



Annual Plan 2025/2026

Written Feedback

Regional Organisations Volume #3

April 2025



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#8565



Annual Plan 2025-2026

Note: this simplified 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): Problem Gambling Foundation

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

Our proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026 builds on our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP).

The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Tell us why

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

I don't know

Tell us why

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Question 5: Other feedback**Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?**

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

See attached

Summary of Attachment:

Key Issues and Recommendations

Sinking Lid Policy: Commends the Council for maintaining the sinking lid policy, which prevents new gambling venues and machines.

Urgent Action Needed: Calls for more urgent and comprehensive measures to address the concentration of pokies in high-deprivation areas.

Support Services: Advocates for increased support for addiction recovery programs, mental health services, and economic empowerment initiatives.

Local Control: Encourages the Council to advocate for greater local control over the placement of pokies and gambling venues.

Faster Reduction: Suggests that more control would allow for quicker reduction of pokies in high-risk areas.



#8568



Annual Plan 2025-2026

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Submitter details:

Organisation (if applicable): Ngati Maru Runanga

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

Our proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026 builds on our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP).

The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Other

Tell us why

See attached

Summary of Attachment:

Partnership and Participation: Ngāti Maru Rūnanga stresses the importance of partnership and participation at all levels, ensuring that the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi (Treaty of Waitangi) are upheld through strong, transparent governance and mutual respect.

Fiscal Responsibility: The submission supports the Council's efforts to eliminate wasteful expenditure and optimize spending across capital projects. It advocates for strategic investments that enhance economic development and community well-being.

Sustainable Infrastructure: Ngāti Maru Rūnanga commends the focus on sustainable infrastructure projects that align with their values of kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and environmental stewardship. They urge the integration of mana whenua (indigenous people with authority over the land) perspectives in infrastructure planning and execution.

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Support

Tell us why

See attached

Summary of Attachment:

The submission endorses the proposal to introduce a visitor bed night levy, projected to generate approximately \$27 million. This levy is seen as a fair revenue stream that does not burden local

ratepayers and can create new economic opportunities for Ngāti Maru, including employment and business development.

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Question 5: Other feedback

Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

See attached:

Summary of Attachment:

Mana Whenua Integration: Ngāti Maru Rūnanga calls for structured, ongoing engagement mechanisms to ensure mana whenua perspectives are integrated into all budgetary and service delivery processes. This includes consultation on infrastructure, property management, and economic initiatives.

Targeted Investment in Rangatahi (Youth): The submission highlights the need for targeted investment in youth development, recommending budget allocations for youth employment schemes, leadership programs, and educational scholarships.

Environmental Stewardship: Emphasis is placed on kaitiakitanga, advocating for increased investment in environmental restoration projects involving mana whenua leadership. The submission calls for climate resilience, biodiversity protection, and sustainable urban planning to be central considerations in all Council initiatives.

Ngāti Maru Rūnanga Submission on the Auckland Council Annual Budget 2025–2026

Ngāti Maru Rūnanga submits the following comments and recommendations regarding the Auckland Council Annual Budget for 2025–2026. Our submission is firmly rooted in our vision to sustain and recognise the mana motuhake and tino rangatiratanga of Ngāti Maru. We are guided by a kaupapa that promotes the educational, spiritual, cultural, social, and economic well-being of our whānau. Our mission is to foster, develop, and represent the interests of our people, ensuring that our cultural heritage is protected while actively contributing to the prosperity of Auckland.

At the heart of our priorities is a commitment to partnership and participation at all levels, ensuring that the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi are upheld. Strong, transparent governance built on mutual respect and consultation is essential to safeguarding our collective interests. In this context, we acknowledge the Council's focus on cost-effectiveness, efficient procurement, and sustainable infrastructure, as these measures help create a fiscal environment where resources can be reinvested into services and projects that benefit all Aucklanders, including our rangatahi, kaumatua, and whānau.

Ngāti Maru Rūnanga supports the Council's commitment to eliminating wasteful expenditure and optimizing spending across capital projects. Fiscal responsibility is crucial for ensuring that ratepayer funds are used effectively, delivering both short-term savings and long-term structural reforms. We advocate for strategic investment that not only enhances economic development but also strengthens community well-being.

In particular, we commend the focus on sustainable infrastructure projects, as they align with our values of kaitiakitanga and environmental stewardship. We urge the Council to integrate mana whenua perspectives into infrastructure planning and execution to ensure culturally appropriate development that respects our ancestral lands and resources.

We endorse the Council's proposal to introduce a visitor bed night levy as a fair and equitable revenue stream. A levy set between 2.5% and 3% is projected to generate approximately \$27 million, helping bridge the funding gap for major events and destination marketing. This

measure ensures that the financial burden does not fall on local ratepayers but rather on visitors who contribute to the demand for infrastructure and tourism services.

The additional revenue from this levy can create new economic opportunities for Ngāti Maru, including employment and business development prospects. We encourage the Council to consider directing a portion of these funds towards initiatives that support Māori tourism enterprises and rangatahi workforce development.

Ngāti Maru Rūnanga emphasises the need for Auckland Council to fully integrate mana whenua perspectives in all budgetary and service delivery processes. We call for structured, ongoing engagement mechanisms that allow for direct input from iwi into decision-making processes.

This includes consultation on infrastructure, property management, and economic initiatives to ensure that our cultural heritage is respected and protected. The Council must recognize our unique relationship with the land and ensure that budgetary reforms do not compromise our rights, aspirations, or traditional practices. We propose the establishment of formal reporting and engagement sessions between Council representatives and mana whenua to ensure that consultation is not only meaningful but also leads to tangible outcomes.

While we acknowledge that some elements of the Auckland Council budget benefit all Aucklanders, there remains a distinct lack of targeted investment in rangatahi. Infrastructure improvements, public transport upgrades, and safer public spaces indirectly benefit young people by creating better access to education, employment, and recreation. However, there is an opportunity for the Council to develop more focused programs specifically addressing youth development, career pathways, and educational support.

We recommend the Council allocate budgetary provisions to initiatives that directly empower rangatahi, including dedicated youth employment schemes, leadership programs, and educational scholarships. Supporting rangatahi in meaningful ways contributes to the long-term resilience and prosperity of Auckland as a whole.

Kaitiakitanga remains a core priority for Ngāti Maru Runanga. We expect that Auckland Council's budgetary decisions will uphold environmental stewardship and ensure the

sustainable management of land, water, and other natural resources. Climate resilience, biodiversity protection, and sustainable urban planning must be central considerations in all Council initiatives.

We call for increased investment in environmental restoration projects, particularly those that involve mana whenua leadership and engagement. By partnering with iwi on sustainability initiatives, the Council can strengthen its commitment to ecological protection while upholding the rights and responsibilities of tangata whenua.

Ngāti Maru Runanga's priorities align with Auckland Council's broader budgetary objectives of fiscal responsibility, economic growth, and community well-being. However, we stress the importance of embedding mana whenua perspectives in all decision-making processes, ensuring that our cultural and economic interests are safeguarded.

Nga mihi



Chairperson
Ngāti Maru Runanga
13/3/2025



#8569



Annual Plan 2025-2026

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Submitter details:

Organisation (if applicable): Public Transport Users Association(PTUA)

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

Our proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026 builds on our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP).

The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

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It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Tell us why

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Tell us why

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Question 5: Other feedback**Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?**

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

See attached

Summary of Attachment:

Te Huia Continuation and Improvements:

The Te Huia train service is performing well, with plans for Sunday services and additional stops.

22% of passengers are from Auckland, and PTUA urges the council to assist with subsidies.

New safety requirements (ETCS) need to be addressed with KiwiRail's cooperation.

Grade Separation on the Western Line:

Urgent need for grade separation to improve safety and efficiency, starting with Morningside crossing.

Suggests extending platforms with temporary scaffolding to accommodate more passengers.

Link to CBD Improvements at The Strand:

Proposes better bus connections from The Strand to the CBD, including a new bus stop.

Calls for improved signage and directions for passengers.

Trains to Huapai:

Advocates for a commuter service between Huapai and Swanson, serving a growing population.

Proposes a privately funded service with minimal public funding required.

Highlights the need for infrastructure upgrades and political support.



#8570



Annual Plan 2025-2026

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Submitter details:

Organisation (if applicable): The Future Is Rail

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

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What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Support most

Tell us why

See attached:

1. The Future Is Rail supports aspects of the Auckland Council Annual Plan that supports safe, reliable, frequent, accessible, and affordable public transport.
2. We believe that Auckland derives benefit from Te Huia, the Auckland/Hamilton interregional train service, and should contribute funding towards this.

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Tell us why

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Question 5: Other feedback

Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

The Future Is Rail

Submission to Auckland Annual Plan 2025/2026 from The Future Is Rail

28 March 2025

1. The Future Is Rail supports aspects of the Auckland Council Annual Plan that supports safe, reliable, frequent, accessible, and affordable public transport.
2. We believe that Auckland derives benefit from Te Huia, the Auckland/Hamilton interregional train service, and should contribute funding towards this.

The Future Is Rail is a community-led initiative focused on revitalising and expanding New Zealand's rail network as part of a sustainable, convenient, and affordable transport ecosystem. The organisation advocates for the growth and enhancement of passenger rail services, emphasising the social, environmental, economic benefits of rail transport.

The Future Is Rail started as a grassroots campaign in 2022 and has since grown into a more organised movement with 12,000 supporters and local groups across New Zealand. We continue to champion the cause of rail transport, aiming to create a cleaner, connected, and more vibrant society.

Rail is crucial to Auckland for reducing traffic congestion, lowering carbon emissions, and providing efficient, reliable public transport, enhancing connectivity and supporting sustainable urban growth.

Auckland is also growing outside its official boundaries. Pokeno, Tuakau, and Te Kauwhata have experienced significant growth recently, which is expected to continue. Rail lines connect these North Waikato towns to Auckland.

In addition, economic, social, education, and tourism connections between Hamilton and Auckland are important and aid the economic growth and social vitality of both cities.

It's for these reasons we are strongly supportive of Te Huia, the interregional rail service between Auckland and Hamilton. **We believe Auckland derives benefit from this service, and should contribute funding towards Te Huia.**

Despite being funded by the Waikato Regional Council (WRC), nearly one quarter of Te Huia users are Aucklanders. In addition, people travelling from the Waikato to spend the day in the city, attend an event, or use the airport, contribute directly to Auckland's economy.

We held public meetings in Auckland, Hamilton, and Pokeno over the past few years. More than 300 people attended these meetings to show their support for interregional rail services.

There are several ways that Auckland Council could support Te Huia.

#8570

- The most effective would be to contribute to the operating costs of the service. This would help secure the long-term future of Te Huia which is currently still within a 5 year trial. The future of this service must be secured. Many people rely on the service for work, leisure, family, and long-distance transport connections.
- Another way Auckland Council could contribute to Te Huia in the short term could be to support service improvements, such as a Sunday service.

In summary, The Future Is Rail supports actions in Auckland Council's Annual Plan that enhance safe, reliable, and affordable public transport. We advocate for Auckland Council funding towards Te Huia, the Auckland-Hamilton train service, and emphasise its benefits for reducing congestion and enhancing connectivity.





#8571



Annual Plan 2025-2026

Note: this simplified 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): Disabled Persons Assembly New Zealand

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

Our proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026 builds on our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP).

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What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Other

Tell us why

See attached:

Summary of Attachment:

Key Areas of Focus

Transport:

Recommendation for free public transport for Total Mobility and Community Services Card holders.

Emphasis on affordable, accessible, and active public transport.

Water:

Call for an accessibility audit on the 'Making Space for Water' programme.

Engagement with the disabled community on water-related issues.

Built Environment:

Commitment to Universal Design in all major builds and upgrades.

Development of accessible playgrounds and public housing.

Natural Environment:

Importance of emergency preparedness for disabled people.

Investment in climate resilience and accessibility.

Community Economic and Cultural Development:

Inclusion of disabled people in planning stages for festivals and major events.

Promotion of accessible tourism for economic development.

Well-Managed Local Government:

Support for the fairer funding model for local boards.

Accessibility education and inclusion in local planning

Question 2: Destination management and major events

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A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Other

Tell us why

See attached:

Summary of Attachment:

Bed Night Levy: Exemption for Total Mobility and community service card holders.

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Question 5: Other feedback

Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

See attached:

Summary of Attachment:

Accessible Formats: Ensure information is provided in accessible formats.

Tangata Whaikaha Māori: Support for representation and engagement with disabled Māori organizations.



Disabled Persons Assembly NZ

March 2025

Tēnā koutou ki te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau

Please find attached our submission on Auckland Council's Annual Plan 2024/25

For any further inquiries, please contact:



Policy Advisor (Auckland)

Disabled Persons Assembly New Zealand

Email:



Introducing Disabled Persons Assembly NZ

We work on systemic change for the equity of disabled people

Disabled Persons Assembly NZ (DPA) is a not-for-profit pan-impairment Disabled People's Organisation run by and for disabled people.

We recognise:

- Māori as Tangata Whenua and [Te Tiriti o Waitangi](#) as a founding document of Aotearoa New Zealand;
- disabled people as experts on their own lives;
- the [Social Model of Disability](#) as the guiding principle for interpreting disability and impairment;
- the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#) as the basis for disabled people's relationship with the State;
- the [New Zealand Disability Strategy](#) as Government agencies' guide on disability issues; and
- the [Enabling Good Lives Principles](#), [Whāia Te Ao Mārama: Māori Disability Action Plan](#), and [Faiva Ora: National Pasifika Disability Disability Plan](#) as avenues to disabled people gaining greater choice and control over their lives and supports.

We drive systemic change through:

Rangatiratanga / Leadership: reflecting the collective voice of disabled people, locally, nationally and internationally.

Pārongo me te tohutohu / Information and advice: informing and advising on policies impacting on the lives of disabled people.

Kōkiri / Advocacy: supporting disabled people to have a voice, including a collective voice, in society.

Aroturuki / Monitoring: monitoring and giving feedback on existing laws, policies and practices about and relevant to disabled people.

United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

DPA was influential in creating the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD),¹ a foundational document for disabled people which New Zealand has signed and ratified, confirming that disabled people must have the same human rights as everyone else. All state bodies in New Zealand, including local and regional government, have a responsibility to uphold the principles and articles of this convention.

There are a number of UNCRPD articles particularly relevant to this submission, including:

- **Article 4.3: General obligations – representation of disabled people and our organisations in decision making**
- **Article 8: Awareness raising**
- **Article 9: Accessibility**
- **Article 11: Situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies**
- **Article 19: Living independently and being included in the community**
- **Article 20: Personal mobility**
- **Article 21: Freedom of expression and opinion, and access to information**
- **Article 29: Participation in political and public life**
- **Article 30: Participation in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport**

New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026

Since ratifying the UNCRPD, the New Zealand Government has established a Disability Strategy² to guide the work of government agencies on disability issues. The vision is that New Zealand be a non-disabling society, where disabled people have equal opportunity to achieve their goals and aspirations, and that all of New Zealand works together to make this happen. It identifies eight outcome areas contributing to achieving this vision.

There are a number of strategy outcomes particularly relevant to this submission, including:

- **Outcome 5 – Accessibility**

The submission

DPA welcomes the opportunity to give feedback on the Auckland Council's Annual Plan 2024/25. We note that Council is building on the Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP) which DPA has submitted on.

Before delving into the submission, we would like to highlight some of the key positive initiatives which have happened in the last year. These include:

- Council's engagement with Auckland disability community around emergency preparedness
- Council providing accessible formats in NZSL and Easy Read for some consultation documents
- Council's implementation of the Auckland Future Fund to reduce rates increases
- Council's Fairer Funding model rollout to local boards to include funding based on population, level of deprivation and geographic area
- Council's engagement with tangata whaikaha Māori in Tāmaki Makaurau
- Council's development of accessible playgrounds

Disability demographics

According to Statistics New Zealand's 2023 Disability Survey, Auckland had a disability population rate of 14 percent.¹ Which indicates that there are at least 280,000 disabled people currently residing within the city's boundaries.²

This number is likely to increase further as the population ages as there is a strong correlation between ageing and disability.

¹ <https://www.whaikaha.govt.nz/news/news/17-percent-of-new-zealanders-are-disabled>

² <https://www.stats.govt.nz/news/auckland-population-may-hit-2-million-in-early-2030s/>

In 2023, 219,750 people in Auckland were aged 65 or older, which is 13.3% of the total Auckland population.³

By 2030, it's projected that around 1 in 5 people in Aotearoa New Zealand will be aged 65 or older, with the number of people in this age group expected to increase significantly, reaching 1.2 million by 2034.⁴

The increasing number of disabled and older people is one reason why Auckland Council needs to plan and invest in the development of fully accessible, inclusive communities.

Accessibility for Auckland ratepayers

Auckland's disability community, either directly or indirectly (via rents) pay rates but many then find that they cannot use services or attend events because they are inaccessible. There needs to be equity of access for disabled people to Council services and projects. An example was given by the Auckland Council Disability Advisory Panel that if a specific people group were advised they could not use any Council services or attend Council events, there would be an uproar, yet that is what occurs for disabled people all too often.

We reiterate the points mentioned in our previous LTP submission that there must be investment in the following priorities as these are important to Auckland's disabled community:

- Affordable, accessible, active public transport including essential road safety, walking and cycling improvements.
- Building and sustaining accessible, connected communities where everyone can live without barriers to their participation in terms of good housing, infrastructure, community facilities and parks.

³ <https://rep.infometrics.co.nz/auckland/census/drill-down/broad-age-group/65-years-and-older>

⁴ <https://www.stats.govt.nz/information-releases/national-population-projections-2020base2073/>

- Developing a climate resilient, environmentally friendly city that can withstand the challenges of climate change and contribute to its reversal.
- Enabling the participation of disabled people in the economic life of the city as workers, consumers and entrepreneurs.
- Enabling the participation of disabled people in the artistic, cultural, sporting, recreational and social life of the city.
- Ensuring that the voices of disabled people can be heard in all decisions, especially those that impact on our disabled communities across Tāmaki Makaurau.

The key areas of the plan that will be covered in this submission are:

- Transport
- Water
- Built environment
- Natural environment
- Community Economic and cultural development
- Well-managed local government

a) Transport

DPA recommended in the LTP submission that Council increase its investment in Auckland Transport's Accessibility Action Plan⁵, by offering free transport to community events aimed at disabled people, continuing to fund road safety programmes and contributing to the cost of fitting out all new mobility service passenger vehicles. We have not received any feedback on these

⁵ <https://at.govt.nz/about-us/transport-plans-strategies/accessibility-action-plan>

recommendations but would like to comment on the current capping of public transport fares.

