less wealthy Aucklanders should be maintained as these provide critical community value that private enterprise does not offer.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** We need to a productive, efficient, pleasant city. That means taking every step we can towards ending our expensive addiction to roads and suburban sprawl, rather than selling public assets.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

**Tell us why:** Auckland can afford good public services. This is part of what makes Auckland a great city. By international standards, Auckland rates are extremely low.

Rates should be weighted more heavily towards more valuable properties, and those far-flung propert

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**Storm resilience is a critical part of responding to the changes that fossil fuels and other greenhouse gas emissions from human activity are causing to our climate.

Please ensure that spending and policy are used to increase resilience to future events

#### 5. Local Boards

#### Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why:** Please also ensure that sustainability is a top priority for all Auckland spending and policy, including emissions reduction, freshwater water protection, waste reduction, and ecosystem restoration.

I do not support the funding cut.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

Tell us why these are most important to you: I do not support the funding cut.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?)

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

What do you think of these proposals? Businesses should only be allowed to opt out of recycling if they certify initially and then every year thereafter that they have their own recycling collection in place that meets a minimum threshold of actually recycling the recyclable materials they em

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tupuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).

• Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Please ensure that sustainability is a top priority for all Auckland spending and policy. That includes making sure Auckland is steadily reducing greenhouse gas emissions, protecting our freshwater, reducing waste, and restoring ecosystems.

It means doi

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

### Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

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Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	l don't know

### What do you think of these proposals?

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### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## Henderson-Massey Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Discretionary community grants, Programmes and activations in community facilities, Funding and grants for arts centres and partners

Tell us why these are most important to you:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

## Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** You should not reduce funding to citizens advice bureaux. This is an essential service to all members of the community. It helps with any questions.supports people who are vulnerable or unable to access government websites. Many people lose out on their entitlements unless they get support from CAB .keep CAB as a free service for the public. The well-being of communities is essential.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	

Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited

Reducing regional services

Reducing local board funded activities

Reducing regional contestable grants

All of these will have an impact on and result with reducing community and arts and culture programmes. Arts and cultural events and programmes create jobs, boost the economy and make Auckland a livable, thriving city.

These regional and arts services directly improve social wellbeing and create a quality of life. As evidenced in Christchurch and 'Gauging the Impacts of Post-Disaster Arts and Culture Initiatives in Christchurch – a Literature Review' states "post-disaster artistic and creative initiatives ... have provided participants and initiators with physical and mental health benefits." More than the money needed to be spent on infrastructure rebuild post the recent flooding events the city needs the heads, hearts and minds of its inhabitants to be well and thrive. This build resilience to face other

negative events in the city. Participants, audiences as well as the artists that are Auckland residents that create and support arts activities all benefit from retaining the current allocation for arts activities in the budget.

I do not support these cost reductions. The effect of a large reduction in funding will negatively impact the economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

I am a theater practitioner working and living in Wellington. I teach performance at Te Auaha campus and am guiding the next generation of actors and performance maker to find a sustainable career in the arts. The whole country suffers if Auckland, our largest city, does not have a sustainable art industry.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

## Tell us why:

### Storm Response

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Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

### 5. Local Boards

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## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Please, please, please do not reduce funding or Council spending in the arts, culture and community sectors. Arts are the best expression of who we are as a people, a society, and our cultural identity. This work, and it is work - not hobbies or "nice to have" - is created by a rich network of people and voices, and this requires a diverse set of resources and services to enable arts voices to thrive.

Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

## Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

#### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

**Tell us why:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local arts programmes, Local community events

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

### Aotea/Great Barrier Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

**Tell us why:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Contestable local community grant rounds

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

## Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

**Tell us why:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Contestable and non-contestable grants, Local community events, Arts / community programmes and services

Tell us why these are most important to you: We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?)

#### Franklin Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

**Tell us why:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local community events, Arts and culture programmes

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

Our communities have told us that providing a network of pathways (walkways and cycleways) between and within our local villages and town centres will help locals access services and facilities, and live healthy active lifestyles.

Our budgets cannot deliver a network of this scale without additional funding such as via a targeted rate. To implement a new rate, we would have to investigate further and consult with you again in a future Annual Budget process.

Do you think we should investigate a local targeted rate to fund a network of pathways across the Franklin Local Board area?

### Henderson-Massey Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

**Tell us why:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Programmes and activations in community facilities, Funding and grants for arts centres and partners

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

#### Hibiscus and Bays Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

**Tell us why:**We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Funding for arts centres and partners, Community programme delivery

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

#### **Howick Local Board**

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Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local community events, Arts and culture initiatives, Community programme delivery

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

## Kaipātiki Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

**Tell us why:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

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If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Funding arts and culture groups, Community programme delivery, Local community events

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

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If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?):

#### Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

**Tell us why:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

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Please rank our proposed local board priorities from most to least important to you:

Rank	Proposed Priorities
4	Investing in initiatives to reduce the impact of climate change, including tree planting, education programmes and environmental volunteers
3	Continue to provide residents with better quality facilities, parks and open spaces
5	Promoting activities to showcase our local arts and culture talent into career pathways
2	Continue to identify procurement, quality employment and social enterprise opportunities for our residents
1	Improving the well-being of our locals by supporting our local economy to become more efficient, resilient, and sustainable through our reduced budget

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Grants e.g. Community Grants programme and contestable grants, Arts and culture programmes

Tell us why these are most important to you: We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

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How do you think we could support our communities to be better prepared and resilient to extreme weather events like the recent Auckland storm?

#### Manurewa Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

**Tell us why:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

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If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Reduction in service levels for community centres and arts centres (Nathan Homestead), Local community grants, Community programme delivery

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

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#### Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

**Tell us why:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Programming at Te Oro, Oranga and Onehunga Community and Arts Centres, Local community grants fund, Local community events

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?)

Do you think there are other areas where we could make savings to our local budgets?

#### **Örākei** Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

**Tell us why:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local community grants, Arts and culture programmes, Community and art centre service levels

## Tell us why these are most important to you:

In the Mayoral Proposal, agreed by the Governing Body, the proposed reduction in operating costs would require the Ōrākei Local Board to find \$650,000 in savings in 2023/2024 from a discretionary budget of \$1.4 million. In the time frame available to us this discretionary budget is the only one we can access to make these savings. We have proposed where these savings might come from and how they would effect the activities and services we provide in our supporting information (pages 158-161)

.What do you think of the savings we've proposed across our activities and services?

Tell us why: We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

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#### **Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board**

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

**Tell us why:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

Please rank our proposed local board priorities from most to least important to you 1 = most important, 5 = least important)

Rank	Proposed Priorities	
0	Explore initiatives and actions raised through the safety networks to improve safety in our town centres and neighbourhoods	
0	Invest in closing the digital divide by supporting community groups to upskill all residents with technology to enable work, schooling, and connection	
0	Fund programmes aimed at upskilling our residents, particularly youth, for emerging sectors	
0	Continue to improve our sports fields and facilities to encourage active participation and access sports and athletic activities for organised and informal use	
0	Continue to support environmental activities and initiatives, including community-led activities, to respond to climate change, reducing waste and protecting our environment	

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local grants e.g. Community Grants programme and contestable grants, Arts and culture programme

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

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#### Papakura Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

**Tell us why:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local community grants, Community programme delivery, Arts and culture facilities and programmes

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

## Puketāpapa Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

**Tell us why:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

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If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community development and support, Local community events, Arts e.g. Pah Homestead art gallery

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

#### Rodney Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

**Tell us why:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Grants for community groups / organisations, Grants for art centres, Community opening events for completed projects and funding for community-led events

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

#### **Upper Harbour Local Board**

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

**Tell us why:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local grants e.g. community grants programme and rate remission grants, Local events e.g. Movies in Parks and event partnership fund, Community programme delivery, e.g. connected community programmes

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

### Waiheke Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

Tell us why: We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community programme delivery, Local community events, Community grants programme

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

#### Waitākere Ranges Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

**Tell us why:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Arts and culture facilities and events, Local community events, Local community grants

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

#### Waitematā Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

**Tell us why:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Arts and community centre programmes (at Ellen Melville Centre and Studio One Toi Tū), Community programme delivery e.g. community networks, youth and arts, Local grants e.g. community and accommodation grants

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

Do you think there are other areas where we could make savings to our local budgets?

### Whau Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?

**Tell us why:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

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If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community programme delivery, Local arts and culture activities and programmes, Local community grants

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

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## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes			
Cost changes in waste management, including:			
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,			
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and			
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).			
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.			
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.			
Changes to other rates			
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.			
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.			

What do you think of these proposals? We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

We need to invest in our communities if they're going to grow. We're still recovering from COVID, floods and cyclones. Losing these initiatives will further compound the hurt our communities feeling.

Communities are enriched by arts and cultural activit

## Important privacy information





Note: this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Mountains to Sea Conservation Trust

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

## Tell us why:

# Local Boards

#### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local community events, Environmental restoration, volunteers and pest control, Protection and restoration of local waterways

Tell us why these are most important to you: We run free community kayak events - these are great for the well being of people

#### Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local community grants fund, Local community events, Environmental education activities

Tell us why these are most important to you:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?) Mowing service levels on reserves, Council-led community programming e.g. Out and About activations in parks, Support and capacity building for community-led activities (Strategic Partnerships Programme)

Do you think there are other areas where we could make savings to our local budgets?

#### Puketāpapa Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local community events, Environmental restoration and pest control, Water quality of local waterways

Tell us why these are most important to you:

#### Waiheke Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community programme delivery, Local community events, Community grants programme

Tell us why these are most important to you:

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:  a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	I don't know

Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Funding for community groups to continue to provide services to the community

# Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Reducing spend on tourism promotion is ridiculous...you in turn reduce your revenue from visitors. This will cripple and destroy your tourism assets. If somewhere isn't good to visit, it sure isn't good to live in. Auckland will be dull and boring.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Support
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	

(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

# Important privacy information





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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Don't reduce any funding for the Arts, Early Childcare, and community and education services

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

## Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

#### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local community events, Environmental restoration, volunteers and pest control, Community climate action and sustainability

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** Community, the arts and caring for our environment should be prioritised

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:  a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	l don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	l don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Please consider not reducing funding for arts, community and climate services. They're so valuable and help so many people and communities.

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizeable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** not proceed with if any: DO NOT cut funds for anything climate or arts related. Tax the profits of large corporates.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Short term sale of assets will not help in the long run. DO NOT cut funds for anything climate or arts related. Tax the profits of large corporates.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: TAX THE BANKS AND PROPERTY OWNERS

## Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: Proceed by taxing large corporates and banks etc that make huge profits that the public never gets to see.

# 5. Local Boards

#### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I don't know

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental restoration, volunteers and pest control, Community climate action and sustainability, Protection and restoration of local waterways

Tell us why these are most important to you: Anything climate and public good related. It's all the same issue.

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

No one should own more than one home while there are human beings living on the streets.

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: '- Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

- Reducing regional services,
- Reducing local board funded activities, and
- Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a significant reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors. As our largest city and realistically our cultural centre, it will have devastating ripple effects across the whole country that it will be almost impossible to recover from.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs

and make the city more prosperous. They attract visitors from around the country and from further abroad. Auckland is New Zealands most exciting and interesting city BECAUSE of these services. It makes no sense to throw that away when the negative impacts are so significant.

For example, cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

## Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:  a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	I don't know
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	l don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** This is not fit for purpose for the climate crisis and investing in public transport should be a priority for Tāmaki Makaurau. Operating a reduced service for public transport is frankly ridiculous and especially after flooding where people have lost transport and costs. There should be increased services at a reduced price. Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres is something that is critical to the life and culture of the city. Serve its people, what you are proposing is driving a underfunded city into further mayhem. Invest in people and events, bring communities together don't push them further apart.

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

## Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
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Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Invest in infrastructure and keep investing and improving public transport.

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with the following:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

The negative impact of the planned reductions on the arts and cultural sector will be devastating for Auckland, and have national ramifications.

Cutting this funding will also negatively impact the large hospitality and tourism sector in Auckland, as well as reducing resources for cultural engagement and education for rangatahi.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

## Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** In a time of climate change and a cost of living crisis, maintaining the reduced public transport services while increasing the cost to use is a particularly delirious idea. Even without any prior research one can recognise that this idea is idiotic and harms the most vulnerable people in our society. Public transport, as someone who uses it every single day, is a necessity and ensuring its reliability in its continuation is essential to the everyday person.

As someone who doesn't necessarily utilise the regional services listed above, even I can recognise how this lack of funding will create further harm in the community and it is essential these services be maintained with funding. Again this proposal will negatively impact those most vulnerable.

Sell the damn golf courses - which only a fraction of the population have access to in order to reduce council debt in replacement of anything you have proposed.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** If you sell these shares now, you will be selling them for peanuts in this market. If the shares are maintained, they can be leveraged and support future revenue raising for the council.

## Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Council should set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:** Four people died in the latest flooding. Invest in the infrastructure to prevent this from happening again.

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Cost changes in waste management, including:	
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b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Protect the community

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I would not proceed with reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited, reducing regional services, reducing local board funded activities, and

reducing regional contestable grants. I do not support these cost reductions. I have a diploma in Dance Performance, I spent thousands on my intuition. I demand to exist in an industry that values my skills and expertise. I demand to thrive, to be able to pay off my student loan and to live a comfortable life doing what I have been trained to do. Currently I also do sex work so that I still have time to make art and facilitate creative events for the community. Without the sex industry hundreds of women wouldn't be able to remain present in the arts industry as there is already such little funding. These further cuts would be devastating. Mental health issues would rise. It's 2023 and New Zealand is already known as a difficult place to be in the creative industry. Auckland and other cities in NZ have the potential to become creative hubs for art, culture and fashion, such as New York, Paris, London, Berlin to name a few.

These cuts would also have a hugely negative effect on Maori and Polynesian communities; just as these communities are starting to be seen, valued and understood. Cutting funding would put us back in time.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

Tell us why:

## Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	l don't know
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	l don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	l don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

## Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Each and every one of those areas are incredibly important. If managed well should be able to bring a little revenue too.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: 1% increase still brings in another for the council

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)

#### Tell us why:

## Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	I don't
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	know

c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Supporting city life and ensuring that our city is prepared for the worsening climate, while also doing what we can to be as sustainable as possibly can

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt.

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: It is important for us to invest in stormwater infrastructure, especially in light of recent extreme weather events.

### 5. Local Boards

#### Papakura Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

**Tell us why:** I support changes to waste charging and all areas should have food waste collection available. I support the swimming pool compliance targeted rate changes.

I oppose the Climate Action Targeted Rate changes.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Environmental restoration, pest control, community climate action and sustainability, Protection and restoration of local waterways, Arts and culture facilities and programmes

Tell us why these are most important to you:

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

What do you think of these proposals? I support changes to waste charging and all areas should have food waste collection available. I support the swimming pool compliance targeted rate changes.

I oppose the Climate Action Targeted Rate changes.

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Early childhood services should not be cut this is essential for young families.

No cuts to arts. Creative class fuels the city's tourism and general well-being of it's citizens.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Low priority for AC

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

Tell us why: Higher rates for higher cost properties. Lesser rates for low socio economic areas.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**Yes to this option if it contributes to mechanisms which addresses long term flood mitigation. Housing needs to be avoided in flood areas. Higher density in locations not affected.

#### Local Boards

#### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why: Priorities help address climate resilience, community resilience and general investment in wellbeing

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local community events, Parks planning, Community climate action and sustainability

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** Climate and community. Both have good long term effects. Need to address climate as we have a responsibility.

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery

regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres

These services are the lifeblood of vibrant communities and/or a safety net for societies most vulnerable.

cutting funding to these services will gut the very culture out from Auckland and it's surrounding communities.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Because this will have a lesser impact spin three most fragile parts of society and culture but still allow a vested business interest in the airport

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Tax business and wealth.

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

What do you think of these proposals? Remove Wayne Brown as mayor

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Remove Wayne Brown as mayor

# Important privacy information





Note: this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): A group of financial mentors from various agencies across Auckland

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

We wish to focus on only one line in the proposed annual plan – the proposal to stop funding Citizens Advice Bureaus (CABs). Our submission is attached below under the 'upload any supporting information you have' tab. Please contact me at janeka@fincap.or

## Important privacy information

# **Submission on Auckland Council Annual Plan 2023-24**

# **From Auckland Financial Mentors**

This submission is from a group of financial mentors from various agencies across Auckland. We believe that this is the first time a group of Auckland financial mentors has ever come together to make a submission to any authority as a regional cross-agency professional group (at least since the sector was restructured in 2016), and we wish to focus on only one line in the proposed annual plan – the proposal to stop funding Citizens Advice Bureaus (CABs).

We wish to plead with the Mayor and Councillors, from the bottom of our hearts, to maintain all of the existing Council funding to the region's 32 CABs. The CABs are integral to the work that we do to advise and assist individuals and whānau in financial distress. People find out about us through the CABs, and we in turn refer people to the CABs for help with many legal issues such as immigration and insurance and for Justices of the Peace to witness documents such as KiwiSaver financial hardship withdrawal applications. Without the CABs, our support for distressed Aucklanders would be weakened, and many whānau would not know where to go to get help. We would be a harsh, less connected and less caring community.