DPA would like to see Council work towards free public transport for Total Mobility and Community Services Card holders. We ask that no further increases in transport fares are made as disabled people are disproportionately high users of public transport.⁶ The benefit to Aucklanders of having more affordable public transport is that it incentivises people to use it which reduces carbon emissions - any Aucklander who has been stuck in peak hour traffic knows that the potential of having fewer cars on the motorway is better for everyone.

Recommendation 1: That Council provide free public transport for people with Total Mobility and community services cards.

b) Water

DPA recommends that Council conduct an accessibility audit on the 'Making Space for Water' programme and that it engages with the disabled community when doing so. We noted that the government's water reform programme, Local Water Done Well, was mentioned in the annual plan and that Watercare will become more financially independent in its goal of keeping water affordable for Aucklanders. If Watercare can invest more without being constrained by Auckland Council's debt limits, it would be good if one of their investments could be around accessibility to their programmes.

From a tangata whaikaha Māori perspective, especially those who are mana whenua, water provides physical and spiritual well-being from a te ao Māori perspective. Northland Regional Council released a discussion document

⁶ https://at.govt.nz/bus-train-ferry/at-hop-card/card-concessions-discount-fares?utm_source=actionstation&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=blast3440&source=actionstation&bucket=blast3440

highlighting the interconnection of cosmologies with the importance and life of water.⁷ .

Recommendation 2: That Watercare provide accessible information for their programmes to inform disabled people about the importance of all water infrastructure.

c) Built environment

DPA recommends that Council's contractors are regularly reminded of Council's commitment to Universal Design, as is an area that needs to be constantly communicated by Council as we regularly receive anecdotal evidence of inaccessible or ineffective build designs. Council needs to build better , more inclusive and accessible environments, policies, and practices that allow everyone, including disabled people, to participate fully in society.

DPA has made many submissions on accessible playgrounds for disabled children, and disabled parents and grandparents also want access to playgrounds to take their disabled and non-disabled children and grandchildren alike into them. One of our staff recently visited Takapuna and thoroughly enjoyed the accessible playground.

However, when it comes to inaccessible playgrounds, Mission Bay has been mentioned to us as a primary example of inaccessibility given that the sandpit there is difficult for children in wheelchairs to access, the playground is too small for the space, and it can be inaccessible for disabled parents of disabled and non-disabled children alike.

Auckland Council has mentioned the significant costs involved with maintaining and upgrading pools and heritage buildings, but Auckland's disability community needs firmer assurances that accessibility will be factored into every project including pool and heritage building upgrades.

⁷ <https://www.nrc.govt.nz/media/lxcnbe0w/stage-1-report-te-mana-me-te-mauri-o-te-wai-a-discussion-document-for-te-tai-tokerau-final.pdf>

When it comes to pools and heritage buildings, Eke Panuku Auckland's new Karanga Plaza Tidal Steps at Wynyard Quarter design is a good example of inaccessibility that needs to be addressed.

The best way to get quality advice on accessibility improvements would be through Council contracting Barrier Free auditors to undertake this work. We realise that there is both Council and public reluctance to hire external consultants, but any money spent on gaining high quality external advice in this case would mean less ratepayer money being spent on fixing up identified accessibility issues after a project is completed.

On a more positive note, DPA is pleased that Council will continue its collaboration with Kāingā Ora and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development to progress infrastructure investment in the Auckland Housing Programme areas of Māngere, Tāmaki, and Mt Roskill as there is a substantive need for accessible public housing in these areas.

Disabled people should be given the option of rent to own as it can be distressing for people in our community to stay in a home for years, build a safe community around them, and then be told to move.^{8 9} Other considerations that also need to be factored in are proximity to essential services – libraries, medical care, supermarkets etc.

Ultimately, members of the Auckland disability community who are ratepayers want the same access in their local communities, as they would like to see a plan and timeline around making community-based services more accessible for disabled Aucklanders.

Recommendation 3: That Council contractors with all major builds and building upgrades are required to commit to Universal Design and accessibility needs to be included in all the investment impact assessments.

⁸ <https://www.stuff.co.nz/pou-tiaki/131070164/disabled-people-concerned-over-accessibility-of-possible-kinga-ora-redevelopment?rm=a>

⁹ <https://www.stuff.co.nz/pou-tiaki/131392512/appalled-kinga-ora-achieves-only-10-of-target-for-accessible-new-homes>

Recommendation 4: That accessible playgrounds are designed in consultation with local disability community.

Recommendation 5: That Council in collaboration with Kāingā Ora and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development include the disability community in providing a fuller accessibility perspective.

d) Natural environment

DPA appreciated the invitation to the Auckland Council engagement in November last year around emergency preparedness and commends Council for its continued work in this respect. We look forward to receiving the final report from this engagement.

DPA sees the connections of climate change, severe weather events and the need for emergency preparedness for disabled people. Tackling climate resilience should be a high priority when managing our natural environment as disabled people are one of the most at risk groups from climate change.¹⁰

The importance of the natural environment for our physical and mental health cannot be understated. The positive impact of nature on the mental health of New Zealanders has been quantified.¹¹ Natural environments are important for keeping everyone healthy and well as highlighted by the Auckland floods where people, including those from within the disability community, were not able to access the food in their gardens due to contamination from flood waters. The reduction of access to natural food reserves greatly impacted disabled people with some having trouble ordering food from online supermarket websites.¹²

¹⁰ <https://www.stuff.co.nz/pou-tiaki/131090636/tmaki-makaurau-flood-response-put-disabled-at-risk-advocate-says?rm=a>

¹¹ <https://mentalhealth.org.nz/news/post/survey-shows-strong-link-between-time-spent-in-nature-and-positive-mental-health>

¹² <https://www.stuff.co.nz/auckland/local-news/131128910/life-or-death-for-disabled-people-caught-in-auckland-floods-improvements-needed>

Recommendation 6: That Council continue investing into emergency preparedness alongside disabled people and keep working collaboratively to implement disability responsive solutions to emergency preparedness and responsiveness.

e) Community economic and cultural development

As mentioned in a recent Auckland Council Disability Advisory Panel meeting, the importance of running inclusive events is key. DPA recommended that disabled people from diverse cultures and ethnic groups be included as part of the planning stages for festivals and major events.

We commend Council for continuing to provide experiences for visitors to Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery, and the New Zealand Maritime Museum Art. It is important that each meet their accessibility outcomes and relevant funding regarding what they provide to disabled people.

A thriving economy needs to include disability led businesses focussing on accessible tourism. When you consider that many people over 65 years old have disposable income and some have age-related impairments, accessible tourism just makes sense.¹³

Recommendation 7 : That Council investigate accessible tourism for economic development.

f) Well-managed local government

DPA fully endorses the more equitable fairer funding model for local boards as this will mark a move away from using an asset-based approach to one that will equally benefit all communities, irrespective of their socioeconomic status.

¹³ <https://www.nzherald.co.nz/northern-advocate/news/accessible-tourism-offers-untapped-potential-jonny-wilkinson/XDS2KUMJMNFRVHOTBUWYDXXK6Y/>

For Auckland's poorest communities, where many disabled people reside, this will enable boards in these areas to make greater investments in more accessible facilities and services

We noted that there are currently no capital expenditure spending lines provided for local boards to renew and develop assets and nor are there spending lines identified for boards to provide support services and pay for governance support.

Local boards can provide support to their disability communities through undertaking various roles such as, for example, educating the public not to block footpaths with cars, e-scooters, rubbish and other barriers meaning disabled and non-disabled pedestrians risk going onto unsafe roads.

An example of this is the example of a DPA member who is a wheelchair user being stopped by NZ Police for being on the road. For wheelchair users, waiting for Auckland Transport parking wardens to arrive to remove any barriers can be lengthy.

Recommendation 8: that local boards factor accessibility and disability inclusion into their planning consultations and projects

Recommendation 9: that local boards provide accessibility education to their local communities

Accessible formats

DPA recommended that Council disseminate accessible formats to disabled peoples' organisations and disability service providers, especially in relation to submissions. We continue to advocate for this access.

Council wants to continue to invest in technology to help provide Aucklanders with better and more efficient services. It is important that Council uses fully accessible technology for these initiatives as many organisations have tried using AI alternatives aimed at disabled people which have proven inaccessible.

An example is using AI note takers versus NZ Sign Language (NZSL) interpreters for D/deaf as AI note takers do not recognise te reo Māori and NZSL grammar differs from English grammar. In addition, AI based algorithms may inadvertently disadvantage and/or discriminate against disabled people.

Council online information hubs about accessible facilities, formats, services, projects, policies and events could be useful for disabled people but it would need to be accessible. An example of information hubs that provide disabled with accessible information are [AccessMaps](#) and [FirstPort](#).

However, online information channels cannot solely replace physical spaces/places such as libraries which provide options for disabled people who are low income to connect with other members of the community. Many disabled people frequent these spaces due to the socialisation, connection and information they provide to members of the disability community who are often socially isolated.

Recommendation 10: That Council continues to provides information in accessible formats to and includes the disability community in consultations around technology investments.

Bed night levy

DPA understands the requirement for a bed levy to fund events but for a disabled person to attend an event takes both a significant financial, energy and time commitment. Some disabled people may need to stay in short term accommodation, for example, motels or hotels, closer to an event for accessibility reasons. Consequently, disabled people needing to do this will face the additional costs of attending events which they have already paid for through their rates, and asked to pay a levy due to the need to stay in visitor accommodation would be doubly unfair to disabled people in these situations

Recommendation 11: That Total Mobility and community service card holders are not charged the bed levy.

Recommendation 12: That there is an exemption for Auckland residents to the bed levy.

Tangata whaikaha Māori as mana whenua

Tangata whaikaha Māori are mana whenua and play their part to protect Māori cultural values holding the knowledge and wisdom passed down to them in roles such as kaitiaki (guardians) of our ngahere (forests), repo (wetlands), roto (lakes), and moana (oceans), and the indigenous species that inhabit them.

Mana whenua of Te Kawerau ā Maki in an interview¹⁴ shared their story on the fight to save Kauri with mātauranga Māori. The change in birdsong told Māori the forest was sick. Closing the Waitākere Ranges with a rāhui slowed the spread of the fatal Kauri dieback disease. Now traditional knowledge of soil is rebuilding the forest's resilience. The importance of using mātauranga Māori is beneficial for the wellbeing of all people and further research and collaboration on this would benefit everyone.

Council engages with 19 iwi authorities, and it is positive to see engagement with tangata whaikaha Māori disabled people's organisations in recognition of their mana whenua and kaitiakitanga status.

Tangata whaikaha Māori are involved with the 19 iwi authorities, but it about ensuring the unique voice of tangata whaikaha Māori disabled is represented at different levels. The annual plan mentions pūrākau and it would be good to include the stories of tupuna and atua who are disabled. For example, some disabled people have heard about Hape, a famous disabled Māori ancestor.¹⁵

We also welcome Auckland Council's proposed \$16 million investment into Māori outcomes including the ongoing Marae Infrastructure Programme.

¹⁴ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C5mIDmJqUbc>

¹⁵ <https://makauramarae.co.nz/about/our-history/>

However, DPA recommends that tangata whaikaha Māori disabled people's organisations are involved in the design of fully accessible marae.

As mana whenua, tangata whaikaha Māori understand the significance of Tūpuna Maunga - Matukutūruru, Ōtāhuhu, Maungakiekie, Ōwairaka/Te Ahi-kā-a-Rakataura, Maungarei, Puketāpapa/Pukewīwī, Maungauika, Rarotonga, Maungawhau, Takarunga, Ōhinerau, Te Kōpuke/Tītīkōpuke, Ōhūiarangi and Te Tātua a Riukiuta.

The Tūpuna Maunga Authority has six representatives from Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau, six from Auckland Council and one non-voting Crown representative appointed by the Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage.

We recommend that tangata whaikaha disabled Māori have representation on the Authority responsible for engaging with tangata whaikaha Māori.

Recommendation 13: That Council support tangata whaikaha Māori disabled person organisations in Tāmaki Makaurau with representation, engagement and developments with Auckland Council.

Recommendation 14: That Council engage with tangata whaikaha Māori disabled person organisations in the development of a sustainable, fully accessible national marae in Tāmaki Makaurau.

Annual Plan 2025-2026

Note: this simplified 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): Blind citizens NZ Inc

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

Our proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026 builds on our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP).

The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Other

Tell us why

See Attached:

Summary of Attachment:

Specific Concerns and Recommendations

Transport: Emphasize accessibility in transport infrastructure and services.

Water: Support for safe drinking water and stormwater management; need for accessible water bills.

Built Environment: Prioritize accessibility in buildings and public spaces.

Natural Environment: Address difficulties with rubbish collection for disabled members.

Community: Improve animal control, especially for guide dogs; support libraries as community hubs.

Council Controlled Organisation Reform: Support for giving elected council members more decision-making power, especially in Auckland Transport.

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Tell us why

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Question 5: Other feedback

Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

Submission from Auckland Branch Blind Citizens NZ re Auckland Council Budget 2025-2026

Email: [REDACTED]

Introducing the Auckland Branch of Blind Citizens NZ

1. Founded in 1945, Blind Citizens NZ is the oldest disability consumer advocacy group – disabled people's organisation – in New Zealand. We write on behalf of blind, deafblind and vision impaired members of the Auckland Branch. Our members want to thrive in an inclusive Auckland. We appreciate the opportunity to make this submission.

2. New Zealand signed the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Disability Convention) in 2007 and ratified it in 2008. The purpose of the Disability Convention is to promote, protect, and ensure universal human rights and fundamental freedoms for disabled people, and promote respect for their dignity. It recognises the right of disabled people to make free and informed decisions about their own lives. It sets out in practical terms how the rights of disabled people can be realised. All rights discussed in the Disability Convention are also established in current New Zealand law. Local government, including Auckland Council and its council-controlled organisations, is bound to honour the Disability Convention.

3. The Disability Convention articles most relevant to our submission are:

- **Article 4.3 Involving disabled people and our organisations in decisions that affect us;**
- **Article 9: Accessibility;**
- **Article 19: Living independently and being included in the community;**
- **Article 20: Personal mobility;**
- **Article 21: Freedom of expression and opinion, and access to information;**
- **Article 28: Adequate standard of living and social protection;**
- **Article 30: Participation in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport.**

4. The New Zealand Government policies and strategies which are relevant to this submission include:

- **New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026:**

Outcome 3 - Health and wellbeing;

Outcome 5 - Accessibility.

5. The Auckland Branch does not comment on potential changes to council revenue. This is because we don't have a clear view from the majority of members. However, we are very aware that most of our members have low incomes, and they will be gravely disadvantaged by any service reductions or price hikes in services.

6. We have read and strongly support the Submission from Disabled Persons Assembly NZ (DPA).

Our Auckland Branch Submission

7. We note that the draft Annual Budget 2025-2026 is little changed from the previous annual budget. We understand that it is a fiscally difficult time for Auckland, however, general maintenance and upkeep of footpaths, roads, public transport, community facilities is necessary if they are to be accessible and usable by our members.

Transport

8. We welcome the proposals on transport in the Annual Plan. However, we note that there is no mention of accessibility of transport, transport infrastructure or accessibility of carparks, mobility pick up and drop off spaces or footpaths. We urge Auckland council and Auckland transport to prioritise accessibility in all transport/related matters. We ask that you read our submission on the Room to Move in the Central city Parking Plan for more detail on our concerns regarding parking and drop off and pick up zones.

Water

9. We support the plans for both safe drinking water and those to better manage storm water.

10. Watercare still do not produce fully accessible water bills that our members can independently read, despite this being raised in several Annual Plan submissions. We urge Auckland Council to ensure that Watercare produce fully screen reader accessible water bills.

Built Environment

11. Again, we are disappointed that the section on the built environment does not stress accessibility for disabled people of buildings and places. If Auckland is to be a truly inclusive city then accessibility of the built environment must be a priority.

Natural Environment

12. Rubbish collection continues to pose difficulties for many of our members. Firstly, some members have problems taking their bins out to the kerbside. There is no alternative to this, which means our members have to get help or not have their bins emptied. We urge the Council to re-look at work done a few years ago to enable people who couldn't take their own bins out, to have them collected and returned to their property.

13. Many of our members report issues of locating their bins once they have been emptied. We ask Council to remind staff and contractors to try and put bins back where they were for emptying to make them easier to find by blind, Deafblind and vision impaired people.

Community

14. Animal control is a huge issue for many of our members particularly those with guide dogs. However, stray dogs also cause a safety risk to blind and Deafblind people walking with canes. Guide Dog Services are on public record as having serious concerns about stray dogs, particularly in the south Auckland area, causing safety issues for guide dog users. However, We are pleased that Council is prioritising work in this area and ask that they work with all registered service dog providers to ensure the safety of service dogs and their handlers.

15. We encourage council to continue to support and resource libraries as they are important community hubs and resources for our members. As well as audiobooks they provide computer access and have useful services such as JP appointments.

Council Controlled Organisation Reform

16. We support Auckland council's plans to give elected Council members a greater say in the decision-making of some CCOs. We particularly welcome this in the case of Auckland Transport.

Conclusion

17. We recognise the fiscal constraints that Auckland is currently navigating. However, we urge Auckland Council to prioritise accessibility for disabled people in all it's activities, plans projects and spending.

Annual Plan 2025-2026

Note: this simplified 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): Mana Futures

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

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The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Support all

Tell us why

See attached:

We support efforts to create sustainability in our environment wholeheartedly. Rangatahi investment required – Hauora, mental health.

be mindful of the suburbs – they need support – cones and traffic blockages impact businesses in the suburbs.

We strongly support this – funding closer to services on the ground – continuity of service must be maintained. Local Boards must be given power to work with 3. Supporting 'Fairer Funding' for Local Boards

We strongly support the 'fairer funding' approach which puts decisions closer to the people and ensure local boards have the resources to meet their specific communities' needs.

- Support for rangatahi Māori: More funding should be directed towards initiatives that empower young Māori—whether through employment, training, or mentorship.
- Hauora must be a key investment priority: Mental health, social support, and culturally grounded wellbeing initiatives should be non-negotiable funding priorities.
- Continuity of services for Māori hauora: To see real outcomes, more investment needs to be targeted towards improving rangatahi ability to thrive and prosper post high school.
- Auckland-wide but locally driven: Internal Strength calls for more targeted funding towards rangatahi Māori initiatives across all local boards, ensuring equitable access to resources that support Māori success.