#### Who we are

Financial mentors, formerly known as budget advisers, aim to help people in financial distress in any way we can. We try to help people increase their incomes by finding jobs or better-paying jobs, often helping with their CVs and with online job searches if they have only limited online access at home; we help them to enrol in driver's licence courses and other training that will overcome their barriers to work; and we often advocate for them with Work & Income and IRD to ensure that they are getting all their entitlements from the welfare system and Working for Families. We try to help people cope with often overwhelming debts by challenging unaffordable debt, negotiating affordable repayments with creditors, consolidating high-interest debts through lower-interest loans, assisting with KiwiSaver hardship withdrawals, and in the last resort occasionally assisting people through the insolvency process. And we work with whānau to find all other possible ways to cut spending so that they can achieve financial security and start to achieve their life goals.

We work for a wide variety of agencies – all non-profits because all of our services are completely free to the people we work with. Some of us work in large organisations, such as the Salvation Army or VisionWest or the Manukau Urban Māori Authority (MUMA), which provide multiple social services under the same roof. Some of us work in agencies whose main role is providing food to whānau in need, such as St Vincent de Paul. Some of us work with particular groups such as losis's work with parents or Fonua Ola's work with Pasifika communities. Some of us work in traditional budgeting agencies such as Budgeting and Family Support (Māngere Budgeting Services Trust) and Vaiola Pacific Island Budgeting Trust. Some of us are paid and some of us are volunteers.

Most of our agencies are funded mainly through an MSD programme called "Building Financial Capability". MSD also largely funds the National Building Financial Capability Charitable Trust (FinCap), which provides national support to all financial mentors and has assisted us with this

submission. However, not all financial mentoring agencies receive MSD funding and most agencies supplement government funding with donated funds and facilities.

#### How we work with CABs

Financial mentors or budgeters have been in a symbiotic relationship with CABs ever since our two groups evolved in response to social needs in the later part of last century. Many CABs host financial mentors in their on-site teams. All CABs work closely with financial mentors, whether on or off their sites, because many of the problems that people bring to CABs involve financial distress.

Social services like ours are not like shops, schools or doctors, which are familiar to everyone so everyone knows what they do and how to find them. A whānau that needs social support may be struggling with multiple, inter-related problems such as unaffordable housing, unmanageable debt, relationship tensions, addictions, mental and physical health issues, and perhaps children who have special needs or behaviour difficulties. Often such struggling whānau don't know what help is available, don't know where to find it, don't have trust in anyone to help, and don't have the mental energy or even a phone with enough credit to ring someone to ask for help. If we want to care for one another in such difficult times in people's lives, we have to make help easy to stumble across, and we have to "make every door the right door" — in other words, no matter which door to social support the whānau comes across, those of us at that door need to welcome the whānau with empathy and love, build a relationship of trust, help as much as we can, and connect them with other services that we can't provide ourselves.

All of our agencies do this in our different ways; so do other social services, schools, preschools, health services, faith groups, residents' associations and many other community groups. To be effective, we all need to know about what each of our agencies can do so that we can guide people in need to the places that can help them – we need to be as connected as possible.

In this network of connections, CABs play a central role because their primary purpose is to connect people with the rest of us — "to empower people with the information that they need so that they can take action on any issues in their lives with confidence", as their latest annual report puts it. They are located, thanks to Auckland Council, in prominent positions often in libraries and other community facilities where people may stumble across them and discover that help is available. The information on their national website about legal issues and where to get help is often what comes up near the top of web searches for common problems in this country. In the 53 years since Auckland City Council community adviser Peter Harwood initiated the country's first CAB in Ponsonby in 1970, public awareness of what they do has also built up so that today CABs are one of the best-known "doors" that people know to knock on when they need help. In contrast, people often have little idea of what a "financial mentor" is or how we can help, and they may have a very negative view of "budgeting". To help people out of financial distress, we depend on outreach services, and particularly the CAB, who are known and trusted and can guide people towards making use of us.

In turn, we often refer people back to CABs for issues that we can't help with – particularly legal issues where people can't afford to pay for a lawyer and on issues that community law centres don't cover. Many CABs hold free legal clinics run by volunteer lawyers; some offer specialist help in fields such as immigration law at Ōtāhuhu and welfare law at Ōtara. Many also host Justices of the Peace who need to witness documents such as KiwiSaver financial hardship withdrawals.

## **Case studies**

- Grace was made redundant a couple of weeks ago and is finding things very tough financially. She is now in arrears with her rent and the debts are starting to pile up. She has an appointment with Work & Income for her benefit application, but in the meantime came to the CAB to find out how to go about making a withdrawal from her KiwiSaver on the basis of hardship. The CAB gave Grace the details of a local community financial mentoring service. They advised that a financial mentor might be able to identify other options that would allow Grace to avoid having to break into her hard-earned KiwiSaver fund and if not, the mentor would be able to support her to make the application for a KiwiSaver withdrawal.
- Victor incurred a debt he then struggled to pay, so he contacted a financial mentoring service to help him develop a plan for paying the debt off in instalments. In the meantime, Victor was being pursued by a debt collector, who had been repeatedly calling and texting him, and had threatened to come to his home. Victor called the CAB for help to manage the situation with the debt collector. The CAB provided Victor with information about what action debt collectors legally can and cannot take to pursue a debt, and advised Victor to keep a record of all transactions with the agency. The CAB let Victor know that if he needed further help from the CAB for example calling the agency on his behalf to further explain the situation and the legal rights and responsibilities involved then they would be happy to support him.
- Tara is out of work after causing a car accident when driving a vehicle belonging to her employer, while under the influence. This caused Tara to get into debt not only did she lose her income, she also had hefty fines to pay and she lost her accommodation. Tara has moved in with a friend and is trying to get her life back on track. She is receiving help for alcohol addiction and is completing Community Service. Tara came to the CAB for help to get her finances under control and get back into the paid workforce. The CAB made an appointment for Tara with a local financial mentoring service for help in drawing up a budget. They also assisted with establishing the balance of Tara's fine and confirming the weekly payments, getting a printout of her benefit payments and deductions from Work & Income, locating the nearest Kiwibank for statements, and discussing job options with Tara.
- Martin had been referred to the CAB by his financial mentor, for help to apply for a grant
  from a charity, for his daughter the charity provides programmes for increasing the health,
  education and wellbeing outcomes of children and young people living in poverty. In trying
  to make the grant application online, Martin came up against a barrier that meant the
  application could not be completed. The CAB emailed the charity on Martin's behalf to
  explain the situation and seek the information that would allow Martin to complete and
  submit the form.

## **Auckland Council's role**

We understand that CABs have been largely funded by local governments, and usually located in local council facilities, since the Auckland City Council initiated that first CAB in Ponsonby in 1970, following an earlier British model also largely funded by and located in facilities owned by local councils.

Although the national CAB website is supported by central government funding, the main role of CABs is to help people in need to connect with the most appropriate agencies that can help them in their local community. This requires, above all, local knowledge, local connections and trusting local relationships. Volunteers in local CABs need to be able to refer people to particular individuals whom they know and trust and who can provide the specific help that people need. They need to know not just what a financial mentor can help with, but which financial mentor in this neighbourhood speaks Tongan, which one has the most experience with housing issues, or which one has helped people through the most insolvencies. They also need good knowledge, connections and relationships with the myriad arms of Auckland Council and the relevant local board, and in turn those arms of the council and local board need to have good connections and relationships with their local CABs. A key role of local councils is to build social cohesion and mutual support in their community, and the CABs are vital partners in this work. It seems to us entirely appropriate that they should be supported financially by council ratepayers. Auckland Citizens Advice Bureaux Incorporated (ACABx), in its submission on the proposed annual plan, says that there is no central government funding "waiting in the wings" and that removing Council funding for Auckland's local CABs would mean "the inevitable closure of the CAB service in Auckland". Surely, we cannot allow this to happen!

## Where will the money come from?

The draft annual plan proposes to cut or eliminate the \$2 million Council grant to Auckland CABs as a contribution towards closing a \$295m deficit in the coming financial year – part of cuts in operational spending totalling \$125m, alongside raising \$71m through higher rates, borrowing an extra \$75m, and selling Council shares in Auckland Airport to save a net \$48m in the coming year by forgoing a potential \$39m dividend but reducing interest costs by \$87m. We realise that the deficit has widened further since the draft plan was prepared due to the costs of the recent floods and cyclone and an extra \$1 billion required (split between Council and central government) for the City Rail Link.

A \$295m deficit is 4.5% of the Auckland Council group's total revenue in the coming financial year of \$6542m (printed page 27 of Supporting Information for Consultation Document). Any other business facing a deficit of this magnitude would certainly look for any savings that can be made without affecting services. But if most of the services provided by the business, or council, are essential to meet the needs of the community, then the primary response to a 4.5% deficit should be not to cut costs but to raise revenue – especially in a national environment where average weekly earnings measured by the Quarterly Employment Survey (a proxy for ratepayer incomes) rose by 7.6% in the year to December 2022. We submit that the Council should raise rates by more than the proposed 4.66% to avoid cuts in essential operating spending such as the grant to CABs, and should also increase borrowing by more than the proposed \$75m to fund essential capital investment.

#### Conclusion

We submit that Auckland's 32 CABs play a central and vital role in making the city a connected, cohesive and caring community. Funding them is appropriately the role of Auckland Council and/or its local boards, and they cannot survive without this funding.

Withdrawing the \$2m Council grant for CABs would have far greater flow-on costs for communities throughout Auckland as harm arises where members of the public lose local assistance to find the information they need when they most need it. We urge the Mayor and Councillors to maintain this

funding and to find other ways to close the Council's financial deficit, such as raising rates and borrowing.

We would like to speak to this submission if possible.

## Signatories

Rhonda Middleton, Northern Divisional Director of Community Ministries, The Salvation Army

Jordan Cooke, Simon Collins, Maree Gillies, Vavao Leupepe, St Vincent de Paul Society

Theresa Hellesoe-Carroll, Vaiola Pacific Island Budgeting Service Trust

Vicky Mee, Franklin Family Support Services

Ruth Smithers, FinCap

Jo Walker, Warkworth/Wellsford Budget Service

Alyson de Marco, Tamaki Budgeting (East Auckland Home & Budget Service)

Sarah Gordon, Warkworth Wellsford Budget Service

Amelia Lawley, Waiheke Budgeting Services Trust

Christian Care Budget Service

## Contacts:

Simon Collins, St Vincent de Paul Society, 021 901 036, <a href="mailto:budget1@stvinnieotahuhu.org.nz">budget1@stvinnieotahuhu.org.nz</a> Janeka Rutherford-Busck, FinCap, 027 261 3690, <a href="mailto:janeka@fincap.org.nz">janeka@fincap.org.nz</a>





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Organisation (if applicable):

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

I am originally from the UK, and during my entire time in New Zealand I have always viewed Auckland as the arts, culture and events capital of New Zealand. It is by far the most entertaining, vibrant and exciting place to visit in New Zealand. The damage this could have on your local economy could be disastrous, it will alienate domestic and international tourists.

I work in the arts and I am devastated by these cuts, the Auckland Art Gallery in particular is an absolute jewel. I have just been to see Light From Tate and it is one of the best exhibitions I have ever witnessed. However, I am also appalled to hear about the cuts to homelessness initiatives, Citizens Advice Bureau and climate action initiatives. Furthermore, it is obvious that these cuts will directly impact Auckland's most vulnerable communities the most - you may think you are protecting them from further rates increases, but in the long run you are cutting funding to highly important facilities and services.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
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We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

## Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Do not support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## Henderson-Massey Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Discretionary community grants, Programmes and activations in community facilities, Funding and grants for arts centres and partners

Tell us why these are most important to you:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	l don't know

### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Auckland has already suffered the affects of the climate crisis, why discourage public transport now?

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

**Tell us why:** Households are already suffering under the pressure of the climate crisis and the cost of living, adding further stress onto lower income households after so much hardship will only drive Auckland further into poverty.

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**To carry on as normal after the floods and cyclone would be idiotic and completely ignorant of all that the experts are saying

#### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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--------------------------------	--

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.		
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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't	
	know	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know	

What do you think of these proposals? Funding the arts is crucial to maintaining Auckland as a cultural hub, to cut back this funding would only decrease Auckland's reputation, and leave it in the dust behind its counterparts such as Wellington.

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

#### Hibiscus and Bays Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I do not support most priorities

Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Funding for arts centres and partners, Community climate action and sustainability, Local waste management support

Tell us why these are most important to you:

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

# Tell us why:

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	I don't
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	know
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** To cut funding to community, culture, regional events, economic development and social services at a time when they are most needed is to wilfully cause harm to so many communities already struggling. This is especially true for the arts and homeless community. These services are vital.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** It is not an astute time to sell these shares when we are at a low point in the market. Once gone, this asset can no longer be leveraged or support future revenue raising for the Council.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Proceed with the proposed increase to rates but do not reduce the NETR and WQTR

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal

**Tell us why:**In the face of a climate and inequality crisis, now is not the time to make cuts to the response that so many struggling people need.

#### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	Support
(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	

c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Cuts to services are not an inevitability. They are especially irresponsible in the middle of a climate and inequality crisis.

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Reducing spending on arts and social services in this social climate is disgusting and short sighted. Stop spending money on pointless IT projects and cap salaries at around \$100,000 / annual.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

Tell us why: Owning shares in the airport is socially irresponsible. Get out now.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

**Tell us why:** Find a way to squeeze rates out of wealthy home owners and landlords who own tens of properties specifically. They are hoarding wealth that belongs to the people.

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: Nobody wanted to deal with climate change and now it's too late. No other way to solve it at this point.

#### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Support
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	

(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

What do you think of these proposals? Libraries are an essential social service. Do not let wealthy ignorant white people like Wayne Brown enforce their ridiculous and inaccurate views on the role of libraries in society. Talk to the librarians and library patrons. Do not cut funding for soci

# 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** All of them, but consider cutting social services spending is the most shocking

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Because Auckland needs to retain some share holder power in its Airport but can sell off some shares to assist the budget

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

**Tell us why:** Because households face unprecedented rises in cost of living plus many have been or will need to finance repairs after climate change events

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: Because more climate change events are inevitable & amp; we need to prepare to mitigate damage

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
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Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Do not support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of	I don't
the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Other

What do you think of these proposals? Do not make cuts to social services spending such as the CAB, which returns \$13.20 for every \$1 spent on it

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

The proposed budget will disadvantage ordinary ratepayers by reducing libraries, buses & Duses & Samp; social services while increasing "user pays" for currently ACC-funded areas

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	l don't know
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).  Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Do not reduce funding the arts. Do not reduce funding climate change emissions reduction.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Other

Tell us why: Do not reduce funding the arts. Do not reduce funding climate change emissions reduction.

# Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Do not reduce funding the arts. Do not reduce funding climate change emissions reduction.

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Other

Tell us why: Do not reduce funding the arts. Do not reduce funding climate change emissions reduction.

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	

Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Other

What do you think of these proposals? Do not reduce funding the arts. Do not reduce funding climate change emissions reduction.

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Do not reduce funding the arts. Do not reduce funding climate change emissions reduction.

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

# What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Do not proceed with any of the proposed reductions to the 32 offices of the Auckland CAB. As a volunteer in Whangarei CAB since 2017, I have come to realise the crucial role played by CAB right across the community in every aspect of people's lives. Volunteers are trained to find the information and to clarify their rights for clients as they seek to to solve problems in housing, relationships, employment, health and consumer affairs, to name but a few. Often, clients are sent by WINZ or the Whangarei District Council or the District Courthouse as these institutions do not have sufficient time to address the complexities of many problems. In CAB, a volunteer has the time and skill to do this. CAB is very accessible for clients who can phone, go online or visit the office in person. It is abundantly clear from the responses of clients that they are empowered by their encounters with CAB. Clients can in many instances, solve the issue themselves or are equipped with the correct information and the right questions for their lawyer as they move forward. Given that the citizens of Auckland are faced by so many problems with housing, consumer and insurance rights, (especially in the wake of 27th January flooding and Cyclone Gabrielle) and many more, it does not make sense to further deprive them of the essential services provided by CAB.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** for climate crisis looming why on earth would public transport numbers not be expanding with the demand and accessibility.

community programs are so essential particularly in highly urbanised cities and cuts for youth and homelessness is a horrible way to save some money at others expense.

### Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less

towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

### 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Support
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	

(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** All of the reductions listed have a significant effect on both residents of Auckland, national visitors and overseas.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

### Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	

Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Community keeps a city alive. We need all of it!

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Keep a stake in case all this fails and we really need to sell up to get out of the shit.

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

Tell us why: Cost of living is insane. Increasing rates right now is bloody dumb.

# 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal

Tell us why: As above. Increasing rates is dumb in this cost of living crisis.

#### Local Boards

#### Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

Tell us why: Community is everything. We need community activities.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Library opening hours, Council-led community programming e.g. Out and About activations in parks, Protection and restoration of local waterways

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** Libraries are life for some people. Waterways always need protection and Poosie Parker's visit means we definitely need safe spaces to celebrate our LGBT friends.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services would you be prepared to have funding reduced for? (i.e. which are least important to you?) Mowing service levels on reserves, Local community grants fund, Support and capacity building for community-led activities (Strategic Partnerships Programme)

Do you think there are other areas where we could make savings to our local budgets? Axe perks for Crs and Wayne, lunch meetings not to be funded, reduce mayoral salary, car parks, car services etc. Honestly, it's so surprising that y'all would cancel community first. So many places to review miles before arts cuts!

# Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
<ul> <li>a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,</li> <li>b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas</li> <li>(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and</li> </ul>	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

### 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Just put people and community at the heart of your plans. Easy!

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why: Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt.