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Support

Tell us why

See attached:

Bed Levy impact:

We support promoting Auckland or major events.

Latest statistics – Māori population growing at 14% v 5% rest of NZ increase.

We have a young population – entrepreneurship is growing – tamariki are interested in innovation rather than traditional work pathways.

6000 Māori businesses in Auckland a majority are started by under 25s.

Bed Levy impact: Māori Tourism:

A number of businesses are contributing to Māori tourism – valued at \$21 billion across the Motu.

Bed Levy impact: Major Events.

We highly support a bed night levy if we can have major events here.

Events are fundamental to our own growth.

Growth is important to our people.

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

Other

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

See attached:

2. Understanding the Proposal Rates Increases

As homeowners for multiple properties across Auckland, we support the increase.

- Expansion of free or low-cost access to recreational and wellbeing facilities: With the increase in targeted rates, there should be a commitment to making pools, sports facilities, and community hubs more accessible to rangatahi Māori, recognising the link between physical activity, social connection, and mental wellbeing.

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Question 5: Other feedback

Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

LTP Feedback reporting

Group: #2 Mana Futures

Feedback from Māori entities

Representative: [REDACTED] (Mana Futures)

Identify: Mataawaka

Notes from verbal presentation to Annual Budget discussion.

[REDACTED] provided opening mihi.

[REDACTED] provided a mihi in return to Richards opening.

[REDACTED] Chair of meeting AC

15 Minute time allocation

- **Noted:** Highly supportive of plan (overall)
- **Noted:** Access to facilities and community hubs affordable
- **Noted:** We support promoting Auckland or major events
- **Noted:** Support for rangatahi Māori: More funding should be directed towards initiatives that empower young Māori—whether through employment, training, or mentorship.
- **Noted:** Hauora must be a key investment priority: Mental health, social support, and culturally grounded wellbeing initiatives should be non-negotiable funding priorities.
- **Noted:** more investment needs to be targeted towards improving rangatahi ability to thrive and prosper post high school.
- **Noted:** targeted funding towards rangatahi Māori initiatives across all local boards,

Overall direction for Annual Budget

Mana Futures

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?	Support all “Highly supportive of plan”
Environment - Sustainability	Support “We support efforts to create sustainability in our environment wholeheartedly”.
Do you support Bed night visitor levy?	Support “We support promoting Auckland or major events”
Local Board priorities – Fairer Funding	Support Rangatahi investment required – Hauora, mental health
Rates and Charges	Support

	supportive but encourage mindfulness on wasteful spending.
Transport	Support “be mindful of the suburbs – they need support – cones and traffic blockages impact businesses in the suburbs”.

Internal Strength – He Mana a Roto – Mental Health and Rangatahi

Overall Plan

Highly supportive of plan (overall)

Changes to Rates, Fees & Charges

2. Understanding the Proposal Rates Increases

As homeowners for multiple properties across Auckland, we support the increase.

- Expansion of free or low-cost access to recreational and wellbeing facilities: With the increase in targeted rates, there should be a commitment to making pools, sports facilities, and community hubs more accessible to rangatahi Māori, recognising the link between physical activity, social connection, and mental wellbeing.

Local Boards

3. Supporting ‘Fairer Funding’ for Local Boards

We strongly support the ‘fairer funding’ approach which puts decisions closer to the people and ensure local boards have the resources to meet their specific communities’ needs.

- Support for rangatahi Māori: More funding should be directed towards initiatives that empower young Māori—whether through employment, training, or mentorship.
- Hauora must be a key investment priority: Mental health, social support, and culturally grounded wellbeing initiatives should be non-negotiable funding priorities.
- Continuity of services for Māori hauora: To see real outcomes, more investment needs to be targeted towards improving rangatahi ability to thrive and prosper post high school.
- Auckland-wide but locally driven: Internal Strength calls for more targeted funding towards rangatahi Māori initiatives across all local boards, ensuring equitable access to resources that support Māori success.

What else is important to you?

Transcript – *Not a complete record of meeting.*

Representative - [REDACTED]

We work with 100s of Māori businesses and schools and support rangatahi into employment.

This presentation is around three opportunities – Start with overall on our thoughts.

Annual Budget:

Highly supportive of plan

One firm comment – If our lands are well, our people are well, if our land are sick our people are sick.

Sustainability/ Environment:

We support efforts to create sustainability in our environment wholeheartedly.

Bed Levy impact:

We support promoting Auckland or major events.

Latest statistics – Māori population growing at 14% v 5% rest of NZ increase.

We have a young population – entrepreneurship is growing – tamariki are interested in innovation rather than traditional work pathways.

6000 Māori businesses in Auckland a majority are started by under 25s.

Bed Levy impact: Māori Tourism:

A number of businesses are contributing to Māori tourism – valued at \$21 billion across the Motu.

Bed Levy impact: Major Events.

We highly support a bed night levy if we can have major events here.

Events are fundamental to our own growth.

Growth is important to our people.

Rates and Charges:

Rates Fees and charges – as a person – we own multiple properties and pay multiple rates – we are supportive but encourage mindfulness on wasteful spending.

Māori business investment should be included.

Recommend more funds disbursed out to suburbs instead of just the current central city focus.

Transport:

Investment into transport - be mindful of our suburbs as well (not just the city).

Our people live there (suburbs – South and East).

Māori Business:

As a business – the major category (contributing to GDP) is professional and administrative services & property – both popular with Māori – our asset base is growing for Māori.

Consistent services to Iwi are critical.

Local Boards Fairer funding.

We strongly support this – funding closer to services on the ground – continuity of service must be maintained. Local Boards must be given power to work with Māori Pakahi – (Māori Business).

Continue to provide capacity grants to community services that support Māori.

██████████ – Mana Futures

I support what ██████ has shared – I follow her lead.

I sit to represent Tonui but many Māori – particularly Rangatahi – npt supported as strong as should be. Run NZQA Rangatahi programme – focus on stopping youth killing themselves and support the future of Māori.

Gave his NRL and aviation and business background post football.

My experience – tika ahau – not greatest (re grants and funding support for rangatahi programmes) We have put in submissions for support – received positive response re a small grant – we were sent email 30 minutes later that council had made a mistake – that is quite poor.

In 2024 we delivered support to 140 rangatahi south Auckland and West and Orakei –

Mihi to Roger Dalton for funding support (TPK) – 67% of our students went on to employment. Now in 2025 – we now have \$0 support (from Govt or other sources) kia ora.

Councillor ██████████ – Q: – Finding your own solutions re mental health – Q: how big a difference can it make to transform lives if ground level responses are given adequate support?

██████████ **response** – Mana Futures ██████ – On behalf – my experiences – we understand the hardship that Māori have – I to was a rangatahi – although years ago –We developed an accredited NZQA programme over the last six years – missing element – youth need to be inspired – to believe in themselves – it is their birthright – build self-confidence – we are passionate – we know what works – more support would be fantastic. More support for rangatahi encouraged.

Councillor ██████████ r - Q: To ██████ a - Uplifting submission and aspirations – Q on the rates differential – could you break down support for a rates increase – your view on current differential – between residential and commercial properties currently – is residential / commercial equitable –

██████████ **Response:** I don't think it is equitable – a lot of commercial property is empty right now – businesses are struggling to find ways to pay their loans – this should be looked at. Any increase must be justifiable – not wasteful spend – regulated – those rates need to be justified. Land/ Safety/ our people are well.

Councillor ██████████ – Comment – Council leadership – Not stepping back from Māori Outcomes.

██████████ **Response:** Outcomes needed

Rangatahi feel whakama Business Māori – what can we do to prioritize, celebrate, and increase economic outcomes?

Diminishment of mana – in contrast – our rangatahi are coming out fighting – more vocal on submissions, protest for what they believe in – Toitu te tangata – what might come and go Q: (Government) our people will always be here – we will support business wherever we can

Te Matatini is a good example of economic outcomes for Maori culture– support is massive – spend is massive – anything that works to increase awareness of Auckland as a marketing, destination supports continuity of services – improves services like rail links. We need more marketing efforts – business is small so council can get in behind increase visibility.

Councillor [REDACTED] Q: – how can we be a partner – investment partner re events? (Funding events) is a – hard conversation – people generally unsure.

[REDACTED] response -come along to our next Strength programme – not just a database – come in get involved with Māori kaupapa organisations.

[REDACTED] - comment - Would like to see groups like yours showing rangatahi how to play the game.

Councillor [REDACTED] Q Are you noticing that shift in investment and the impact on our people. (Referring to LTP outcomes).

[REDACTED] Response: City link to airport – what business would that impact ?– could be more done? – Marketing efforts in CBD are louder – businesses we work with are at the smaller ends of town - south and west – (in the suburb businesses) are closing – less foot traffic. Glenn Inness – businesses are closing due to constant traffic cones and transport issues.

Annual Plan 2025-2026

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Submitter details:

Organisation (if applicable): Fulton Hogan Land Development

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

Our proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026 builds on our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP).

The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Tell us why

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Tell us why

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Question 5: Other feedback**Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?**

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

See attached:

Summary of Attachment:

Key Concern: FHLD is concerned about the lack of prioritization for the Army Bay Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Capacity Upgrade, which is critical for supporting housing growth in North Auckland.

Development Details: Milldale development includes approximately 4,000 dwellings, commercial land, parks, and education facilities. Stages 1-5 are complete, with further stages and a town center under construction.

Impact of Delayed Upgrade: The delay in upgrading the Army Bay WWTP to 2031 could halt housing growth by 2027, affecting GDP, jobs, and household incomes significantly.

Economic Impact: The delay could reduce GDP by \$740 million annually, result in the loss of 5,205 full-time jobs, and decrease household wages by \$445 million annually.

Request for Action: FHLD urges Auckland Council to prioritize the Army Bay WWTP upgrade in the Annual Plan to support ongoing and future housing developments

28 March 2025

Auckland Council
Attn: Annual Plan team

Feedback on the Auckland Council Annual Plan 2025/2026 Consultation Document

On behalf of our client, Fulton Hogan Land Development (**FHLD**), we submit the following feedback on Auckland Council's Annual Plan 2025/2026 Consultation Document. FHLD is one of New Zealand's largest residential land development companies and has made a significant contribution to housing supply in the Auckland region over the past 20 years through developments such as Dannemora, Millwater, Milldale, and more recently Drury East.

A key concern for FHLD within the annual plan consultation documents is the lack of prioritisation for the Army Bay Wastewater Treatment Plant Capacity Upgrade. It is considered that the wider impacts on development potential and Infrastructure Growth Charges have not been appropriately considered. As part of Council's updates to the Annual Plan 2025/2026, the Long-Term Plan 2024-3034 and Watercare's business plan 2025-2034, we request that the upgrade of the Army Bay Wastewater Treatment Plant project is identified as critical and that funding is allocated accordingly.

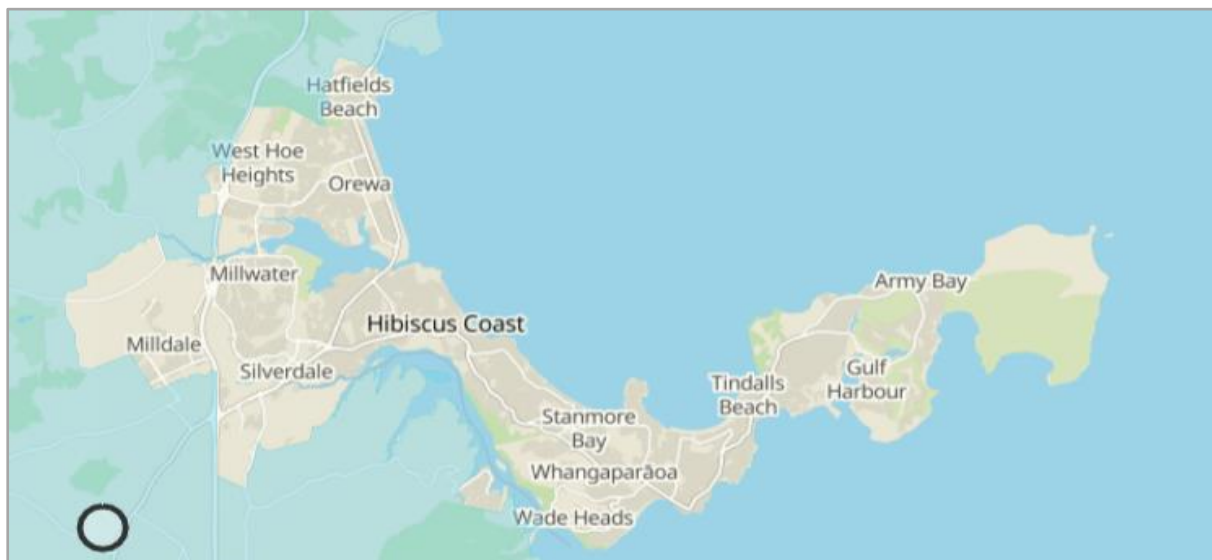


Figure 1 Army Bay Treatment Plant Catchment

Background

Situated just west of the Northern Motorway (SH1), near Silverdale, Milldale has been strategically developed to cater to Auckland's increasing demand for housing and infrastructure. Milldale is designed to

provide approximately 4,000 dwellings, commercial land for a local town centre, public parks, riparian reserves, cycleways and walkways, and education facilities.

The development of Milldale Stages 1 to 5 is now complete, with civil works on Stage 6 well underway. Stages 7 and 9 are currently under construction, as is the Town Centre. As at late 2024, more than 1,220 homes had been constructed in Milldale, with a further 960 or so enabled by subdivision. In addition, the Ahutoetoe primary school is now open (as are two pre-schools), and a Summerset retirement village is operating on site. FHLD has recently lodged a resource consent under the Fast Track Approvals Act for the last remaining stages of the Milldale development that will provide collectively provide capacity for 1,155 detached and terraced dwellings and supporting commercial services in the form of a compact Neighbourhood Centre.

Simultaneously, FHLD lodged the Milldale North and Wainui West Plan Changes conjointly in 2024. The Milldale North Plan Change seeks to rezone approximately 145ha of land in Wainui from Future Urban and Special Purpose Education to a mix of residential zones with a small Neighbourhood Centre, consistent with the Wainui Future Urban Zone Structure Plan. The rezoning proposal provides capacity for approximately 2,080 dwellings.

The Army Bay Wastewater Treatment Plant (**Army Bay WWTP**) is a critical piece of infrastructure needed to support the remaining stages of the Milldale development and the future Milldale North and Milldale West development. It also accommodates wastewater from the Milldale and Silverdale catchments, including Orewa, Silverdale, Wainui, and Whangaparāoa. It is recognised by Council and Watercare that the Army Bay WWTP requires an upgrade based on the high levels of growth anticipated in these catchments by existing and proposed developments. The WWTP is understood to have an existing discharge consent limiting the dry-weather flow to approximately 75,000 people, with an existing catchment of 63,000 people.

The upgrade to the Army Bay WWTP was initially planned for completion in 2024, however the upgrade has been deferred by Watercare to 2031 at earliest, leading to concerns that the facility's capacity could be reached as early as 2027¹, creating significant knock-on effects for planned housing growth in the area.

Statutory Framework

While it is acknowledged that the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) (Watercare Charter) Order 2025 ("Watercare Charter") comes into effect on 1 April 2025, however Watercare will remain a Council-Controlled Organisation ("CCO"). Schedule 8 of the Local Government Act 2002 applies to all CCOs and Watercare will still be required to issue Statements of Intent. It is noted that Auckland Council will continue to set expectations of Watercare.

For the reasons outlined below, it is considered that upgrades to the Army Bay WWTP should be included as a priority project for North Auckland to signify the importance of this upgrade given its strategic importance for housing growth in North Auckland.

The Watercare Charter required under the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024 must set out the minimum quality standards in terms of services provided, the performance of the network and the delivery of capital investment. This also includes a customer compensation scheme. This

¹ <https://www.watercare.co.nz/builders-and-developers/consultation/growth-constraints-in-hibiscus-coast>

requires consultation with Auckland Council and the strategic intent set out in the Long Term Plan and Annual Plan would form a key part of that.

Milldale has been live zoned since 2016 and the development is currently underway, providing much needed housing and economic growth opportunities for North Auckland. We urge the Council to ensure that land use decisions are highly integrated with infrastructure investment. In this case, clearly stating the need to bring forward the upgrade of the Army Bay WWTP in the Annual Plan will assist to inform Watercare's planning and will ensure that the land use and infrastructure planning and funding decisions are integrated as required by the National Policy Statement for Urban Development (Objective 6). Without this, it does bring into question the Council's ability to charge rates on land that cannot be developed for the land use that the underlying valuation is based on.

Impact on Housing Growth

Based on building consent data and as set out in the attached economic impact assessment, the Army Bay catchment area averages 837 new dwellings per annum. This growth is likely to halt around 2027 when the WWTP reaches capacity, with developers unable to proceed with consents without adequate wastewater servicing in place. The only alternative option available relies on private developers consenting and constructing temporary wastewater treatment plans, which comes at considerable cost and risk and is an inefficient use of resources. Associated costs will be passed on to eventual purchasers, in contradiction of the 'Going for Housing Growth' agenda being pursued by the Government. The Army Bay catchment has significant land freed up for development, with several large parcels of land consented or in the process of consenting for significant housing growth in the area.

The loss of planned housing growth in the catchment is considered to contradict Government direction for urban development and undermines the zoning of land that has been approved by Auckland Council via Plan Changes, and is in the process of being consented through the Fast Track Approvals Act.

In addition, it is estimated that the Infrastructure Growth Charges that Watercare has received from the Milldale and Millwater development alone is approximately \$60-65 million to date, and approximately \$125 million across the wider Hibiscus Bay catchment based residential consent numbers. These charges were paid in order to fund the water supply and wastewater infrastructure upgrades needed to support development in this area, which includes the Army Bay WWTP. These funds should be clearly allocated to serve development in the Hibiscus Bay area.

Economic Impact

An Economic Impact Assessment was prepared in 2024 by Insight Economics in relation to the Army Bay WWTP, and is included as **Attachment 1**. In summary, the economic impact of the delayed upgrade of the WWTP and the knock-on effects on construction activity include:

- A reduction in GDP by \$670 million annually;
- Loss of approximately 5,000 full-time equivalent jobs; and
- Reduction in household salaries by \$330 million annually.