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
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Changes to other rates	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Auckland is already heavily congested as it is, we can't be adding more cars to the road, public transit needs to be a key funding priority.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** "Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres." These are all inarguably areas that need more support and funding. It is ludicrous to me that this is not glaringly obvious to all that have been involved in this proposed budget, that these are all essential services for an Auckland with happy and healthy citizens. Suggesting cutting homelessness funding is just insidious. I could go in but the point is that I am vehemently against this proposal.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

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Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

## Managing rates and debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: Council should both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

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# 7. What else is important to you?

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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Cutting funding to services that create spaces and opportunities for people to come together and create art and communities is the opposite of what I expect a local government to do for its people. Climate action is needed and it's needed now. We cannot a

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Because all of the above are extremely important for Auckland, how about streamlining management operations and services rather than getting a quote from a quote from a service to another service, start working smarter Akl City Council and think like a business

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

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Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Support
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	

c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Do not cut library services or staff!!!

# Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** The Southern Initiative and The Lab is providing the most exciting leadership and demonstrable innovation for community wellbeing, the benefits go beyond the immediate benefits for Auckland communities. The rest of the country is also benefiting from their leadership and innovation. The are the single most influential agency that I have worked with.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

## Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	I don't
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	I don't know
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	

Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.  Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Do not support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** The proposed cuts would reduce important services for communities across Tamaki Makaurau and would ultimately disadvantage the people who live there. They provide vital access to information, resources and connection. They make Auckland a vibrant and progressive city to live in and visit.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**It's important to ensure communities are resilient further protected from future harm caused by man made climate change

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	I don't
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	know

c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

# 7. What else is important to you?

# Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Mayor brown says he does not know what he does not know.. i want to tell him that libraries and citezens advice bureaus are essential services and cannot be done without. Their loss would impact society, (which is lots of people living together in a more o

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: 'I would not want to proceed with:

- Reducing regional services,
- Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,
- Reducing local board funded activities, and
- Reducing regional contestable grants.

I absolutely do not support these reductions. The effect of such a massive reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors, which are invaluable to what makes Tāmaki Makaurau a great and desirable place to be.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and

welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter, resulting in PERMANENT DAMAGE.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: public assets are important for fairness and accessibility

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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#### Debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

Tell us why: prosperity in the future can rebalance debt

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:  a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).  Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	I don't know
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	l don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	l don't know

### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I deplore any proposed reductions in social, cultural, arts and community wellbeing spending

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Consider whether there are any alternative approaches. Reductions to public transport services and community programmes, for example, may perpetuate existing inequalities.

# 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: To not proceed with any reductions and instead unfreeze the

Water Quality and Natural Environment Targeted Rates, increase borrowing, and maintain

the general rates package. Also an increase in general rates, a request for central government support, new targeted rates, and a lift in parking charges as alternative funding mechanisms.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

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#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	

c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will suffer.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Even though it's expected that the yearly savings would exceed any viable dividends it's just another massive part of nz just being sold off. In the long run....the actual long run, we'd prosper more from ownership in more ways than bonuses.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

## Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

Tell us why: People are struggling.

The country is struggling too.

But the people need to pay the bills or stuff will slide downhill in the community fast. If you do make a increase in rates...make it the same for residential and business. Fairs fair

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal

Tell us why: So basically your saying that you've never thought of putting together a storm budget before?

#### 5. Local Boards

### Franklin Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I don't know

Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

Tell us why these are most important to you: All of them are important.

Our communities have told us that providing a network of pathways (walkways and cycleways) between and within our local villages and town centres will help locals access services and facilities, and live healthy active lifestyles.

Our budgets cannot deliver a network of this scale without additional funding such as via a targeted rate. To implement a new rate, we would have to investigate further and consult with you again in a future Annual Budget process.

Do you think we should investigate a local targeted rate to fund a network of pathways across the Franklin Local Board area? Yes

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	Support
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

# What do you think of these proposals?

#### 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

Tell us why:

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

Tell us why: set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt.

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

#### Mängere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I don't know

### Tell us why:

Please rank our proposed local board priorities from most to least important to you:

Rank	Proposed Priorities
3	Investing in initiatives to reduce the impact of climate change, including tree planting, education programmes and environmental volunteers
1	Continue to provide residents with better quality facilities, parks and open spaces
5	Promoting activities to showcase our local arts and culture talent into career pathways

Rank	Proposed Priorities
4	Continue to identify procurement, quality employment and social enterprise opportunities for our residents
2	Improving the well-being of our locals by supporting our local economy to become more efficient, resilient, and sustainable through our reduced budget

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Protection and restoration of local waterways, Local waste minimisation programmes, Youth programmes

Tell us why these are most important to you:

How do you think we could support our communities to be better prepared and resilient to extreme weather events like the recent Auckland storm?

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

### Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: All they are all important

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why: Enable NZ citizens to purchase shares no outside or international purchasing of shares

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

# 5. Local Boards

#### Waitākere Ranges Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

## Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)

Tell us why these are most important to you:

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
<ul><li>a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,</li><li>b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and</li></ul>	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

FUND THE ARTS THEY ARE IMPORTANT IN KEEPING THE MANA AND WAIRUA OF OUR PEOPLE STRONG. IF WE DEFUND ART WE LOSE A VITAL WAY WE EXPRESS OURSELVES AND IMPACT THE FUTURE OF OUR TAMARIKI TO EXPRESS THEMESELVES IN A MEANINGFUL WAY. DEFUNDING THE ARTS WILL INCR

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: I do not agree with reducing community and social services such as Citizens Advice Bureau. Cutting these projects intensely puts pressure on low income households who rely on social and community support. On that note, it is ridiculous to minimise the importance of libraries. Once again, reducing funding to this service disproportionately affects those who cannot afford books or perhaps need help using the internet or technology. Assuming that people will "volunteer" to be librarians rather than paid employees is an unbelievable insult to all that librarians do.

I do not agree with reducing climate funding and investment. It is astounding that this is being considered after all that Auckland has been through recently in regards to weather. We need to prepare for the future so that the impacts (and clean up costs) are far less devastating. Investing in climate proof agendas is saving money in the long run rather than having to pay enormous costs when areas are devastated.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** <u>not proceed with if any:</u> How is reduced investment in the community and community projects such as education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events and social services such as homelessness funding a good approach? Issues such as homelessness isn't just going to go away - so what do you do about it then? The arts and culture is of significant value to a strong city - what are visitors going to do when this effects venues such as the zoo and art gallery? Don't you want people to visit Auckoand and take in the vibrancy of the city - if you get rid of art and culture programmes then there goes your vibrancy. Up the rates. Homeowners can afford it. Or reduce the pay packet of some of your consultants that you don't even need.

### Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes		
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Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** The airport is key and essential infrastructure for Auckland and integrates into our wider road and public transport network. Ceasing our stewardship of the airport removes the ability to have democratic input into how it operates effectively and in conce

# 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

**Tell us why:** I consider that this is precisely the time to take advantage of Auckland Council's excellent credit rating. Auckland's debt is at 250% of its revenue, well

below the 290% debt ceiling anddebt to revenue ratios measured by the Council's own benchmarks hav

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**This should be a priority after the devastating and lethal impacts of the floods. It is likely that a range of homes in a range of areas will be impacted by future storms - and therefore it is reasonable to address this by way of the small proposed increa

#### Local Boards

#### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support most priorities

#### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Local arts programmes, Local community events, Library hours

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** I grew up in Mt Albert and these were some of the most important things to me as a child in terms of my development and community participation, and cannot easily be assigned to higher levels of government or accessed elsewhere. Wherever I lived in Auckla

## Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	l don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	I don't know

What do you think of these proposals? I left Auckland and moved to Melbourne in 2016. Before that I lived there all my life and it's where my heart is. I am now in a middle-class professional role and my Australian-born partner is the same. We would like to return to Auckland one day and star

### 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Arts is important! There should be in an increase of funding not deductions

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

# 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	

(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

### What do you think of these proposals?

# 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

# 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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## 1. Operating spending reductions

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Please do not continue with proposed cuts to community services, activities and investment. eg. libraries, events, CABx, access to community facilitites, activation support and funding, locally driven initiatives. With ongoing social impacts of covid lockdowns and flooding, we need to be investing in local communities and their resilience more now than ever. Increasing opportunities for connection, belonging, conversations and collaboration are essential.

Amazing programmes such as the Southern/Western initiatives cost Council relatively little, with other funders/govt contributing far more financially than Council. Simply stopping these initiatives which are playing a key role in enabling new creative, community-led responses to complex community wellbeing challenges would be a HUGE and ShORT sighted mistake. Take care not to undo the very good work that's been done and will continue to be done through these strategic partnering initiatives which are enabling practical community-led solutions and ways forward.

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

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Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Need to think big picture and long term - not short term.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** Increase debt and rates - why isn't this an option above? As a rate payer who now lives outside of Auckland, I am happy to invest in Auckland's future. Those of us who can-must.

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**If we don't invest now, we'll only end up paying more later to fix things. Also need to make sure investment in resilience goes to support people/community-led planning and response. Local communities are first responders - can't just focus on fixing pi

### 5. Local Boards

#### Albert-Eden Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

**Tell us why:** Totally support investment in community activation, cohesion and connection - along with climate adaption initiatives. Pt Chev library also a key local hub that needs to be open and humming again.

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Parks planning, Programmes and activations in Epsom Community Centre, Parks maintenance (including mowing)

**Tell us why these are most important to you:** These three aspects feel like they will have the least impact - with Epsom community centre potentially having more options for community-led resourcing and co-investment than Sandringham. Local Boards could also help promote and encourage community co-i

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

What do you think of these proposals? Do not increase fees for pools etc, especially in communities with the most need/least ability to pay.

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Council's proposed budget feels ideologically driven and given the magnitude of proposed cuts - there is no time/room for creative conversations to find new collaborative solutions. Now is the time for brave leadership and proactive investment to support

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#### Your feedback

## 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Commenting on all of the reductions.

It is not viable for the culture of the city. It has been claimed that Auckland is one of the most 'liveable' city. With all these cuts, it will cause draw backs and mean that people are going to have less opportunities. Especially when the wealth gap is already extremely large.

Reducing funding for all of these, in particular "Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$20 million" is completely devastating. Communities rely on these programs and funding to live. Livelihoods, culture and identities will be lost.

These cuts will mean communities will become less safe and the well-being of those affected will be impacted. Less things to keep young/older people occupied equals more people will be vulnerable to unsafe environments and conditions.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why:** Privatisation of AIAL will cause Auckland city to be permanently poorer as it is an asset to the city. It doesn't consider the land and future value of it.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** Both set a higher general rates increase and make greater use of debt.

THERE IS A CLIMATE CRISIS GOING ON. We need to be able to adapt and evolve.

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**So important to invest in infrastructure at this time. We need to be equipped and ready. Especially with the response that the Auckland council had, it was not helpful in amongst the decades of underinvestment the city has had.

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

What do you think of these proposals? Waste management - so important to be conscious of how much waste we are putting back into the earth. Having food waste collections are so important as it contributes so much to green house gases. We need to be environmentally aware of our actions and the

### 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

**Tell us why:** Because if you own property, you're good and can pay your way. The government can help with cost of living to even out the expenditures on individuals.

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? I don't know

#### Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
<ul> <li>a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,</li> <li>b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and</li> </ul>	0
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	0
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	0

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

## 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Other

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	0

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any: Do not proceed with: maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services, reducing funding for Tātaki Auckland Unlimited, reducing funding for regional services, reducing local board funded activities or reducing regional contestable grants.

Public Transport Services require more funding to restore public confidence. In cities with well funded and reliable public transport, residents readily utilise those services. The opportunity cost to residents of idling in traffic due to Aucklands poor Public Transport Service is far greater than the cost of funding it effectively. I have spent up to 2 hours a day driving a relatively small section of the southern motorway to work because there is no reliable alternative. Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services will frustrate residents and continue to make Auckland inefficient and unliveable.

The proposed reduction in funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited, regional services, local board funded activities and regional contestable grants will deliver small savings for Auckland Council's overall budget. These cuts will detract from the activities that make Auckland vibrant and bring communities together. Services such as Youth Centres and Citizens Advice Bureaus offer necessary support to the community. The proposed funding reductions will have severe consequences for residents who no longer have access to the support these services offer.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
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#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Do not support

What do you think of these proposals? Invest more in buses, walking and cycleways. Auckland residents require these services to reduce their carbon emissions. This is a necessary step in reducing the extreme weather events that destroy property.

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

## 1. Operating spending reductions

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** not proceed with if any: Don't reduce local board funded activities and regional grants, these are useful for building vibrant, connected communities

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all **Auckland Council's shares?** I don't know

Tell us why: Doesn't seem like an ideal time to sell

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Do not proceed with the proposal Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

### Whau Local Board

It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024? I support all priorities

### Tell us why:

If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?) Community programme delivery, Protection and restoration of local waterways, Local arts and culture activities and programmes

Tell us why these are most important to you:

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Cogovernance with mana whenua on budgeting proposals

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#### Your feedback

## 1. Operating spending reductions

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

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Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

#### Tell us why:

#### 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

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## 5. Local Boards

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#### What do you think of these proposals?

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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

The proposed cuts to funding will have lasting and detrimental effects on our present and future communities and how they express themselves. It is degenerate in comparison to some of the greatest cities in our world which actively support their vibrant a

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$20 million

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** DO NOT Reduce the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	I don't
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	know
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas	KIIUW

(90) his price will be \$142.74) and	
(80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of	I don't
the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Climate and environmental action - do not cut any funds towards this

Do not cut funds to arts and culture

Do not cut any funds towards youth support and mental health

## Important privacy information





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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): New Zealand Film Festival Trust

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

## 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would** not proceed with if any: 'Our particular areas of concern relate to how any cuts would impact on the arts, culture and events sector in Tāmaki Makaurau across four identified areas of cuts:

- Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development, and other social services activities
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional contestable grants to save \$3 million

The arts, culture and events sector has faced major challenges in funding over a number of years and the recent impacts of Covid-19 amplified those impacts. Reducing funding now significantly impacts on these activities which deliver multiple benefits to ALL Aucklanders.

As Auckland recovers from Covid disruption, floods and the very recent cyclone, connection, community and social cohesion is more important than ever to invest in the social wellbeing of the residents of our largest city. Arts and cultural events and experiences provide positive impacts on the cultural and social wellbeing of a community and this is also

evidenced by the recent experience in the Christchurch region in 2010/2011 where artistic and creative initiatives led the way in building resilience and wellbeing among communities and provided a way to tell the various stories, and preserve social memory.

Arts and cultural events also provide economic benefits for the city. In recent weeks, Auckland has enjoyed the return of the Auckland Arts Festival with audiences reconnecting at events around the city, not only enjoying the collective experience, but bringing economic benefits with associated spend for the hospitality sector and providing employment and opportunities for a range of people in the creative sector.

We note Tātaki Auckland Unlimited's economic impact of the city's creative sector highlighting that the sector:

- makes up 5% of Auckland's economy
- directly employs more than 57,500 people
- generated \$7.8hn in GDP (50% of NZ's total creative GDP) and \$1.59bn in exports
- grea by 5.4% on average over the five years to 2022, outpacing the rest of the Auckland economy
- shows significant growth potential with forecasts predicting 7500 new jobs 2023-2028

As one of the major events on the calendar nationwide, and in Auckland, Whānau Mārama: New Zealand International Film Festival receives funding from Auckland Council via Tātaki Auckland Unlimited to assist in the presentation of the festival in Auckland. Having had to cancel the 2021 Auckland edition due to Covid-19 restrictions, we experienced first-hand how Aucklanders felt about losing a major event and in 2022 when we were able to return in a reduced capacity, we experienced how much this cultural event meant to Auckland. Feedback from our 2023 Audience Survey included:

"So glad to see Auckland city bustling again"

"It was wonderful to be back at the Civic watching films again - the NZIFF is a real bright spot during the long, dark winter."

Council has obligations to promote the cultural wellbeing of its community and arts, culture and creativity are essential to a healthy community.

Auckland is one of the most culturally diverse cities in the world, and needs a vibrant and active arts and culture sector that its communities are able to participate in and see works that reflect their own cultures and those around them.

The arts and culture sector brings people together, creates moments of joy and inspiration, and develops a sense of pride within communities. Arts and culture events are essential for a vibrant, liveable city.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why:

#### 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	0
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	0
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	0

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

## 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
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- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Do not proceed with:

Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited,

Reducing regional services,

Reducing local board funded activities, and

Reducing regional contestable grants.

I do not support these cost reductions. The net effect of such a sizable reduction in funding will negatively impact the local economy and devastate Auckland's culture, art and community sectors.

This is not the time to be cutting back. Now is the time to invest in Auckland's future.

When Auckland's communities are thriving and our arts and cultural sector is prospering, the entire city benefits. These services directly improve social cohesion, wellbeing and

our quality of life. They make our city more inclusive and welcoming helping us to attract and retain new residents and industry. They also boost the local economy, create jobs and make the city more prosperous.

Cutting this funding will negatively impact the local economy and the ability for our restaurants, hotels and retail sectors to generate revenue. And it will negatively impact the quality and diversity of education in our schools and communities.

These are not nice-to-haves that can be turned on or off at will. Jobs will be lost and some of the organisations responsible for delivering these services will shutter.

A reduction of this size will send our city backwards and cost us more in the long run.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

## Tell us why:

## Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	Support
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't
	know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

## 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Don't reduce funding for regional community services like CAB, libraries, community education, homelessness services and youth centres - those services are crucial for helping people to work and live in Auckland, especially for e.g. young people or new Auckland residents starting off in the city.