There are also likely to be additional fiscal impacts on the Crown, including reduced tax revenues from PAYE and GST. The loss of developable land in the catchment will also undercut the investment made in Penlink,

a \$800 million highway project due for completion in 2028, a key ambition of which was to enabling growth in the catchment. A loss of housing growth would also impact future local toll revenues from Penlink resulting from a potential reduction in users.

It is additionally noted that Watercare's revenue would be impacted as a byproduct of a pause on development, with Infrastructure Growth Charges being impacted. Based on consent data, this is estimated to be approximately \$7 million - \$8 million per annum for wastewater infrastructure alone.

The diagram below charts annual building consent data for the catchment (Statistics NZ), projected Watercare revenue from Infrastructure Growth Charges for the area and the economic impact of the residential housing sector in Army Bay. This shows stagnation of GDP growth and Council's ability to recover the costs to pay for infrastructure from 2027. This becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy, with lower income to Watercare meaning even lower or delayed investment in necessary infrastructure.

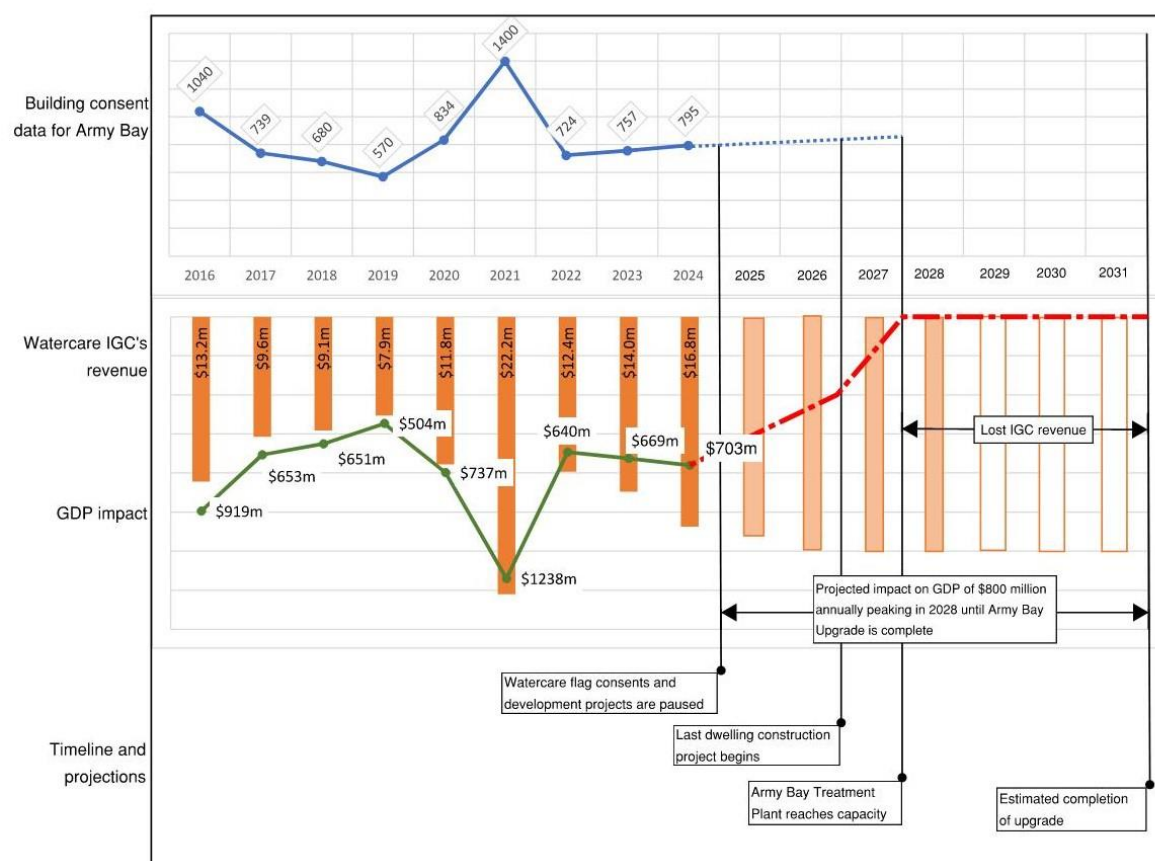


Figure 2 Building consent data correlated with Watercare's Infrastructure Growth Charges and projected GDP figures

Other Matters

FHLD request that clarity is provided on how funds for the catchment have been spent to date, and that further justification for delaying this critical infrastructure project is provided. Residential development is highly sensitive to delays and project risks such as this, impacting Watercare's reputation as an essential life service provider.

FHLD will continue to offer their support to Watercare and stress that there is serious urgency in implementing the upgrade to the Army Bay WWTP to enable the ongoing planned growth in the Army Bay catchment. Any pause in construction activities in the area will have long-term economic impacts and diminish the return on investment for other large-scale projects, including the Penlink motorway. FHLD would welcome further collaboration and discussion on potential solutions for the Army Bay WWTP upgrades.

Yours sincerely | Nāku noa, nā

Barker & Associates Limited




Director



Technical Memo

To:	Fulton Hogan Land Development	From:	Insight Economics
Date:	Friday, 28 March 2025	Page:	2 (including this page)
Subject:	Army Bay Wastewater Treatment Plant Economic Impact Assessment		

Grant,

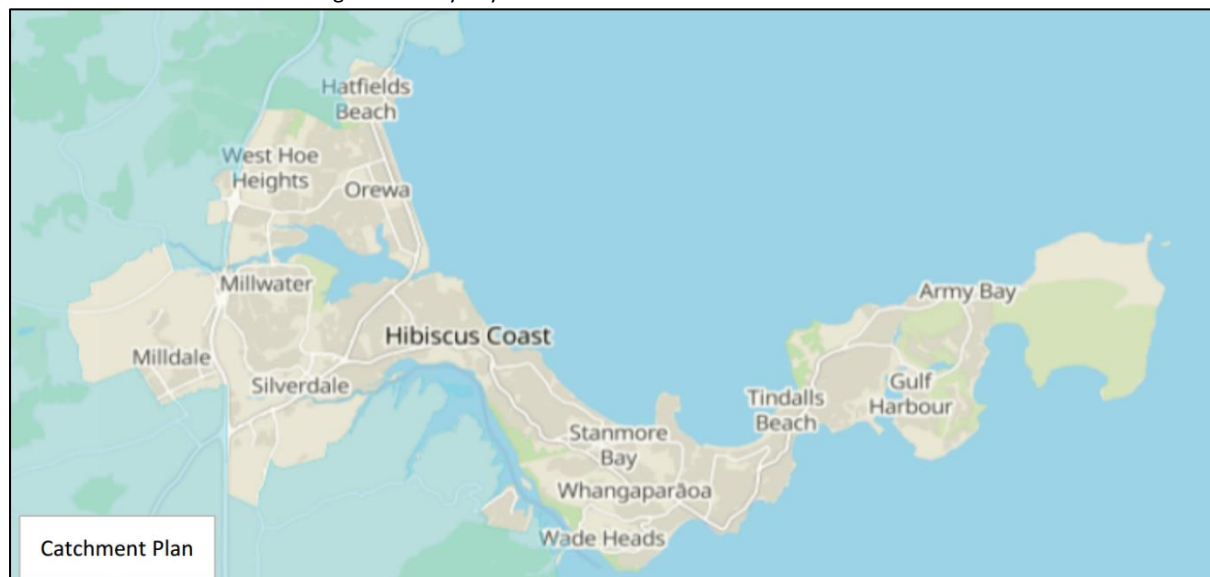
Thank you for contacting us in relation to this matter. This brief memo sets out our findings.

Context

The Army Bay Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) is nearly at capacity. Based on the latest available data (March 2024), only 2,000 additional Dwelling Units Equivalents (DuE) could connect prior to its next planned upgrade in 2031. This constraint poses significant risks to the planned development of land serviced by the WWTP.

The Army Bay catchment area, as shown in Figure 1 below, has averaged 837 new residential consents per annum since the AUP became operative in 2016. However, this growth is projected to halt by 2027 due to wastewater capacity at Army Bay being exhausted by then. Earthworks and civil construction will likely cease earlier, with major developments like Milldale likely to suspend operations in late 2025. These constraints threaten to impact not only construction, but also broader economic and demographic growth in the region, including future commercial, industrial, and retail development.

Figure 1: Army Bay Wastewater Treatment Plant Catchment



Economic Impacts of Foregone Residential Construction Activity

We calculated the economic impacts of residential construction activity foregone by a lack of available WWTP capacity. It assumes that 837 dwellings would be built each year if sufficient WWTP capacity was available. The table below presents the results of the analysis, which include both the direct effects of foregone activity, plus the indirect effects of reduced supply chain activity, and the induced effects of reduced spending by people employed to help build the new homes.

Table 1: Estimated Annual Economic Impacts Foregone

Planning/Design/Consent	Direct	Indirect	Induced	Total
Jobs (FTEs)	175	120	100	395
GDP \$m	\$30	\$20	\$15	\$65
Wages/Salaries \$m	\$20	\$10	\$10	\$40
Site Preparation				
Jobs (FTEs)	340	375	245	960
GDP \$m	\$45	\$60	\$35	\$140
Wages/Salaries \$m	\$30	\$35	\$20	\$85
Building Construction				
Jobs (FTEs)	770	2,095	985	3,850
GDP \$m	\$90	\$310	\$135	\$535
Wages/Salaries \$m	\$60	\$180	\$80	\$320
Totals				
Jobs (FTEs)	1,285	2,590	1,330	5,205
GDP \$m	\$165	\$390	\$185	\$740
Wages/Salaries \$m	\$110	\$225	\$110	\$445

In summary, including flow on effects (i.e. indirect and induced effects), halting residential construction activity due to a lack of available WWTP is estimated to:

- Reduce GDP by \$740 million annually;
- Forego 5,205 full-time equivalent jobs; and
- Reduce household wages and salaries by \$445 million annually;

When the corresponding impacts on non-residential construction are also taken into account, the overall economic impacts will be even greater.

There will also be fiscal implications for the Crown, including reduced tax revenues, like PAYE and GST. For example, we calculated that GST revenues alone could decrease by more than \$97 million annually, with local toll revenues from projects like Penlink likely to also be affected.

Consequently, failure to provide sufficient WWTP capacity to keep pace with growth will have far-reaching financial and economic impacts for many people.

I trust that this short memo provides all the information that you need for now, but please let me know if you need anything further.

Sincerely,



Fraser Colegrave
Managing Director
Insight Economics Limited

Annual Plan 2025-2026

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Submitter details:

Organisation (if applicable): Tennis Auckland

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

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The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Tell us why

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Support

Tell us why

See attached

Summary of Attachment:

ASB Classic Impact: The ASB Classic significantly contributes to Auckland's GDP, tourism, and international exposure.

GDP Impact: \$17.3 million annually.

Out-of-Auckland Attendees: 10,100.

Global TV Audience: 14.3 million.

Support Needed: Continued and expanded funding for events and destination marketing is essential to maintain and grow successful events like the ASB Classic.

Visitor Levy: Proposal for a bed night visitor levy to fund additional destination management and marketing

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Question 5: Other feedback

Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

See attached

Summary of Attachment:

Sports Facilities Funding

Manuka Doctor Arena Redevelopment: Ongoing redevelopment supported by Auckland Council, including the replacement of the Yock Stand in 2019.

Next Phase: Plans to remove the south stand, build a canopy roof, and add spectator services to mitigate climate impacts and meet World Tour Standards.

Funding Request: Support for the court extension and canopy roof project, with a request for \$3 million to \$5 million from the Council

28 March 2025

AK Have Your Say
Auckland Council
Freepost Authority 182382
Private Bag 92300
Auckland 1142

To Auckland Council,

Re.: Submission on Events and Destination Marketing & Sports Facilities Funding Components of Council's Annual Plan 2025/26

This is a sport-wide submission by Tennis Auckland Region Inc. and its affiliated clubs. It is in support of the funding for events and destination marketing, and sports facilities, as part of the Auckland Council's Annual Plan 2025/26. Tennis in the great city of Auckland is a very appreciative recipient of event support funding via Tataki Auckland Unlimited (TAU), and is a significant contributor to the city's GDP, tourism and bed night stays resulting from tennis events, particularly the ASB Classic international tennis tournament. The Stanley St Tennis Centre (Manuka Doctor Arena) has also benefited from Auckland Council funding support for its redevelopment.

Events and Destination Marketing

The ASB Classic holds a pre-eminent position in the stable of Auckland sports & entertainment events, being the largest recurring annual event in terms of impact on GDP for the city and international exposure of Auckland. Some of the impressive annual results from the ASB Classic include:

- Gross GDP impact on Auckland - \$17.3m
- Out-of-Auckland attendees – 10,100
- Global TV Audience – 14.3m

Internationally, the majority of tournaments on the ATP & WTA Tours have local, regional and national support from government, economic development agencies and tourism bodies. With current policy settings and direction at MBIE and NZ Tourism, only Auckland Council, via TAU, supports the ASB Classic, so immediately "team NZ" limits its support to, and minimises its potential benefits from, the ASB Classic.

The ASB Classic works very closely with TAU to maximise the exposure that Auckland receives from the tournament, through the securing of worldwide legends of the game, who have massive social media followings and who garner significant international media exposure, such as Coco Gauff, Naomi Osaka, Gael Monfils and Ben Shelton.

Continuation, and potential expansion, of the events and destination marketing budget is essential for Auckland to not only secure new events but allow highly success existing events to remain in Auckland and grow in scope, size and exposure. In addition to standard budget allocations to Tataki Auckland Unlimited, the Auckland tennis community supports a bed night visitor levy to meet a funding shortfall, and fund additional destination management, marketing and major events. Such a levy is standard and routine in a long list of major cities around the world, so should be seriously investigated for Auckland.

Sports Facilities Funding

The Auckland Council has supported the ongoing redevelopment of the Manuka Doctor Arena, an iconic venue in Central Auckland, since plans first emerged in 2015. The Council generously supported the first phase of those plans with a grant for the replacement of the Yock Stand (west stand) in 2019.

The next phase of the project will involve removing the south stand (replacing it with a flexible, temporary overlay stand for the ASB Classic), building a canopy style, fabric roof, and adding spectator services around the main arena, which will allow for year-round weatherproof utilisation for tennis, other sports and community events.

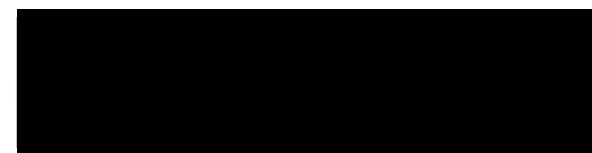
This court extension and roof phase is designed to mitigate the two biggest risks to the ASB Classic, that of the impact of climate change and weather extremes, and adherence to changing World Tour Standards.

The climate impacts have been well documents, with rain affecting the 2023 ASB Classic and intense heat affecting the 2024 edition of the tournament.

In relation to World Tour Standards, the venue does not currently meet the minimum seating capacity and court length requirements set out by the tournament governing bodies – that is, our capacity is 400 seats below minimum, and the greater playing area of Centre Court is now 3.25m too short. Tennis Auckland does not hold inalienable right to the January tournament – many international cities and countries are seeking rights to hold such tournaments and are building state of the art facilities to enable this – Singapore and Saudi Arabia are cases in point.

The Auckland tennis community would support specifically identifying the Manuka Doctor Arena court extension and canopy roof project as a named sports infrastructure project with the Annual Plan 2025/26, to receive Council support of between \$3m-\$5m.

Yours sincerely,



Chief Executive Officer
Tennis Auckland

With support from the following Tennis Auckland affiliated tennis clubs:

BLOCKHOUSE BAY	WAIHEKE
BUCKLANDS BEACH	WEST END
CAMPBELL PARK	WEST HARBOUR
EDEN EPSOM	WHITFORD
GLEN EDEN	WINSTONE PARK
KORU	
MISSION BAY	
POINT CHEVALIER	
ST HELIERS	
TE PAI PARK	



#8577



Annual Plan 2025-2026

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Submitter details:

Organisation (if applicable): Jireh Hospitality Group

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

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It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Tell us why

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Other

Tell us why

See attached:

We support Hotel Council Aotearoa's (HCA) position as below and attached article:

HCA is not against a national accommodation levy, but we don't agree with local Auckland-only taxes or different rates up and down the country.

HCA considers Auckland Council has more than enough money to support events, it's just choosing not to for political purposes.

HCA wants Auckland Council to work in good faith with us industry (principally TIA, HCA and HNZ) on the long-term solution, rather than all the media/political stuff to try and split industry. New bed taxes are technically complicated.

A reallocation of current resources to fund major events asap is imperative to kick start restoring Auckland as a thriving and attractive city. Then once the national accommodation levy kicks in, there will already be momentum to ensure the funding stream will be expanded and sustainable.

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Question 5: Other feedback

Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

Why Auckland Council leaders' calls for a hotel bed tax won't help attract world-class events - Opinion

By James Doolan

Other · 18 Mar, 2025 03:00 PM · 5 mins to read

Opinion by **James Doolan**

James Doolan is the strategic director at Hotel Council Aotearoa, which represents the hotel sector.

THREE KEY FACTS

- Auckland Mayor Wayne Brown has [proposed a bed tax of 2.5% to 3% to fund a \\$7m shortfall for major events](#).
- Implementing any bed tax or levy would require central government legislation.
- Public consultation on [Auckland Council's 2025/2026 Annual Plan opens at midday today and closes on March 28](#).

Don't fall for Auckland Council's consultation hocus-pocus on tourism funding and bed taxes.

It started with [Mayor Wayne Brown](#) regularly appearing on radio in full "get things done" re-election mode. [Councillor Desley Simpson](#) wrote an opinion piece in this newspaper (Feb 28). What's going on?

Each year regional authorities consult with ratepayers about their annual budgets. Auckland Council is this year asking ratepayers about hotel bed taxes - something it has no power to implement.

The arguments put forward are flimsy, but sound plausible in parts.

First, it says events are vital for Auckland's economy. True.

Second, the council tells you that events might not come to Auckland in future without funding. This is also true. Since events drive verifiable economic benefits for host cities, making a contribution towards running costs - called "subvention funding" - is a legitimate use of ratepayer funds.

After a solid start, here's where the reasoning falls apart.