Don't reduce ECE funding - see Child Poverty Action Group's report on the role of high-quality ECE centres in reducing child poverty: https://www.cpag.org.nz/publications/privatisation-and-early-childhood-education-in-aotearoa-new-zealand

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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  put this change on hold for one year

#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

### Tell us why:

#### Local Boards

### Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

Waste management rates changes	
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Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	l don't know

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

## Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

## 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** I do not support the cutting of regional community services, local board funding, community grants, early childhood education, events, or public transportation. These initiatives provide quantifiable benefits to our communities. Cuts to many of these services will also likely most affect low income and marginalised communities who are in need of equitable support.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares? Other

Tell us why: I suggest don't change the policy, keep the shares and further increase rates and/or debt.

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
  increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business (residential and farm/lifestyle)
  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** Cuts to services are irresponsible in the midst of a climate and inequality crisis. I oppose cuts to early childcare centres and the CAB . Reducing the Water Quality and Natural Environment Targeted Rates by two-thirds is especially irresponsible in the w

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**I support investing in long-term climate resilience rather than reactionary solutions. I also emphasise that other climate and community resiliency initiatives funded through the Auckland Council budget should not be cut.

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	Support

b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	
Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	Support
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was	Do not

What do you think of these proposals? CATR should remain as established. I do not agree with using this fund to reduce costs to Auckland Transport. I support more investment in buses, walking and cycleways.

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- · Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

I support funding for public transport, climate action, social services, culture and community.

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable):

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

## 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
- Reducing our funding to Tataki Auckland Unlimited to save \$17.5m, with some effects on service delivery
  and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and stadiums and venues
  in Auckland
- Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, regional events, economic
  development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community
  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Do not proceed with any reduction in "community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes"

These create significant and life-altering opportunities for people involved. These create a culture, and give Auckland it's vibrancy. Culture and arts programmes are necessary to cultivate a future of creatives.

Honestly, if you want Auckland to be a place that people want to go, want to enjoy, want to live in, then you need artists. Don't think like an accountant, but think of the opportunities everyone can gain.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all **Auckland Council's shares?** I don't know

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### **Rates**

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt

**Tell us why:** The average house price in Auckland is pretty ridiculous, and you talking about very reasonable (if not modest) rate increases. I imagine the average Auckland homeowner would not even really notice the difference. Given the current economic climate I don'

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

Tell us why: This is an essential service that will help those that will be most in need of help, when the time comes.

#### 5. Local Boards

#### 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including: a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase, b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	I don't know
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
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Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	I don't know
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	Support

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

#### Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Please fund the arts.

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

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#### Debt

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

#### Tell us why:

## 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
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c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

Changes to other rates	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections.	
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Your feedback

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

#### Tell us why:

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

#### Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
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#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any:

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Set a higher general rates increase

## Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

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#### What do you think of these proposals?

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

#### Tell us why:

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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Make greater use of debt

#### Tell us why:

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

Waste management rates changes	
Cost changes in waste management, including:	
a) a 10.6 per cent base rate increase,	
b) an option for a new 80L bin in the former Auckland City Council and Manukau City Council areas (80L bin price will be \$143.71), and	
c) an increase to the 240L refuse bin price (from \$254.15 to \$287.41).	
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size.	
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.	

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Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate from what was planned, to ensure that we can continue to deliver the climate and service outcomes for which the CATR was established.	

#### What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

- Local board decision-making over local community services (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2022/2023 (page 53 in the consultation document).
- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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#### Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Sport New Zealand (IHI Aotearoa)

Your local board: Outside Auckland

#### Your feedback

## 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

- Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
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  empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$22 million
- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Local Board Funding

Sport NZ does not support a \$16 million reduction to local board funding per annum for 2023/2024.

The extent of these cuts will impact the play, active rec and sport sector and significantly diminish the roles Local Boards play in their communities. The loss of community grants, changes to open space maintenance and parks activation programmes will damage the sports club network and result in less people being active.

The absence of Parks activation programmes such as Out and About will particularly impact tamariki and rangatahi who live in areas of high deprivation.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

## Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
- Pausing our change to the split between business and residential rates. Under our current policy, annual
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  properties, so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer. Our proposal is to
  put this change on hold for one year

#### **Debt**

We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

#### Tell us why:

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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- Changes to fees and charges (page 53 in the consultation document).

Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

Please see attached.

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# Sport New Zealand (Sport NZ) submission on Auckland Council's 2023/2024 annual budget

Auckland Council is the major provider of play, active recreation and sport facilities in Auckland. Sport NZ, along with the many community organisations, greatly appreciates the positive outcomes Auckland Council investment has provided for a wide range of sports codes, demographics, cultures, ages and abilities. Council investment into the play, active recreation and sport sector makes an enormous contribution to the overall health and wellbeing of Aucklanders and it is important, in these times especially, that this continues.

We acknowledge the challenge Auckland Council faces regarding falling revenues and the rising costs of inflation and debt servicing. However, Council is not the only organisation that is challenged by the legacy of Covid-19. Shrinking public services and transferring these costs onto community groups and families is not the answer. We believe these budget decisions are being made too quickly for cuts of this scale and that the more appropriate process is via the LTP next year. The proposed cuts are being made without regard to the cumulative impact on communities, especially the most vulnerable, and that more time and effort needs to go into looking at alternatives.

The consultation documents refer to "seeking alternative funding sources". For our sector the options are limited and already constrained. There is no "magic bucket" of funding our sector can dip into to replace Council funding. Class 4 Gaming has been significantly impacted by COVID-19 and Council's sinking lid policy. Contestable funds are vastly oversubscribed. The Reserves Act 1977 means clubs have limited opportunities to generate operational funding from their own facilities.

## **About Sport New Zealand**

Sport NZ is a crown agency contributing to the wellbeing of everybody in Aotearoa New Zealand by leading an enriching and inspiring play, active recreation and sport system.

Sport NZ's vision is simple - to get Every Body Active in Aotearoa New Zealand.

We are vested in lifting the participation rates of those currently missing out on all the wellbeing benefits that being physically active provides, both to individuals and to communities.

Auckland is critical to the work of Sport NZ as a region which represents a third of the country's population and some of the largest concentrations of low participation

communities. Our research tells us there is very strong correlation between low physical activity levels and deprivation. Of particular concern to us are Pacific Island participation levels that dropped even further during Covid 19 and have not recovered.

## Strategic alignment of the Council planning and the annual budget

The Auckland Plan Belonging and Participation Outcome includes two directions:

- 1. Foster an inclusive Auckland where everyone belongs; and
- 2. Improve health and wellbeing for Aucklanders by reducing harm and disparities in opportunities.

The Auckland Sport and Recreation Strategic Action Plan was developed to "Get more Aucklanders living physically active lives through participation."

We do not see how this strategic context is reflected in the 2023-24 Annual Budget. The cutbacks proposed will undoubtedly have a significant impact on physical activity rates – particularly for high-deprivation communities.

## **Regional Sport and Recreation Funding**

# Sport NZ does not support the proposal to cut the Regional Sport and Recreation Programme Grant

3a. The proposed removal of the Regional Sport and Recreation Grants programme will impact tamariki and rangatahi, particularly those in high deprivation communities. This grant funds programmes which directly benefit tamariki and rangatahi with a focus on underactive communities. The programmes provide opportunities for many who would not be able to participate otherwise.

# Sport NZ does not support the proposal to cut the Sport and Recreation Facilities Operating Grant

3b. The proposed cuts to the Regional Sport and Recreation Facility Operating Grant will have a detrimental impact on the 12 facilities that currently receive this funding. A number of these facilities will not be able to survive the loss of the Fund on top of Covid 19 challenges that they themselves are still struggling with.

In the absence of this Fund their only option will be to increase the fees they charge the community. This risks active recreation and sport becoming only available to those that can afford to pay, increasing disparities which is at odds with the purposes of the Auckland Plan and Auckland Sport and Recreation Strategic Action Plan.

## **Local Board Funding**

# Sport NZ does not support a \$16 million reduction to local board funding per annum for 2023/2024.

The extent of these cuts will impact the play, active rec and sport sector and significantly diminish the roles Local Boards play in their communities. The loss of community grants, changes to open space maintenance and parks activation programmes will damage the sports club network and result in less people being active.

The absence of Parks activation programmes such as Out and About will particularly impact tamariki and rangatahi who live in areas of high deprivation.

## **Increased facility hire costs**

# Sport NZ does not support the increased costs to access council owned active communities' sites.

Increased charges create barriers for many across Tāmaki Makaurau and will impact tamariki and rangatahi, particularly those who already miss out and are disproportionally underactive. Access to council facilities will be increasingly unaffordable for many and sport and active recreation will only be accessible to those who can afford to pay.

## **Amendments to the Community Occupancy Guidelines**

# Sport NZ does not support the proposed amendments to the Community Occupancy Guidelines.

We oppose the proposal to charge maintenance to organisations in Council facilities and strongly oppose increasing peppercorn leases (rents).