"Auckland has no source of funding for events," it claims. Therefore [so the argument goes], central government must empower Auckland Council to impose bed taxes and spend the money on [event attraction and destination marketing](#).

This weak claim is propped up with pure populism. Apparently the only way New Zealand can host the America's Cup again is if

J

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Development). Ateed used to put around \$15m annually into event attraction. That amount is chump change out of total 2017 council revenues of \$4.12 billion - less than four-tenths of 1% and by no means excessive.

Nowadays, Auckland Council has slashed annual spending on events to around \$7m. Meanwhile, total council revenues ballooned by 62% across the same period, reaching \$6.67b in 2023.

When it comes to tourism, Auckland Council really is "doing less with more" - it takes way more from you in rates and spends way less on attracting world-class events.

Auckland is miles behind even the mid-size Australian states, and yet the Aussies have just 10% GST and no bed taxes.

The civic de-funding of tourism and events is a political choice that Auckland Council has made for reasons I don't fully understand. If it cannot find half of 1% of total revenues to activate the city properly, then perhaps we need new councillors?

The sources of possible funding are many – not just rates. For example, Auckland Council received a combined \$2.14b in 2023 and 2024 for [selling Auckland Airport shares](#). This very recent tourism-related asset sale windfall could have been the catalyst to unblock event attraction funding, but councillors decided to go in a different direction.

There's money at central government level too, with \$4.1b in tourism GST collected last year, some of which could support events of national significance in Auckland.

It's not for me to list out all the wasteful Auckland Council spending over the past decade. Brown himself has done a great job of starting to get that under control.

Smart event attraction funding is never wasteful and delivers a positive return. It should be a much higher priority for Brown to dial up event attraction and give hospitality businesses some support.

The hotel sector is not against the idea of a new accommodation levy, provided it is done once and done right for all New Zealand. Accommodation providers are trying to end a three-way tourism funding deadlock between industry, central government and local government.

Hotel Council Aotearoa has repeatedly proposed collaboration with Auckland Council on this issue of critical importance to all New Zealand. Our industry-backed national scheme delivers an ongoing tourism dividend to every destination that welcomes visitors anywhere in the country, not just in Auckland.

As landing spot for 70% of international travellers, Auckland has a privileged position, but there's no good reason for an "Auckland first" approach to new tourism taxes. Many international tourists don't exactly choose New Zealand because of Auckland.

Auckland Council knows that an Auckland-only bed tax is simply not supported by anyone who matters in the accommodation sector. The consultation materials skim over what industry wants.

Brown sometimes declares he's "not a tourism guy", but credit is due for his great work raising the profile of Auckland and looking to attract more airlines. As someone who admits to being a passionate tourism guy, I believe Auckland is on the wrong path when it comes to attracting events. Brown has a [chance to fix Phil Goff's mistakes and restore funding quickly](#).

Here's what I'll be saying to the Auckland Council consultation on event funding: "If event attraction and destination marketing is as important as you say it is, please stop wasting money elsewhere. Take a tiny part of your annual budget and return tourism funding to where it was a decade ago. This stuff is important to all Aucklanders and it drives future economic growth. Work as partners with industry on a sustainable national plan."

If he quickly restored Auckland's event attraction funding to what it was 10 years ago, then no-nonsense Brown would immediately become a tourism and hospitality industry hero.

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#8579



Annual Plan 2025-2026

Note: this simplified 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): Te Roopu Waiora Whānau Hauā

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

Our proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026 builds on our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP).

The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Tell us why

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

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4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Question 5: Other feedback**Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?**

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

See attached:

- Noted: More interaction with the Whanau Haua Māori Community required
- Noted: Whanau hauā Māori are not a cost – are an investment in everyone's futures (as a city that works for whānau hauā Māori works for everyone)
- Noted: Various disability models in comparison to the Māori world view of special abilities and a non-separated view of whānau hauā (no concept of disability or negative connotations)
- Noted: Any Council decision compounds to impact whānau hauā Māori because they are intersectional (Māori and disabled) and therefore have the highest rates of deprivation
- Noted: Seeking more than universal design. They seek inclusive design that is Māori, relevant, and accessible
- Noted: Seeking a voice – available to educate

LTP Feedback reporting

Group: #5 Te Roopu Waiora

Feedback from Māori entities

Representative: [REDACTED] **and 14 representatives of the Māori disability community**

Identify: Maataawaka

Notes from verbal presentation to Annual Budget discussion.

[REDACTED] provided opening mihi.

[REDACTED] responded to Rihari in sign language.

[REDACTED] – speaks volumes the effort you have made to come in and visit us.

[REDACTED] Chair of meeting AC

15 Minute time allocation

- **Noted:** More interaction with the Whanau Haua Māori Community required
- **Noted:** Whanau hauā Māori are not a cost – are an investment in everyone's futures (as a city that works for whānau hauā Māori works for everyone)
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- **Noted:** Seeking a voice – available to educate

Overall direction for Annual Budget

Te Roopu Waiora

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?	Not stated
Environment - Sustainability	Not stated Offer contribution to design panels from whanau haua Māori community perspective Sustainability of facilities needs to consider access
Do you support Bed night visitor levy?	Not stated
Local Board priorities – Fairer Funding	Not stated

	Seeking relationships and resources to participate in community and in decision making
Rates and Charges	Not stated Whanau hauā Māori are an investment not a cost
Transport	Not stated

What else is important to you?

Transcript – *Not a complete record of meeting.*

Welcome

██████████ – Nga mihi

Te Roopu Waiora is entirely governed by whanau haua Māori – and existed for a quarter century – It is time to provide context to support important meaningful decisions to be made – ***what is the Māori concept of disability?*** We don't have a handle on the western model of disability which is defined to manage this people .

Christian model of disability

Our current model is formed from the Christian model – disability is a curse – the devils work – at this point we see denigration and condemnation equating disability with evil and spiritual deadness.

As we follow this timeline through the 15th century, Popes gave licence to subjugate foreign lands of indigenous populations used by colonial expansion, Columbus, Magellan, Cook and others used this Christian authority to claim indigenous lands and ideology.

Our people were described by colonisers as less than human, disabled and they used passages from the bible to further colonisation.

In UK and America there were rules that disabled could not even be in public .

NZ followed suit refusing passage to NZ to those with disabilities – terms which are still used today these policies still remain.

Here we see disability and illness seen together.

Medical model of disability

Struggle is their own fault – 17th century – abnormals need to be fixed, classified, confined.

Institutionalising people to protect the normal – still informs medical practice today –

Charity model

The disabled individual is needy needing fixing or cure.

Charities often offend and frustrate those they purport to help.

There are claims the disabled do not contribute to society.

This delay results in lack of response to the Māori disability community - which is largely invisible

Social Models of disability

Social model developed in the 1970s – distinction between impairment and disability.

Who creates the disability – society needs to change and eliminate barriers and discrimination.

We don't often get this level of support so we could join these proceedings. (*Reference to Nga Mātārae support for the group and resourcing to support them to attend*)

Social model moves into the environment.

Neglects cultural values – all can be solved through accessibility excluding indigenous models.

These models have inflicted massive harm on Iwi Māori – The traditional view of disability Māori sees us as distinct individuals.

Tribal knowledge did not exist prior to colonisation.

Indigenous Māori language does not contain language like disabled and abled.

We can talk to our land – English does not recognise these as living.

Haua means angry – not disabled – preceding word in Hau – wind.

Through anger and rage Tawhirimatea tore out his eyes – our blind deity.

We acknowledge Tawhirimatea's power and presence.

Whanau – are the anchor to our history and traditions.

The place of whanau is being destroyed – by individualism.

Tania then named many celebrated Māori heroes – who had disabilities.

Many Tohunga were Kapo (blind).

As colonised people we have separate views of ourselves – we are part of Tamaki Makaurau and you are poorer without us.

Our community has the highest rate of deprivation – we understand how you came to be and how we are as a population. We seek to maximise how we can contribute – example - through Inclusive design – relevant accessible communications and facilities – competent workforce – designed by whanau haua.

Pūkenga (our goal) use the skills of our whanau – so all people can participate celebrate and deepen their knowledge.

Before colonisation we had no concept of disability.

Pakeha concepts divide and are destructive – implore you and community to what needs to be done so that we to belong – **we look forward to working with you.**

Action: T [REDACTED] agreed to make the written speech available to [REDACTED] to share with all councillors.

[REDACTED] comment: My aspiration for council and local boards is to be the most accessible and inclusive council in the world – we need to leverage the skills of your roopu.

Q: to [REDACTED] how do we provide that opportunity?– look all around council, Contract, facilities with a whanau haua lens.

Cr [REDACTED] Q: – do you have a relationship with the disability advisory panel ?– would be useful – for next term. The panel is primarily focussed on a social model.

[REDACTED] – We have had a long history to bring our expertise to the table – advisory groups appointed by organisations they decide who will sit at the table. Those individuals have personal knowledge and lived experience – but for issues that impact the whole population you need collective deep understanding of issues this community face.

The advisory groups are just that – advisory.

Sometimes such groups are used to make up for lack of competencies among staff members and usually only meet six times a year – can take time to sort out – We are not particularly supportive of advisory groups and meeting with these groups.

Preference is meet with us - so we can korero in an unfiltered way to consider that moving forward.

CR [REDACTED] - Comment: we should have a conversation with your group.

CR [REDACTED] Q: You have talked about the disability panel - Are you aware of a disability strategy as part of our Māori outcome's portfolio with Nga Mātārae - statistics - do we need a specific piece of mahi going forward for our city?

[REDACTED] Korero is put on table there are distinct world views being Māori - make room at the table - to be inclusive - it's not just about universal design. We bring diversity in and celebrate our diversity - if that's a strategy we would endorse it.

I put on table this community gets stuck - we don't quite fit in te ao Māori space as its not accessible (our Marae and places) and te Ao pakeha due to disability we need to make sure people understand what all those specific challenges are for us.

Cr [REDACTED] [REDACTED] - Noted [REDACTED] New Year honour - we get pushed back and look at everything as a cost - western world model put on communities - how can you get us to invest in communities as investment rather than cost?

[REDACTED] Introduce this whanau who spent the last year developing accessible public information platforms - when you put out pānui they put it into Māori sign language or picture form and develop language / communications that meet the needs of our people.

We did this during Covid - health services grabbed our pānui and put it out to everyone - it was accessible to everyone - if accessible to use then everyone gets it - we can help with that - good investment not a cost.

CR [REDACTED] - Good and educational korero hearing you speak - 100% agree about the advisory panel - how do we have people who reflect all sectors of Auckland nobody at this table has a disability?

[REDACTED] - a what you are doing today is pretty progressive - we need you to be informed in the job you do - create the forums where you hear us - first time in five years having us here - a bit long - more regularly (hearing form us collectively) goes a long way to help you make informed decisions on our behalf.

[REDACTED] better relationships - pānui to us to encourage that relationship - to be better informed - not every five years. Relationship is what matters. Diversity within the disability community - relationship is the way forward.

[REDACTED] - personal action to provide copy of presentation and notes to CEO, SLT, the Mayor and councillors committee to discuss with leadership team.

[REDACTED].

Te Roopu Waiora Written Submission

Presented to the Auckland Council Governing body by Tania Kingi, on behalf of Te Roopu Waiora and 17 representatives of the hauaa community in attendance at the Auckland Town Hall on 24 March 2025

Te Roopu Waiora is a kaupapa Maaori organisation founded and entirely governed by whaanau hauaa. After a quarter of a century representing Maaori from the disability community in Taamaki Makaurau and in this political climate, it's time to provide some context and rationale that will help important, meaningful decisions to be made.

We're often asked what's the Maaori concept of disability, but as a city... as a country, we don't yet have a handle on the Western view of disability, so that's where we're going to start.

DISABILITY MODELS

Models are used in the disability sector to explain concepts, define, identify and manage this population.

The oldest and most influential of the disability models is the religious model from Judeo-Christian traditions.

The Old Testament makes biblical references to disability as a curse or punishment inflicted on individuals or their ancestors, to show God's displeasure for doing the devil's work or practicing witchcraft. It's at this point in history, we first see denigration and condemnation of people with disabilities by equating impairments with sin, evil or spiritual deviance.

As we follow this European historical timeline, we come to the Doctrine of Discovery, a series of declarations by popes in the 15th century. The Doctrine gave religious authority for Christian Empires to invade and subjugate non-Christian lands. They imposed their culture and claimed the resources of indigenous peoples without their knowledge and without their consent.

The Doctrine was used when European and British Empires were embarking on wide scale colonial expansion. So people like Columbus, Megallan, Cook and Hobson all considered the Doctrine as their authority to claim and invade indigenous lands and peoples, using the same ideology and source, as the religious model of disability.

How indigenous peoples were described by colonisers is similar to the perception of disabled people by Christian clergy of that time: less than human, sinful, abnormal, deformed, intellectually degenerate.

The same thinking that drove the trans-Atlantic slave trade - where those responsible used passages from the bible to justify their actions. Some indigenous scholars consider that 'slavery was not abolished, it just evolved into colonisation,' and furthermore, that 'disability is a tool of colonisation'.

In England and some parts of America, there were laws against disabled people appearing in public. The Unsightly Beggar Ordinances of the 17th Century targeted anyone with an appearance of

disability, even limping, referencing, *'any person who is diseased, maimed, mutilated, or in any way deformed, so as to be an unsightly, disgusting object.'*

DISABILITY AND THE LAW

This is where the religious model of disability becomes embedded into law. NZ followed suit with the 1882 **Imbecile Passengers Act** that refused entry to: cripples, idiots, lunatics, infirm, blind, deaf and dumb – so through English law, derogatory terms we still hear today, were introduced. The Immigration Restriction Act followed, that banned *'the idiotic, the insane and the contagious.'* A policy that still exists in this country. It's here we see disease and disability considered together, eventually leading to the 'health and disability sector' and the most dominant of the disability models that impacts all aspects of society - that being the medical model.

The medical model advocates that the struggle people with disabilities have, is their own fault, *that there's something wrong with them* - through deformity, abnormality, sickness or injury.

The medical model was made popular in the 17th century and was described by scholars as the theory of 'The Abnormals' who need to be fixed, classified and rectified. Judicial bodies and health professionals authorised automatic confinement of the disabled, so institutions were born. Institutionalising people ensured protection of the 'normals' therefore abnormality was to be corrected by any means, a theory that continues to inform medical practice and systemic beliefs today.

An offshoot of the medical model is **the Charity model** which presents the individual as needy or pitiful, desperate to be fixed or cured. Publicly parading children with disabilities in fund-raising events to get donations, is common practice.

Although charities aim to support people with disabilities, some have offended and frustrated those they purport to help. The charity model leads people to believe that the disabled do not contribute to society – further alienating this community and feeding discrimination.

When charity provides people with what they need, society shirks its collective social responsibility for upholding the rights of the disabled. Some advocates believe this is what happened during the pandemic and extreme weather events, with the delay and lack of response to the Maaori disability population. Others believe this community is simply invisible.

To counter the oppressive nature of these definitions, the social model of disability was developed in the 1970s by the disability rights movement, making the distinction between 'impairment' and 'disability'.

Here external factors create the concept of 'disability' for instance, there's no ramp to access the building or a sign language interpreter wasn't booked, so who is it that creates the disability. The way society is organised needs to be changed so that barriers and discrimination are eliminated and whaanau hauaa can participate. We want to acknowledge the organising team from Council for this gathering today, it's not often we get this level of support so that our community can take part in such proceedings, even though our mobility vans couldn't access the civic car park. No reira, ngaa mihi mahana ki a koutou.

The social model moves the state of disability from the individual to the environment. Critics though claim that the idea of disability existing only because of society's failings, doesn't consider the nature of impairment, pain levels or medical needs. Indigenous scholars point out that this model neglects

cultural values, challenging the notion that disability can be solved through accessibility and human rights, at the exclusion of Indigenous bodies of knowledge and practice.

All of these models are Paakeha, and their influence has a very long whakapapa. They have inflicted massive harm on iwi Maaori. Such concepts identify people with disabilities as distinct, separate individuals, which is important to note when considering Te Ao Maaori. There is no evidence among Indigenous bodies of knowledge that the concept of disability existed prior to colonisation.

TE AO MAAORI

Language expresses how a society thinks. Unlike English, Indigenous languages don't maintain conflicting, opposing hierarchies like he/she, abnormal/normal, disabled and abled. Instead, Indigenous languages are rich in verbs, events and significant happenings, *connecting people on every imaginable sphere*. We can talk to the stars, our mountains, rivers and trees, the living and the dead. English however describes these realms as inanimate, isolated objects, disconnected and separate. You try talking to the dead within the health sector, three guesses where you might end up.

Our language has been forcibly changed. 'Hauaaa' in the modern Maaori dictionary is defined as 'disabled, lame, crippled', but in the Maaori dictionary published in 1844, 'hauaaa' means 'angry'. This makes a lot of sense to us, as the preceding word is '*hau or wind*', that we associate with Taawhirimaatea, atua of wind and weather, and whose presence we feel everyday.

MATARIKI

So thanks to Rangi Matamua, it's now common knowledge among many people, that through anger and rage, Taawhirimaatea tore out his eyes, crushed them and threw them to the chest of his father Ranginui, thereby creating Matariki. Professor Pou Temara reminds us, He atua kaapoo a Taawhirimaatea, our blind deity.

So we use the term whaanau hauaa to acknowledge Taawhirimaatea's power and presence, and the sacrifice made to bring us Matariki. We also recognise the inseparable connection to the most important component of Maaori society, that being whaanau. That's why I get to speak here today.

Whaanau are the anchor to our histories, our traditions, those who have gone before us and those who are yet to come. But the place of whaanau is being destroyed by the importance placed on individualism and independence, the pinnacle of Paakeha society and the disability philosophy.

HAUTIPUA

The term 'hautipua' describes remarkable beings; who were celebrated, revered and sometimes feared due to the power and skills they possessed. This term applied to a number of tohunga, atua and tiipuna, who are well known in iwi histories.

- Hape of Ihumaatao, acknowledged in famous landmarks in Taamaki such as Karangahape Road;
- Whee from whom all Ngaati Hine descend;
- Pou-kopa and Pou-toomuri, celebrated warriors of Ngaati Awa;
- Turikaatuku, wife of Hongi Hika and instrumental in his war strategies,
- Apanui Ringamutu, eponymous and industrious ancestor of Te Whaanau a Apanui;

- Pukaki of Te Arawa, immortalised in our currency on the face of the 20-cent coin, and whose descendants are now the world champions of Te Matatini.

These are but a few hautipua, who had what we call today 'disabilities'.

Their contributions to their people were valued and their differences embraced and celebrated - not pitied, not denigrated and certainly not vilified. They proudly carried names that described their differences: Hape, Matakerepo, Ringamutu, Pou-kopa and Pou-tomuri. They were connected and inseparable from their whakapapa, their whaanau, their whenua, and their environment. Hence the famous Whanganui whakatauki – ko au te awa, ko te awa, ko au.

A number of matauranga practitioners talk of *pure* conducted with eyes closed and learning skills in complete darkness. Rereata Makiha told us in certain waananga you couldn't graduate until you could master those skills with your eyes closed. The heightening of senses to wairua, our tipuna and the environment is much more acute. No wonder so many of our tohunga were kaapoo.

Finney Davis of Tuhoe describes the tetekura of ancient waka, carved without arms and legs. As limbless guardians of waka, leading incredibly difficult journeys, the symbolism and meaning of tetekura is not lost on whaanau tinana and waka turu, who are here today and in our roopu, are our wayfinders.

As a colonised people though, we now have a jagged, frayed view of the world. We have separate views of ourselves and we sit in forums like this all too often challenging and competing, instead of cooperating. Divide and rule is a powerful strategy because unfortunately it still works. In spite of this, our community belongs to Taamaki Makaurau, and the value we bring is yet to be measured – and you, as a governing body, are poorer without us. As are we...Maaori with disabilities have the highest rate of deprivation in this country. Our community has high expectations of Council, we understand how you came to be and where we are positioned as a population.

OUR CONTRIBUTIONS

So we have come here today to ask, what are you prepared to do to maximise the contributions of our community to make this city genuinely inclusive and iconic?

This is more than universal design. This is *inclusive design, that*:

- (1) creates Maaori relevant, accessible communications
- (2) improves public and community facilities,
- (3) builds a more informed, competent workforce,
- (4) and establishes a national marae for all in Taamaki Makaurau, designed entirely by whaanau hauaa.

These are the pukenga, or skills we have to offer. And just like our work with Te Matatini, we thrive as whaanau hauaa, so all peoples can participate, celebrate and deepen their awareness and knowledge.

So this koorero explores why indigenous peoples, prior to colonisation, had no concept of disability or its negative connotations. Disability, ableism, individualism and independence are concepts from and imposed on us by Te Ao Pakeha. They are divisive, they are destructive, they do not belong. The concept of Disability has no place in Te Ao Maaori - and we implore you as Council, as

iwi, haapu and as the governing body, to do what needs to be done so we too can contribute, invest, attract, and be included.

We look forward to working with you, tena koutou katoa.

Annual Plan 2025-2026

Note: this simplified 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): Heart of the City

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

Our proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026 builds on our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP).

The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Tell us why

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Support

Tell us why

See attached

Summary of attachment:

HOTC's Response

Funding Needs: Urgent need to secure funding for 2025/26 to avoid a \$7M shortfall.

Proposed Solutions:

Share of funding from the International Visitor Levy (IVL).

Government support for a 'Bed Night' Visitor Levy.

Allocation of a share of GST earned on related spending.

Council's Role: Prioritize funding for major events and destination marketing in the 2025/26 budget to ensure economic benefits and city vibrancy.

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Question 5: Other feedback

Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here



Due 28 March

By email: akhaveyoursay@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Heart of the City

Submission to Auckland Council's Annual Budget 2024/2025

Introduction:

Heart of the City (HOTC) is the business association for Auckland's city centre, operating a Business Improvement District (BID). We represent the interests of businesses and property owners. Our purpose is to champion a successful city centre, working for the economic benefit of city centre businesses.

Our submission focuses solely on the question of funding to support Destination Management and Major Events.

Council is seeking feedback on whether Aucklanders support introducing a 'bed night' visitor levy paid by visitors who stay in short-stay commercial accommodation to fund major events and destination management and marketing activity.

Background:

Auckland's city centre sees a direct benefit from events and destination management and marketing activity, driving increased foot traffic, consumer spending, and vibrancy. Most recently, over the weekend of Sail GP and Luke Combs in January 2024, additional revenue for hotel operators was gained, highlighting the significance of major events. The city centre was buzzing, and businesses in Wynyard Quarter, where Sail GP was held, reported it to be an overwhelming success for them.

The Coldplay events at Eden Park in November brought a significant boost in city centre spending from out-of-Auckland domestic visitors compared with the previous week. Overall consumer spending on the Saturday of that week was the second highest day of spending next to Black Friday for the month of November.

However, these weekends are few and far between. The lack of certainty of funding to support existing events over the next 12 months (a similar programme was estimated to deliver \$114M GDP last year) and the absence of a sustainable funding mechanism to secure

a major events pipeline to support growth poses a significant economic risk for the city centre and its businesses.

This is in the context of a city centre that has endured a decade of large-scale, long-term construction, the worst covid impacts in the country, followed by the cost-of-living crisis. Whilst there is optimism for the future, the period ahead is critical to support recovery and ensure a strong platform for ongoing growth. While street trading businesses deliver a relatively small percentage of GDP, they are critical to ensuring a vibrant offering for tourists, students and other visitors.

Urgency is needed to ensure there is no shortfall in funding in the year starting 1 July 2025; and that funding is secured to ensure a sustainable pipeline of major events is in place as soon as possible. Furthermore, destination marketing is essential to attract people back to our city.

HOTC's Response:

It is vital to ensure there is no shortfall in funding in the 2025/26 year, either by securing:

1. A share of funding from the International Visitor Levy (IVL);
2. Government support for a 'Bed Night' Visitor Levy with urgency, ideally to be in place during the 2025/2026 year. We acknowledge the preference expressed by sector representatives to have a **national scheme** in place to ensure an equal playing field across the regions and ensure appropriate technology is in place to support such a scheme; or
3. Agreement to allocate a share of the GST earned on related spending.

If either of these options are not able to be secured in time, we believe that **major events and destination marketing funding must be prioritised by Auckland Council in its 2025/26 budget to 'plug' the \$7M funding gap.**

Council's own analysis indicates that the \$7M investment in the 2024/2025 year delivered \$114M of regional GDP (as outlined in Section Four: Funding destination management and major events of the Annual Budget document). This does not capture the wider benefits such as vibrancy, improved reputation and international publicity.

Conversely, if this programme was not delivered, the loss would be far greater than lost GDP alone – it would have a detrimental impact on reputation, vibrancy and business sustainability. For a relatively small outlay, this is a compelling ROI.

-ENDs-

██████████
Head of Advocacy and Engagement
██████████

Annual Plan 2025-2026

Note: this simplified 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): Tonui Consulting

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

Our proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026 builds on our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP).

The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Support all

Tell us why

See attached:

We support efforts to create sustainability in our environment wholeheartedly

More focus on suburbs. We strongly support this – funding and decision making at lower levels be mindful of the suburbs – they need support – cones and traffic blockages impact businesses in the suburbs.

Local Boards

3. Supporting 'Fairer Funding' for Local Boards

We strongly support the 'fairer funding' approach which puts decisions closer to the people and ensure local boards have the resources to meet their specific communities' needs.

- Māori-led outcomes at a local level: With greater funding flexibility, local boards must prioritise embedding Maori outcomes into their strategies, policies and plan-making to ensure there are initiatives that support Māori economic development.
- Strong local investment in business and community resilience: Increased funding should enable localised programmes that uplift Māori businesses, improve community facilities, and expand events and support services.
- Continuity of services for Māori prosperity: To see real outcomes, more investment needs to be targeted towards Māori-led programmes, business support, and cultural initiatives that help local communities learn and embrace Māori.
- More investment in Māori business ecosystems: Support mechanisms—such as grants, contracts, and access to council procurement—should better reflect the needs of Māori businesses, ensuring they can thrive.

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Support

Tell us why

See attached

1. The Economic Power of Major Events For Māori Business

Events drive economic resilience: Major events boost local economies, creating jobs and business opportunities—especially for our Māori tourism businesses of which there are close to 6000 in Tamaki

- Visitation growth = Māori business success: Retail, accommodation & food services is a growing sector for Māori so more visitors means greater numbers experiencing Māori manaakitanga.
- Cultural capital as a competitive advantage: Auckland's unique Māori identity should be leveraged to differentiate the city as an event destination, all Māori businesses (not just those in the CBD) benefit from destination marketing efforts.
- Strategic partnerships with Māori enterprises: All city funded events should have procurement policies that prioritise Māori business and strengthen its commitment to Tiriti o Waitangi.
- A safer, well-connected Auckland means stronger business outcomes: Investment in safety and strong transport ensures people can move freely and enjoy events without barriers, benefiting local businesses.

We are very supportive of the bed night visitor levy, so long as it provides continuity of services and creates opportunities for Māori businesses.

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges**3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?**

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

Other

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

See attached

2. Understanding the Proposal Rates Increases

As homeowners for multiple properties across Auckland, we support the increase, however:

- Investment in essential services: Ensuring work is done to minimize wasteful or unnecessary spending and prioritize, proportionate to the Māori population, works that provide direct value to Māori communities.

- Investment must translate into tangible benefits - supporting Māori businesses, prioritizing procurement opportunities, investing in Māori business growth and capability and improving transport access to Māori-dense communities.

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Question 5: Other feedback

Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

LTP Feedback reporting

Group: #1 Tonui Consulting

Feedback from Māori entities

Representative: [REDACTED] **Tonui) me** [REDACTED] **(Mana Futures)**

Identify: Mataawaka

Notes from verbal presentation to Annual Budget discussion.

[REDACTED] provided opening mihi.

[REDACTED] provided a mihi in return to Richards opening.

[REDACTED] Chair of meeting AC

15 Minute time allocation

- **Noted:** Highly supportive of plan (overall)
- **Noted:** We support efforts to create sustainability in our environment wholeheartedly.
- **Noted:** We support promoting Auckland through major events
- **Noted:** Rates and charges - supportive but encourage mindfulness on wasteful spending.
- **Noted:** Transport – be mindful of the suburbs – they need support – cones and traffic blockages impact businesses in the suburbs.
- **Noted:** Fairer Funding - We strongly support this – funding and decision making at lower levels
- **Noted:** need for youth resources – at risk Rangatahi – mental health and resilience funding required + entrepreneurship

Overall direction for Annual Budget

Tonui Consulting

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?	Support all “Highly supportive of plan”
Environment – Sustainability	Support “We support efforts to create sustainability in our environment wholeheartedly”.
Do you support Bed night visitor levy?	Support “We support promoting Auckland as a major events destination”
Local Board priorities – Fairer Funding	Support “More focus on suburbs”. We strongly support this” – funding and decision making at lower levels

Rates and Charges	Support supportive but encourage mindfulness on wasteful spending.
Transport	Support “be mindful of the suburbs – they need support – cones and traffic blockages impact businesses in the suburbs”.

Promote Auckland & Fund Major Events

1. The Economic Power of Major Events For Māori Business

Events drive economic resilience: Major events boost local economies, creating jobs and business opportunities—especially for our Māori tourism businesses of which there are close to 6000 in Tamaki

- Visitation growth = Māori business success: Retail, accommodation & food services is a growing sector for Māori so more visitors means greater numbers experiencing Māori manaakitanga.
- Cultural capital as a competitive advantage: Auckland’s unique Māori identity should be leveraged to differentiate the city as an event destination, all Māori businesses (not just those in the CBD) benefit from destination marketing efforts.
- Strategic partnerships with Māori enterprises: All city funded events should have procurement policies that prioritise Māori business and strengthen its commitment to Tiriti o Waitangi.
- A safer, well-connected Auckland means stronger business outcomes: Investment in safety and strong transport ensures people can move freely and enjoy events without barriers, benefiting local businesses.

We are very supportive of the bed night visitor levy, so long as it provides continuity of services and creates opportunities for Māori businesses.

Changes to Rates, Fees & Charges

2. Understanding the Proposal Rates Increases

As homeowners for multiple properties across Auckland, we support the increase, however:

- Investment in essential services: Ensuring work is done to minimize wasteful or unnecessary spending and prioritize, proportionate to the Māori population, works that provide direct value to Māori communities.
- Investment must translate into tangible benefits - supporting Māori businesses, prioritizing procurement opportunities, investing in Māori business growth and capability and improving transport access to Māori-dense communities.

Local Boards

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We strongly support the ‘fairer funding’ approach which puts decisions closer to the people and ensure local boards have the resources to meet their specific communities’ needs.

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- Continuity of services for Māori prosperity: To see real outcomes, more investment needs to be targeted towards Māori-led programmes, business support, and cultural initiatives that help local communities learn and embrace Māori.
- More investment in Māori business ecosystems: Support mechanisms—such as grants, contracts, and access to council procurement—should better reflect the needs of Māori businesses, ensuring they can thrive.

What else is important to you?

Transcript – *Not a complete record of meeting.*

Representative - [REDACTED] Kaiwhakahaere Tonui Consultancy

Support - [REDACTED]

We work with 100s of Māori businesses and schools and support rangatahi into employment.

This presentation is around three opportunities – Start with overall on our thoughts.

Annual Budget:

Highly supportive of plan

One firm comment – If our lands are well, our people are well, if our lands are sick our people are sick.

Sustainability/ Environment:

We support efforts to create sustainability in our environment wholeheartedly.

Bed Levy impact:

We support promoting Auckland through major events.

Latest statistics – Māori population growing at 14% v 5% rest of NZ increase.

We have a young population – entrepreneurship is growing – tamariki are interested in innovation rather than traditional work pathways.

6000 Māori businesses in Auckland a majority are started by under 25s.

Bed Levy impact: Māori Tourism:

A number of businesses are contributing to Māori tourism – valued at \$21 billion across the Motu.

Bed Levy impact: Major Events.

We highly support a bed night levy if we can have major events here.

Events are fundamental to our own growth.

Growth is important to our people.

Rates and Charges:

Rates Fees and charges – as a person – we own multiple properties and pay multiple rates – we are supportive but encourage mindfulness on wasteful spending.

Māori business investment should be included.

Recommend more funds disbursed out to suburbs instead of just the current central city focus.

Transport:

Investment into transport - be mindful of our suburbs as well (not just the city).

Our people live there (suburbs – South and East).

Māori Business:

As a business – the major category (contributing to GDP) is professional and administrative services & property – both popular with Māori – our asset base is growing for Māori.

Consistent services to Iwi are critical.

Local Boards Fairer funding.

We strongly support this – funding closer to services on the ground – continuity of service must be maintained. Local Boards must be given power to work with Māori Pakahi – (Māori Business).

Continue to provide capacity grants to community services that support Māori.

Councillor Questions:

██████████ – Q: Bed night tax - you fully support events – legislation may not get across the line in time – any thoughts? – are you open to rates increase re if legislation does not pass?

██████████ **Response:** - (We) would like to see as much support from pakahi and rangatahi to rally behind you to get legislation done – if needed. Depending on % increase to ratepayers – the economic benefit to the city is warranted – but would have to go back to our population to ask first. GDP increases with positive marketing, leverage for cultural tourism fully supportive yes (of increase if needed).

██████████ – Comment: *Land, language and Tiriti will remain.* Māori tourism = \$21 billion – majority of that contribution comes from here in Tamaki. Fighting hard to keep Māori Outcomes budget where it is. 15,000 Māori employed in Tamaki.

██████████ – Mana Futures

One support what T██████ has shared – I follow her lead.

I sit to represent Tonui but many Māori – particularly Rangatahi – not supported as strong as should be. I run NZQA Rangatahi programme – focus on stopping youth killing themselves and support the future of Māori.

Gave his NRL and aviation and business background post football.

My experience – tika ahau – not greatest (re grants and funding support for rangatahi programmes) We have put in submissions for support – received positive response re a small grant – we were sent email 30 minutes later that council had made a mistake – that is quite poor.

In 2024 we delivered support to 140 rangatahi south Auckland and West and Orakei –

Mihi to Roger Dalton for funding support (TPK) – 67% of our students went on to employment. Now in 2025 – we now have \$0 support (from Govt or other sources) kia ora.

Councillor ██████████ – Q: – Finding your own solutions re mental health – Q: how big a difference can it make to transform lives if ground level responses are given adequate support?

██████████ **response** – Mana Futures : J██████ – On behalf – my experiences – we understand the hardship that Māori have – I too was a rangatahi – although years ago –We developed an accredited NZQA programme over the last six years – missing element – youth need to be inspired – to believe in themselves – it is their birthright – build self-confidence – we are passionate – we know what works – more support would be fantastic. More support for rangatahi encouraged.

Councillor ██████████ – Q: To T██████ – Uplifting submission and aspirations – Q on the rates differential – could you break down support for a rates increase – your view on current differential – between residential and commercial properties currently – is residential / commercial equitable –

██████████ **Response:** I don't think it is equitable – a lot of commercial property is empty right now – businesses are struggling to find ways to pay their loans – this should be looked at. Any increase must be justifiable – not wasteful spend – regulated – those rates need to be justified. Land/ Safety/ our people are well.

Councillor [REDACTED] – Comment – Council leadership – Not stepping back from Māori Outcomes.

[REDACTED] Response: Outcomes needed

Rangatahi feel whakama Business Māori – what can we do to prioritize, celebrate, and increase economic outcomes?

Diminishment of mana – in contrast – our rangatahi are coming out fighting – more vocal on submissions, protest for what they believe in – Toitu te tangata – what might come and go Q: (Government) our people will always be here – we will support business wherever we can

Te Matatini is a good example of economic outcomes for Maori culture– support is massive – spend is massive – anything that works to increase awareness of Auckland as a marketing, destination supports continuity of services – improves services like rail links. We need more marketing efforts – business is small so council can get in behind increase visibility.

Councillor [REDACTED] Q: – how can we be a partner – investment partner re events? (Funding events) is a hard conversation, people generally unsure.

[REDACTED] response -come along to our next Strength programme – not just a database – come in get involved with Māori kaupapa organisations.

[REDACTED] - comment - Would like to see groups like yours showing rangatahi how to play the game.

Councillor [REDACTED]: Q Are you noticing that shift in investment and the impact on our people. (Referring to LTP outcomes).

[REDACTED] Response: City link to airport – what business would that impact ?– could be more done? – Marketing efforts in CBD are louder – businesses we work with are at the smaller ends of town - south and west – (in the suburb businesses) are closing – less foot traffic. Glenn Inness – businesses are closing due to constant traffic cones and transport issues.