This proposal will significantly impact our club network, which is largely run on the goodwill of volunteers. Most clubs operate on very low margins, and few have any reserves left as a result of COVID-19. Most clubs will be forced to generate this additional income by raising registration/membership fees and that will impact on playing numbers, again, particularly tamariki and rangatahi in high deprivation communities.

## Cuts to the Tātaki Auckland Unlimited Operating Budget

# Sport NZ does not support the proposed cuts to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited Budget for major events

Major events deliver significant economic returns to the city, add to its vibrancy and attraction on the world stage and importantly for our communities, enable legacy investment in community sport infrastructure. The investment into the three women's world cups (Cricket, Rugby and Football) have seen significant investment from multiple agencies into community facilities to ensure they are welcoming and appropriate for women and young girls. Many of the upgraded facilities from this investment are located on council owned land

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and part of our club network. These three codes are now able to build on the success of these events and provide pathways for our underactive wahine toa. The investment also provides an improved community asset for wider community use which supports encouraging physical activity of our people.

## **Finally**

Sport NZ, Aktive and Auckland Council share a common interest to ensure the wellbeing of all Aucklanders using physical activity as a core building block.

Looking after the wellbeing of our communities is more important than ever since the COVID-19 pandemic impact on all aspects of our wellbeing. The budget being proposed will inevitably lead to further declines in physical activity and wellbeing and hurt the most vulnerable people in Auckland.

Auckland Council investment in the play, active recreation and sport sector is an essential service for the wellbeing of Aucklanders and as such it is a "must do" rather than a "should do".





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#### Your feedback

## 1. Operating spending reductions

Auckland Council have already decided to reduce costs by simplifying management structures and sharing resources more across the Council group (including Auckland Transport and other Council Controlled Organisations).

Our proposal to save \$130 million would also require us to make other reductions, including:

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

**Tell us why, and which reductions you would <u>not</u> proceed with if any:** Such events as music in parks should stay. With the amount of anxiety going about now, this is a must have.

## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt?

Tell us why:

## 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms?

Tell us why:

#### 5. Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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## What do you think of these proposals?

## 7. What else is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including:

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Or is there anything further you would like to give feedback on?

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Kia ora,

I am submitting on the Auckland Council proposed Annual Budget. The proposed budget is not consistent with Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri Auckland's Climate Plan nor with Auckland Council's responsibility to address climate change and urgently reduce emissions. Removing funding for the below will cause significant damage to Auckland's fight against climate change and the biodiversity crisis.

I oppose maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services. Public transport services must be increased and improved to better serve community needs. We need to enable more people to use public transport in order to transition to a low-carbon transport system, reduce emissions and unclog our motorways.

I oppose reducing regional services where this relates to climate education programmes essential to our city's future resilience, and environmental work crucial to protecting everyone from severe weather impacts – like restoring wetlands, improving stormwater management, and maintaining urban tree cover.

I oppose reducing local board funded activities across all boards. Grants and investment into community services provide great value to Aucklanders. For every dollar that council invests we get back many more volunteer hours. Many boards – such as Hibiscus and Bays Local Board and Māngere-Ōtāhuhu – invest a significant amount into support for local

community conservation to protect taonga species (kauri) or landscapes (e.g. Pest Free Hibiscus Coast). Community efforts like these are important for nature and communities.

I oppose reducing regional contestable grants.

I oppose reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using reserves collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024. This proposed "pause" may impact delivery of essential projects to protect our biodiversity and taonga species in 2023/24, such as kauri dieback work. Our kauri forests are so important for cleaning our air, filtering our water, reducing erosion, recreation, and physical and mental wellbeing. Work must continue to protect kauri and our wider natural environment.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

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To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** I oppose reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using reserves collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024. This pr

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**I support an increase of the operating budgets, or 'storm response investment', by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This investment must prioritise nature-based solutions, such as the protect

#### Local Boards

## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

We are proposing some changes to targeted rates as set out in the following table. The changes are mainly to ensure we are covering the necessary costs. If we do not proceed with the changes then the general rates increase may need to be higher than we have proposed.

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#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Kia ora,

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I oppose maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services. Public transport services must be increased and improved to better serve community needs. We need to enable more people to use public transport in order to transition to a low-carbon transport system, reduce emissions and unclog our motorways.

I oppose reducing regional services where this relates to climate education programmes essential to our city's future resilience, and environmental work crucial to protecting everyone from severe weather impacts – like restoring wetlands, improving stormwater management, and maintaining urban tree cover.

I oppose reducing local board funded activities across all boards. Grants and investment into community services provide great value to Aucklanders. For every dollar that council invests we get back many more volunteer hours. Many boards – such as Hibiscus and Bays Local Board and Māngere-Ōtāhuhu – invest a significant amount into support for local

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## 2. Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

Our proposed budget includes a planned change to the AIAL shareholding policy. This will allow us to sell some or all our shares in AIAL.

Selling all our shareholding (currently around 18% of shares in Auckland Airport) would reduce our debt by an estimated \$1.9 billion. This would reduce interest costs on our debt by around \$88 million per year, which is greater than what we'd expect to earn from the dividends if we kept the shares.

We have also considered other options, including both keeping all our shares and a partial sale that reduces our shareholding while maintaining at least 10 per cent (a so-called "blocking stake"). These options would contribute less towards our budget reduction target and require other actions – most likely by further increasing rates or debt (within existing policy limits).

What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
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We propose to increase our use of debt by up to \$75 million for 2023/2024. This will be used to fund some capital expenditure (assets such as roads, pipes and buildings) that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue (such as rates and user charges). This will free up that operating revenue to help address our budget shortfall.

What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** I oppose reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using reserves collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024. This pr

#### 4. Storm Response

The impacts of the recent storm events beginning on Auckland Anniversary weekend could be substantial over time and we don't yet know the full costs.

Changes to our investment in land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment will be needed. Some new investments will be delayed so we can undertake urgent repairs and replacements.

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**I support an increase of the operating budgets, or 'storm response investment', by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This investment must prioritise nature-based solutions, such as the protect

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- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

#### What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Kia ora,

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I oppose maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services. Public transport services must be increased and improved to better serve community needs. We need to enable more people to use public transport in order to transition to a low-carbon transport system, reduce emissions and unclog our motorways.

I oppose reducing regional services where this relates to climate education programmes essential to our city's future resilience, and environmental work crucial to protecting everyone from severe weather impacts – like restoring wetlands, improving stormwater management, and maintaining urban tree cover.

I oppose reducing local board funded activities across all boards. Grants and investment into community services provide great value to Aucklanders. For every dollar that council invests we get back many more volunteer hours. Many boards – such as Hibiscus and Bays Local Board and Māngere-Ōtāhuhu – invest a significant amount into support for local

community conservation to protect taonga species (kauri) or landscapes (e.g. Pest Free Hibiscus Coast). Community efforts like these are important for nature and communities.

I oppose reducing regional contestable grants.

I oppose reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using reserves collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024. This proposed "pause" may impact delivery of essential projects to protect our biodiversity and taonga species in 2023/24, such as kauri dieback work. Our kauri forests are so important for cleaning our air, filtering our water, reducing erosion, recreation, and physical and mental wellbeing. Work must continue to protect kauri and our wider natural environment.

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What is your preference on this proposal to change the AIAL shareholding policy to enable the sale of all Auckland Council's shares?

Tell us why:

## 3. Managing rates and debt

To help with our budget challenge, we propose a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around **4.66 per cent or \$154 a year** (around \$3 a week) and to increase our use of debt by up to **\$75 million** in 2023/2024.

#### Rates

Our proposed 4.66 per cent total rates increase would be achieved by:

- An average increase in general rates of 7.0 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
- Reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money we have already collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
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#### **Debt**

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What is your preference on our proposal to manage rates and debt? Other

**Tell us why:** I oppose reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using reserves collected from these targeted rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024. This pr

## 4. Storm Response

Additionally, from 2023/2024, we are proposing to increase our operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address our budget shortfall).

What is your preference on our proposal to manage the impact of future storms? Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year

**Tell us why:**I support an increase of the operating budgets, or 'storm response investment', by around \$20 million each year to improve our ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This investment must prioritise nature-based solutions, such as the protect

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## 6. Changes to other rates and fees and charges

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## What do you think of these proposals?

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- Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million
- Reducing regional grants to save \$6 million
- No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.

## What is your preference on the proposed operating cost reductions?

Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt

Tell us why, and which reductions you would not proceed with if any: Kia ora,

I am submitting on the Auckland Council proposed Annual Budget. The proposed budget is not consistent with Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri Auckland's Climate Plan nor with Auckland Council's responsibility to address climate change and urgently reduce emissions. Removing funding for the below will cause significant damage to Auckland's fight against climate change and the biodiversity crisis.

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