Annual Plan 2025-2026

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Submitter details:

Organisation (if applicable): Civic Trust Auckland

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

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- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Support most

Tell us why

See attached

Summary of Attachment:

Key Opinions on the Proposed Annual Plan

Support for Most Proposals:

Urgent community asset renewals.

Revitalizing underused council land.

Acquiring land for parks and open spaces.

Restoration and seismic upgrading of Leys Institute buildings.

Concerns and Suggestions:

Betterment charges for land value increases.

Questioning the necessity of Central Library refurbishment.

Fairer funding approach for local boards.

Environmental and Heritage Focus:

Support for Council's efforts to reduce corporate emissions.

Emphasis on tree planting and environmental sustainability.

Urging for more focus on built heritage conservation.

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Other

Tell us why

See Attached:

CTA is of the view that a bed night visitor levy for the 2025/2026 financial year is the easiest to implement option to fund the events that are important to many Aucklanders. This levy appears not to be supported by the accommodation sector, and therefore we consider it is important that Council collaborates closely with the tourism and accommodation sector on funding options. We also think that other funding options are available, such as the ones we suggested in our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 submission, namely, contributions from tertiary educational institutions that make a sizeable profit, whose students benefit from events (and also from Council services and amenities), as well as from churches, golf courses and offshore banks

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges**3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?**

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

Support

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

See Attached:

CTA supports the proposed overall rates increase of 5.80 per cent for the average value residential property for 2025/2026, as it is in line with the LTP. CTA's LTP submission supported resuming the Natural Environment Targeted Rate and the Water Quality Targeted Rate. We are very supportive of food scraps services.

Question 4:**Local board priorities****4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?**

Albert-Eden, Aotea/Great Barrier, Devonport-Takapuna, Franklin, Henderson-Massey, Hibiscus and Bays, Howick, Kaipātiki, Māngere-Ōtāhuhu, Manurewa, Maungakiekie-Tāmaki, Ōrākei, Ōtara-Papatoetoe, Papakura, Puketāpapa, Rodney, Upper Harbour, Waiheke, Waitākere Ranges, Waitematā, Whau

Albert-Eden Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026 however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Increasing our community programmes that are delivered from our libraries and community centres in Pt Chevalier Mt Albert Sandringham and Epsom.

Supporting our community leasing groups to be able to share their space and be sustainable over time so they can continue to provide their great range of community services and activities.

Supporting our business associations and vibrant town centres so people can live work shop and play in our local villages.

Talking with young people and children to better understand what is important to them in their area.

Increasing neighbourhood safety and resilience community wellbeing and emergency preparedness.

Reducing waste and increasing the profile and impact of Waiōrea Community Recycling Centre.

Delivering on concept and restoration plans we have made for local parks and trialling a portable pump track to move around parks in our area.

Very important

Increasing the number of local events arts and activations especially in local parks and town centres.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

Aotea/Great Barrier Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

All current projects and programmes including community grants, environmental work, and parks upgrades

Very important

Set up of a new community-run local fish-supply

Very important

Community marine education and marine biosecurity work

Very important

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

CTA also supports this local board advocating to Central Government and the Governing Body for urgent assistance in managing the threat of Exotic Caulerpa

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us whyOur priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.**How important are these priorities to you?****Progress the planning and development of the Takapuna Community Hub**

Support local environmental groups to work with volunteers to clean up, manage and plant our local reserves and open spaces contributing to better outcomes and more weather resilient spaces

Very important

Continue to maintain and enhance community facilities, including parks and sports fields, libraries and community venues to meet community needs

Progress the Devonport-Takapuna Local Parks Management Plan and refresh of the local boards Greenways Plan

Very important

Support our flood impacted communities as their neighbourhoods change by offering ways and places to connect and share experiences and information

Very important

Develop a Wairau Catchment Water Quality Action Plan that will ensure future decisions take advantage of existing reports and advice

Very important

Support initiatives identified in the Devonport-Takapuna Ethnic Communities Plan in collaboration with the relative representatives of our ethnic communities.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

CTA also supports the work this local board has done supporting the Pupuke Birdsong Project, Restoring Takarunga Hauraki, Noughty Wasters and their community volunteers and park rangers. Birds fly between wards, and, in the

absence of such ventures in more wards, CTA considers the Pupuke Birdsong Project to be of regional importance and as such considers it should warrant some form of regional funding.

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Franklin Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Delivery of Auckland Council Community Hub Services (library, arts, and customer services) in Beachlands and Clevedon

Extending and improving service outreach to isolated communities like Āwhitu, Ōrere, Glenbrook Beach, Paparimu and Kawakawa Bay

I don't know

Accelerated delivery on the Sports and Recreational Plan, and additional grant funding for Karaka Sports Park and the Te Puru Sports Centre

Initiatives that improve the quality of the water in our streams and rivers and our environment through pest eradication programmes

Very important

Accelerated planting of trees in public places i.e. delivery of the Franklin Ngahere Plan

Very important

Continued delivery of the targeted rate funded Franklin Paths Programme.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

Henderson-Massey Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Working with the community on signature events with the intent for the community to take the lead

Engaging mana whenua, Māori and in collaboration with Te Kete Rukuruku, creating Te Ao Māori activations for whanau that incorporate te reo, tikanga and supporting the area's Pūrakau (Māori history)

Expanding youth voice initiatives to academic students in the local board area

Work on plans to upgrade Catherine Plaza

Very important

Continue to support water quality initiatives including the Rivercare group's work in Te Atatū Peninsula, Love Your Streams (EcoMatters) and Ngā Puna Manaaki Īnanga, a project to identify, protect and enhance Īnanga spawning habitats across the Henderson-Massey local board area

Very important

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

CTA also supports this local board's work to contribute to initiatives that enhance community resilience such as The Making Space for Water programme

Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Support the youth networks in our area to help our young people thrive, and to have a voice in local board decision-making

Support and advocate for further protection of our sea, soil and fresh water from contamination and sedimentation through methods such as re-naturalisation, or daylighting

Very important

Support the development and increased use of our local parks, reserves, and sports fields by being available for people of all abilities, ages, and socio-economic backgrounds to enjoy in a range of leisure and recreation activities

Encourage local business associations to continue to support business development, to contribute to safer, more vibrant, and attractive town centres, that continue to meet the changing needs of our residents

Support and fund efforts to mitigate and adapt reserves, parks and public assets from the effects of climate change through initiatives such as the Urban Ngahere (Forest) Strategy

Very important

Contribute funding for the development of a vision and plan for the future of the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)**North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct**

Our community gave clear feedback in the long-term plan consultation that they would like to see the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct used more effectively for the local community. The Upper Harbour and Hibiscus and Bays Local Boards are jointly leading a working group of local representatives to develop a vision and plan for the future. The work will need both regional and local funding and our local board will need to contribute.

Do you think we should contribute funding to the development of a vision and plan for the future of North Harbour Stadium and the Domain Precinct?

Yes

Tell us why

CTA supports the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board contributing funding for the development of a vision and plan for the future of the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct, as the community have said that they would like to see the stadium and precinct used more effectively and for the local community. We are pleased that this local board is working together with the Upper Harbour Local Board on this.

Howick Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Support local businesses and Business Improvement Districts on crime prevention and safety

Work with the Youth Council, Business East Tāmaki, business and tourism sector, and others, on youth upskilling, including increasing funding for the Young Enterprise Scheme

Review and refresh the Howick Local Board Heritage Plan and Tourism Plan

Very important

Investigate options to provide a dump station at Half Moon Bay

Trial a surveillance programme to help curb illegal dumping in Flat Bush

Develop initiatives for live monitoring, capturing and documenting the levels of poison/toxicity in our local waterways to increase awareness and enable enforcement

Very important

Investigate options on introducing a targeted rate to help fund the delivery of the Flat Bush Library, Community Centre, and Pool and Leisure Centre.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

CTA supports the high priority of this local board being tackling the challenges of environmental protection and restoration, including its support for particular ecological programmes to help protect the natural environment

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Kaipātiki Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Community development, including events, community safety, and a greater activation of our community houses, community centres, and libraries

Increased funding in the Kaipātiki Community Grants Programme, so we can support and help a wider reach of our community through their activities

Māori outcomes, through investment in engagement, events, and fostering authentic relationships with Māori.

Youth outcomes, through conversations with young people to identify local activities and services that interest them

Increased sport and recreation opportunities, through grants to organisations to maintain or improve their assets, or to secure community use of non-council owned facilities

Environmental protection and restoration, including working with our local environmental groups to increase their impact

Very important

Maintenance, including environmentally friendly open space management, building maintenance, refuse collection, bush track maintenance, and removal of aging pine trees

Very important

Compliance, in the areas of building, illegal dumping, noise, animal control, and overnight stays on reserves

Pools and leisure service enhancements and affordability

Sport and recreation facility planning to understand the sport and recreation facility needs of Kaipātiki, to guide future investment

Business support and engagement across Kaipātiki.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

CTA also supports this local board implementing their Mini Shoreline Adaptation Plan for Little Shoal Bay / Te Wai Manawa.

Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Explore a site for a recycling centre

Very important

Local playground improvements in areas like Mangere Bridge

Maintain local road safety with limited budgets

More support to volunteer networks**Push to deliver local business initiatives.****Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)**

CTA also supports this local board's work on Pest Free Ihumātao and Sustainability in Schools educational sessions on pest control. As mentioned above at the start of our 4B answer, the Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board could learn from the experience of Albert-Eden and Waitemata with the Waiōrea Community Recycling Centre..

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)**Māngere East Village Business Improvement District (BID) programme**

A BID is a local economic development initiative run by a business association under the Auckland Council BID Policy (2022). It involves businesses in a defined area paying a targeted rate to fund specific services or projects in their BID boundary. The Māngere East Village Business Association Society Inc. (MEVBA) has failed to meet key BID Policy requirements, including accountability reporting, AGM minutes, strategic plan, and appointing a BID Manager. MEVBA also breached its constitution and did not notify the council of non-compliance. The Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board is now considering terminating the BID programme and targeted rate, with the possibility of re-establishing a compliant BID programme in the future if conditions are met.

Do you think we should end the Māngere East Village Business Improvement District (BID) programme and associated BID targeted rate?**Tell us why****Manurewa Local Board Priorities**

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?**Tell us why**

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Increasing the levels of service for maintenance and repair of all assets across buildings, parks, open spaces and sports fields, town centre cleaning, street litter bin emptying, vegetation clearance, and berm mowing works

Very important

Improving sports fields including maintenance, sand-carpeting and lighting

Identifying ways to support the council's response to roaming dogs

Boosting the amount of funding available for community grants so more projects and initiatives can be delivered by community, arts and sports groups

Expanding the number of funded initiatives that respond to the needs and aspirations of children and young people

Developing tailored community partnerships with key groups, organisations and networks where their interests and priorities are aligned to outcomes in the Manurewa Local Board Plan 2027

Providing the Pacific community with capacity support, and a grant to undertake feasibility and concept plans to deliver the Pacific hub on Clendon Reserve

Scaling up the work being delivered to achieve environmental outcomes

Very important

Investigating the need to extend the opening hours in our community facilities such as the two libraries, the pool and leisure centre and Nathan Homestead

Funding initiatives that stimulate economic growth and generate prosperity in Manurewa.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

CTA also supports this local board's work to manage illegal dumping, protect their waterways, anticipate future temperature rises, and prevent the loss of biodiversity

Fenced Dog Exercise Areas

Do you think we should investigate providing fenced dog exercise areas?

Tell us why

Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Continuing to support community groups and community-led activities through our local community grants

Continuing to build the capacity and capability of local community and sporting groups through our strategic partnerships programme

Activate our local open spaces and facilities, through council-led activities and assessing what amenities our spaces need, such as toilets and power outlets

Empowering community groups and organisations to deliver community events through sustainable funding models

Consider funding activities that increase our community's sense of safety, working with community groups and business associations already delivering safety initiatives

Continuing to support initiatives that deliver outcomes with and for youth, such as our Youth Empowerment programme, and Tiakina te taiao and Ope programmes (biodiversity and climate action education programme in schools)

Very important

Collaborate with mana whenua and neighbouring local boards to protect and restore our waterways, particularly the Tāmaki Estuary and Manukau Harbour

Very important

Consider a review of Te Oro Music and Arts Centre, to ensure it remains welcoming and responsive to the community's changing needs.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

Ōrākei Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Increase our funding for local ecological restoration, and animal and plant pest control, and continue to work with our many community volunteers to enhance our natural environment

Very important

Continue local initiatives to enhance neighbourhood connections and increase safety and emergency preparedness, such as through funding for Neighbourhood Support

Fund and support local events, such as Splash Landing, Anzac services, and an event to celebrate the re-opening of Remuera Library to showcase our spaces and benefit local residents and businesses

Maintain efforts to monitor and improve water quality in our local waterways

Very important

Continue activating facilities at Tagalad Reserve and The Landing

Progress detailed design and consent work for Thomas Bloodworth Park and Shore Road East sports fields, and for field and sports infrastructure at Colin Maiden Park, and renew artificial playing surfaces at Michaels Avenue Reserve

Find a new partner to develop the Meadowbank Community Centre

Develop an action plan to improve access and the environment at Dingle Dell

Very important

Work to enhance the Ellerslie Town Square by improving access, activation ability, safety and public amenity through improved tree management, landscaping and seating.

Very important

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

CTA also supports this local board's work to renew walking paths and tracks at

Tahuna Torea nature reserve, create an Emergency Readiness and Response Plan,

create hard surfacing on the Stonefields Heritage Trail, and seismic work on the

Remuera Library – and we support an event to celebrate the re-opening of the library

Seawall Repair from Tāmaki Yacht Club to Achilles Point, St Heliers

We would like to maintain and repair seawalls, replenish sand, and extend stormwater outflows further offshore on our beaches from Tāmaki Yacht Club to Achilles Point, St Heliers, as well as re-sand Tāmaki Beach and construct groynes to help keep the sand in place. To fund this, we would need to investigate a targeted rate of around \$10 per year, for each household in the Orakei local board area, for 10 years. If progressed, the Governing Body would need to make a decision on whether to introduce this rate as part of the annual budget 2026/2027, after consultation on a more detailed proposal. The rate could then apply from 2026/2027.

Do you think we should investigate this proposal?

Yes

Tell us why

We also support introducing a targeted rate (\$10 per year per household) in the

Ōrākei Local Board area to maintain and repair seawalls, replenish sand, and extend

stormwater outflows further offshore on our beaches from Tāmaki Yacht Club to

Achilles Point, St Heliers

Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?**Tell us why**

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Ensuring Māori culture and the values of mātauranga Māori are visible in public spaces

Addressing safety concerns in neighbourhoods, common areas and town centres

Delivering on increased local economic outcomes

Supporting small businesses to act on environmental sustainability

Very important

Progressing the planning for options to address community service needs in Old Papatoetoe

Supporting local environment groups to work collaboratively with community volunteers in efforts to clean, manage and plant our local reserves and open spaces

Very important

Planning for the delivery of facilities at Manukau Sports Bowl

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

CTA also supports this local board's focus on increasing the ngāhere in their area and their funding of volunteer groups to preserve natural habitats.

Manukau Sports Bowl

Do you support prioritising the planning for delivery of facilities at Manukau Sports Bowl?

(This may include exploring alternate sources of revenue, such as a targeted rate in future years)

Tell us why

Hunters Corner Business Improvement District

For the 2024/2025 financial year, the Governing Body did not set a targeted rate for the Hunters Corner Business Improvement District. This was due to the Hunters Corner Town Centre Society Inc (HTCTS) not complying with the BID Policy. If the HTCTS remains non-compliant with the BID Policy by April 2025, council will not set the rate for 2025/2026.

Do you have any comments on the Hunters Corner Business Improvement District?

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Which three of our services are least important to you? (select up to three)

Papakura Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Progressing some of the new Sports and Recreation Plan, economic development, and youth projects identified from the work being completed in 2024/2029

Requesting strategic assessments to understand needs relating to: Opaheke sports and passive parks; Awakeri Wetlands; Kuhanui Reserve, Karaka; Park Estate Reserve, Park Green; new play facilities at Pulman Park, and the Greenways/Local Paths Plan

Advocating for access to the legacy parking fund for carparking projects

Assisting the Takanini Business Association's proposed establishment of a Business Improvement District (BID) programme and BID targeted rate for Takanini

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

CTA supports development contribution funding in particular for Ōpaheke passive parks, Awakeri Wetlands, and the Greenways/Local Paths Plan.

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we want feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Takanini Business Improvement District (BID)

We continue to support the Papakura and Takanini Business Associations to grow and develop businesses, and to make the town centres more lively. Takanini Business Association is seeking to establish a Business Improvement District (BID) programme. If it is successful, business ratepayers and owners located within the BID establishment area will become members of the Takanini BID programme and pay the associated BID target rate.

Do you think we should establish a Takanini Business Improvement District (BID) programme and associated BID targeted rate?

Tell us why

Puketāpapa Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Considering the community programmes that are delivered from Wesley Community Centre and Roskill Youth Zone to get better utilisation of the facility

Investigating the use of the Fickling Centre and Library, to ensure that it is able to respond to the needs of the growing Three Kings community

Supporting community groups that lease council space, so they can find ways to share their spaces and continue to provide great community activities

Implementing recommendations from the Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan so that the recreational needs of our growing communities are met

Planning for the development of Monte Cecilia Park so that this becomes a destination park and an icon for Puketāpapa

Very important

Investigating projects from the Wairaki Awa Catchment Plan that can be implemented, such as naturalising the awa at Lynfield Cove

Very important

Investing in more climate action and environmental projects

Very important

Increasing the number of local events, arts and activations, especially in local parks

Supporting arts and events by working with existing community groups to help coordinate their work and make the most of opportunities

Supporting community-led placemaking initiatives that engage diverse groups, promote safety and community identity, and increase greater connectivity and participation among businesses and community members.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

CTA also supports this local board in its collaboration with local groups to enhance disaster preparedness through development of their Emergency Readiness and Response Plan, funding projects to protect and enhance the local ecosystems, and delivering the Climate Action Activator, EcoNeighbourhoods, and Low Carbon Lifestyles projects. We are pleased that environmental sustainability remains central to this local board's vision, and that environmental restoration is also a core priority.

Rodney Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Improving services for all communities by enhancing libraries art and youth programmes

Promote physical activity and recreation by increasing play opportunities in more locations

Support community groups, volunteers, and mana whenua to enhance environmental protection and restoration efforts, particularly for waterways and wetlands, while promoting waste reduction

Very important

Increase maintenance service levels, such as more frequent mowing of high-profile reserves, pest control, and repair of tracks and car parks.

Very important

Support Rodney Greenways Plans to facilitate walking, cycling and horse riding

Very important

Prepare and review plans for reserves to identify gaps to meet community needs

Very important

Improve the safety of our community and environment through increased education, monitoring and compliance.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

CTA also supports this local board's work to establish local emergency leadership groups and develop action plans to tackle challenges like droughts and floods, to deliver improvements to open spaces, streetscapes, and townships; to fund initiatives such as planting, pest control, stream and water quality enhancements and waste minimisation projects; and to advocate for increased funding in the 10-year budget for sensitive planning to protect high-biodiversity landscapes and effective environmental compliance for public and private entities

Upper Harbour Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Appropriate planning and investment for infrastructure and quality open space in areas impacted by growth and intensification e.g. Whenuapai

Very important

Continue to prioritise support to our local community organisations and volunteers to deliver outcomes that provide a sense of belonging, wellbeing and resilience for residents

Very important

Continue to prioritise investment in outcomes that ensure our communities have access to high-quality amenities that provide for a range of opportunities including play, pathways and connections, active sports and recreation and connecting with nature

Funding to assist in the development, improvement, and renovation of non-council owned community facilities that serve the Upper Harbour area through a facilities grants process

Improve wayfinding in the Upper Harbour area to help our communities to easily discover and enjoy the assets we have

Contribute funding for the development of a vision and plan for the future North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

CTA also supports this local board continuing to support its local organisations and volunteers to foster community belonging, strengthen resilience and protect and enhance the environment, and to continue to prioritise support for initiatives that deliver outcomes for its environment including community-led ecological initiatives, construction waste education, industrial pollution prevention and the restoration of Waiarohia Stream

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we want feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct

Our community gave clear feedback in the long-term plan consultation that they would like to see the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct used more effectively for the local community. The Upper Harbour and Hibiscus and Bays Local Boards are jointly leading a working group of local representatives to develop a vision and plan for the future. The work will need both regional and local funding and our local board will need to contribute.

Do you think we should contribute funding to the development of a vision and plan for the future of North Harbour Stadium and the Domain Precinct?

Yes

Tell us why

CTA supports the Upper Harbour Local Board contributing funding for the development of a vision and plan for the future of the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct, as the community have said that they would like to see the stadium and precinct used more effectively [and] for the local community. We are pleased that this local board is working together with the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board on this

Waiheke Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?**Tell us why**

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Delivering core council operational services, such as mowing, track and facility maintenance, and the library

Programmes which protect, restore, and enhance the island's natural environment, and initiatives that provide opportunities for community connectedness, capability and resilience

Very important

Progressing recommended actions within the Rangihoua Reserve Onetangi Sports Park Reserve Management Plan

Capital projects including the Tawaipareira Reserve playground and loop track, and replacement of the Rakino Hall

Continuing to support local organisations with the development of a community swimming pool and investigate consulting on a local targeted rate

Revitalising Ostend and Oneroa village centres

Commissioning the research of data and surveying residents to understand the state of the motu.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

CTA also supports this local board continuing to prioritise actions from its Climate Action Plan, on-going ecological restoration, and pest management; implementing the grow stage of the Waiheke Ngahere (Forest) Strategy; supporting stream restoration projects, citizen science programmes to support the health of the aquatic environment, local volunteer programmes which improve biodiversity within the reserves, and programmes to reduce the waste stream

Community Pool Development

You have told us a community pool is a priority however building and running a community pool will involve significant funding. A targeted rate for Waiheke residents is one way to fund this development. The board will also explore partnerships and sponsorship opportunities.

Do you think we should investigate a targeted rate to progress development of a community pool?

Tell us why

Waitākere Ranges Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding. The proposed increase in funding ('fairer funding' for local boards) may be taken up by budget pressures outside of the local board's control.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

The Event Partnership Fund to support more community-led events

Arts and culture programmes delivered through our community arts partners

Tailoring programmes to serve diverse communities (youth, older adults, Pacific and ethnic communities)

Community development, placemaking and activation in our growing neighbourhoods and centres such as Glen Eden, Sunnyvale and Swanson

Supporting business associations to continue supporting local businesses and ongoing growth, develop and liven-up our town centres, including assisting Glen Eden Business Association and establishing of Titirangi Business Association

Environmental programmes to help protect and restore the Waitākere Ranges

Very important

Trialling phosphite treatment of kauri infected with kauri dieback on selected local parks

Very important

Improving neighbourhood parks: George Herring Common, Koroī/ Clayburn Reserve, Tautoru/Maywood Park, and Sandys Parade.

Very important

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

CTA also supports this local board in advocating to raise the prominence of the

Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area to be a key focus in the Annual Budget and for an

increase in dedicated funding to help implement the aims of the Waitākere Ranges

Heritage Area Act 2008. We support their work in resilience planning, preparing a

Waitākere Ranges Climate Action Plan, the species spotlight campaign by Waitākere Ranges Pest Free Alliance, and initiating the community-led Waitākere Ranges Dark

Sky Project.

Waitematā Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

Tell us why

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Prioritising and investigating flood resilience actions for our parks such as Western Park and Grey Lynn Park

Very important

Delivering footpath improvements for Auckland Domain

Very important

Starting construction for Leys Institute

Very important

Delivery of Heard Park Civic Space

Prioritising sport and recreation opportunities for groups that have less

Investigating transition of Grey Lynn Paddling Pool into a seasonal splashpad

Community services programming to enhance perceptions of safety

Support for ending homelessness in Auckland.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

CTA is particularly supportive of the work to restore the Leys Institute (as mentioned above in 1(f))

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Whau Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Restore funding to service levels in some areas that were cut in recent years, e.g additional library hours, programmes and community grants

Increased service levels in our parks and town centres including progression of Te Hono project

Plan for the future Whau aquatic and recreation facility and facilitate public access to school pools in the interim

Work with local Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) to find new ways of delivering vibrant and welcoming town centres through art activation and beautification projects.

Continue to support volunteering, community and business participation, through environmental and ecological initiatives around the Manukau Harbour foreshore, the Whau River and its tributaries, and our urban ngahere

Very important

Increase community participation and capability in community hubs, houses and with established community partners, and progress the development of a new community hub in Fruitvale

Foster climate/emergency preparedness and resilience in our community

Very important

Investigate a future space for youth and engage a youth coordinator to support and promote for youth by youth activations

Provide appropriate options for healthy, active lifestyles through recreation in parks and open spaces with particular focus on our ethnically diverse communities, women, and girls.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

CTA also supports this local board in its development of emergency management plans and programmes; support for a range of existing environmental initiatives and a new group of environmental volunteers, including enabling community access to eco hub workshops and supporting the West Eco festival and bike hub.

Question 5: Other feedback**Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?**

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

See attached

Summary of Attachment:

Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan: Support for preserving the maunga, restoring indigenous ecosystems, and making the maunga smoke-free and alcohol-free.

Auckland Transport Concerns:

Tree Planting: Concern about trees being concreted in, harming their growth.

Parking and E-Scooters: Support for higher parking fees to encourage public transport use; opposition to e-scooters due to safety issues.

Bus Services: Suggestion to add smaller buses for less demand routes and bike racks on buses, especially those crossing the harbour bridge.

Pets:

Suggestion for Council to fund education on pet keeping, highlighting that pets are generally not climate or biodiversity friendly



Submission of Civic Trust Auckland

Annual Plan 2025/2026

Contact name: [REDACTED] (Secretary)
 Organisation: Civic Trust Auckland
 Phone: [REDACTED]
 Email: [REDACTED]
 Postal address: PO Box 29 002 Epsom, Auckland 1344

Introduction

Civic Trust Auckland (CTA) is a non-profit public interest group, formed in 1968, with activities and interests throughout the greater Auckland region. We are on Auckland Council's list of regional stakeholders and were identified by Council for the annual budget consultation as a group with region-wide impact. We have submitted on Auckland Council's previous annual budgets, as well as numerous council plans. Our submissions are available on our website [here](#).

The aims of the Trust include:

- Protection of natural landforms
- Preservation of heritage, in all its aspects
- Encouragement of good planning for the city and region.

We have read the entire consultation document for the 2025/26 annual budget, as well as studying much of the Supporting Information document. Page references, are to the consultation document. We have set out our submission according to the questions on the feedback form.

Question 1: What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Support most

(a) CTA supports most of what is proposed in the plan, with particular regard to the following aspects.

(b) Reading on page 11 that Council plans to "Progress urgent community asset renewals to safeguard our facilities from asset failure and support high-priority growth projects," CTA notes with concern that some Council buildings have not been looked after, e.g., Tadmor House and Hall in Manurewa, to the point where demolition is considered as the only option, so we trust that this plan will make adequate budgetary provision for such matters.

(c) With the significant level of intensification anticipated by Government, Council could fruitfully consider the feasibility of betterment charges to factor some of the increase in land value resulting from zoning changes rather than any investment skill.

Such a fund could be distributed to useful causes such as infrastructure, heritage protection and affordable housing.

(d) CTA supports “Revitalising underused council land to improve social, environmental, economic and cultural outcomes” (page 14) and recommends that such plans are in full consultation with the community where that land is situated. We have seen developments take place where community voices are absent, and outcomes have therefore not taken various needs and/or viewpoints into consideration.

(e) CTA fully supports “Acquiring land for parks and open spaces to contribute to Aucklanders’ quality of life, as well as make better use of the parks we already have” (page 14).

(f) CTA is not convinced that this work is necessary: “Central Library Comprehensive interior building refurbishment including the renewal of mechanical services, lighting, furniture, fixtures and equipment” (page 15) A refurbishment of the central library has been carried out recently. Perhaps particular items in this valuable and well-used facility are needed to be replaced (e.g., aging computers) but we suggest some of this expenditure is not necessary at this time.

(g) We strongly support the following works: “Undertake the restoration, modernisation and seismic upgrading of the Leys Institute buildings, which includes the library and community centre” (page 15).

(h) CTA questions whether the contribution of CCMP outcomes are significant enough to the ‘Auckland region’ to warrant the expenditure. The CCMP is a document full of visionary urban design schemes compiled at the time of the amalgamation of Auckland’s legacy councils fifteen years ago. It is a non-statutory document and CTA supports a cost-benefit review of existing projects along with other eligible projects not considered but requiring attention.

(i) CTA strongly approves the fairer funding approach for local boards, having supported this in our submission on the Long-term Plan 2024-2034.

(j) We congratulate Council on its programmes and projects (outlined on page 7) underway to reduce its corporate emissions (replacing gas boilers, increasing the use of solar energy, decarbonising stadium, monitoring energy use). We would support the installation of ‘walls’ and solar capture devices.

(k) We also congratulate Council on its cumulative operating savings and cost reductions (as described on page 107 of the Supplementary Information Document. We expect Council will maintain an ongoing review of existing projects to explore if and how further savings might be made.

Question 2: Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Other

CTA is of the view that a bed night visitor levy for the 2025/2026 financial year is the easiest to implement option to fund the events that are important to many Aucklanders. This levy appears not to be supported by the accommodation sector,

and therefore we consider it is important that Council collaborates closely with the tourism and accommodation sector on funding options. We also think that other funding options are available, such as the ones we suggested in our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 submission, namely, contributions from tertiary educational institutions that make a sizeable profit, whose students benefit from events (and also from Council services and amenities), as well as from churches, golf courses and offshore banks.

Question 3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal? Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for the council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

Support

Question 3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

CTA supports the proposed overall rates increase of 5.80 per cent for the average value residential property for 2025/2026, as it is in line with the LTP. CTA's LTP submission supported resuming the Natural Environment Targeted Rate and the Water Quality Targeted Rate. We are very supportive of food scraps services.

Question 4A. Which local board does your feedback relate to?

All local boards. (We are a regional organisation. Please note our request in this submission under **5B Other Feedback** [Submissions publicly available.](#))

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Support most.

CTA considers that local boards best know which activities to prioritise for their area, and we generally support them in their choices. We note that some local boards are intending to embark on activities that other local boards have already carried out, and we submit that expertise and experience be shared across the local boards, e.g., Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board, in exploring a site for a recycling centre, could learn from Albert-Eden and Waitemata and their experience with the Waiōrea Community Recycling Centre. We would prefer local board members (and councillors) to be non-partisan, as we are of the view that this would make boards function better.

We particularly support the following activities, which align with the aims and objectives of CTA:

Albert-Eden:

- reducing waste and increasing the profile and impact of Waiōrea Community Recycling Centre
- delivering on concept and restoration plans we have made for local parks, and trialling a portable pump track to move around parks in our area

Aotea/Great Barrier:

- environmental work and parks upgrades
- set up of a new community-run local fish-supply

- community marine education and marine biosecurity work.

CTA also supports this local board advocating to Central Government and the Governing Body for urgent assistance in managing the threat of Exotic Caulerpa.

Devonport-Takapuna:

- support local environmental groups to work with volunteers to clean up, manage and plant our local reserves and open spaces contributing to better outcomes and more weather resilient spaces
- progress the Devonport-Takapuna Local Parks Management Plan and refresh of the local boards Greenways Plan
- support our flood impacted communities as their neighbourhoods change by offering ways and places to connect and share experiences and information
- develop a Wairau Catchment Water Quality Action Plan that will ensure future decisions take advantage of existing reports and advice

CTA also supports the work this local board has done supporting the Pupuke Birdsong Project, Restoring Takarunga Hauraki, Naughty Wasters and their community volunteers and park rangers. Birds fly between wards, and, in the absence of such ventures in more wards, CTA considers the Pupuke Birdsong Project to be of regional importance and as such considers it should warrant some form of regional funding.

Franklin:

- initiatives that improve the quality of the water in our streams and rivers and our environment through pest eradication programmes
- accelerated planting of trees in public places i.e. delivery of the Franklin Ngahere Plan

Henderson-Massey:

- work on plans to upgrade Catherine Plaza
- continue to support water quality initiatives including the Rivercare group's work in Te Atatū Peninsula, Love Your Streams (EcoMatters) and Ngā Puna Manaaki Inanga, a project to identify, protect and enhance inanga spawning habitats across the Henderson-Massey local board area

CTA also supports this local board's work to contribute to initiatives that enhance community resilience such as The Making Space for Water programme.

Hibiscus and Bays:

- support and advocate for further protection of our sea, soil and fresh water from contamination and sedimentation through methods such as re-naturalisation, or daylighting
- support and fund efforts to mitigate and adapt reserves, parks and public assets from the effects of climate change through initiatives such as the Urban Ngahere (Forest) Strategy

CTA supports the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board contributing funding for the development of a vision and plan for the future of the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct, as the community have said that they would like to see the stadium and precinct used more effectively and for the local community. We are pleased that this local board is working together with the Upper Harbour Local Board on this.

Howick:

- review and refresh the Howick Local Board Heritage Plan and Tourism Plan
- develop initiatives for live monitoring, capturing and documenting the levels of poison/toxicity in our local waterways to increase awareness and enable enforcement

CTA supports the high priority of this local board being tackling the challenges of environmental protection and restoration, including its support for particular ecological programmes to help protect the natural environment.

Kaipātiki:

- environmental protection and restoration, including working with our local environmental groups to increase their impact
- maintenance, including environmentally friendly open space management, building maintenance, refuse collection, bush track maintenance, and removal of aging pine trees

CTA also supports this local board implementing their Mini Shoreline Adaptation Plan for Little Shoal Bay / Te Wai Manawa.

Māngere-Ōtāhuhu:

- explore a site for a recycling centre

CTA also supports this local board's work on Pest Free Ihumātao and Sustainability in Schools educational sessions on pest control. As mentioned above at the start of our 4B answer, the Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board could learn from the experience of Albert-Eden and Waitemātā with the Waiōrea Community Recycling Centre.

Manurewa:

- increasing the levels of service for maintenance and repair of all assets across buildings, parks, open spaces and sports fields, town centre cleaning, street litter bin emptying, vegetation clearance, and berm mowing works
- scaling up the work being delivered to achieve environmental outcomes

CTA also supports this local board's work to manage illegal dumping, protect their waterways, anticipate future temperature rises, and prevent the loss of biodiversity.

Maungakiekie-Tāmaki:

- continuing to support initiatives that deliver outcomes with and for youth, such as our Youth Empowerment programme, and Tiakina te taiao and Ope programmes (biodiversity and climate action education programme in schools)
- collaborate with mana whenua and neighbouring local boards to protect and restore our waterways, particularly the Tāmaki Estuary and Manukau Harbour

Ōrākei:

- increase our funding for local ecological restoration, and animal and plant pest control, and continue to work with our many community volunteers to enhance our natural environment
- maintain efforts to monitor and improve water quality in our local waterways
- develop an action plan to improve access and the environment at Dingle Dell
- work to enhance the Ellerslie Town Square by improving access, activation ability, safety and public amenity through improved tree management, landscaping and seating

CTA also supports this local board's work to renew walking paths and tracks at Tahuna Torea nature reserve, create an Emergency Readiness and Response Plan, create hard surfacing on the Stonefields Heritage Trail, and seismic work on the Remuera Library – and we support an event to celebrate the re-opening of the library.

We also support introducing a targeted rate (\$10 per year per household) in the Ōrākei Local Board area to maintain and repair seawalls, replenish sand, and extend stormwater outflows further offshore on our beaches from Tāmaki Yacht Club to Achilles Point, St Heliers.

Ōtara-Papatoetoe:

- supporting small businesses to act on environmental sustainability
- supporting local environment groups to work collaboratively with community volunteers in efforts to clean, manage and plant our local reserves and open spaces

CTA also supports this local board's focus on increasing the ngāhere in their area and their funding of volunteer groups to preserve natural habitats.

Papakura:

- requesting strategic assessments to understand needs relating to: Ōpaheke sports and passive parks; Awakeri Wetlands; Kuhanui Reserve, Karaka; Park Estate Reserve, Park Green; new play facilities at Bruce Pulman Park; and the Greenways/Local Paths Plan

CTA supports development contribution funding in particular for Ōpaheke passive parks, Awakeri Wetlands, and the Greenways/Local Paths Plan.

Puketāpapa:

- planning for the development of Monte Cecilia Park so that this becomes a destination park and an icon for Puketāpapa
- investigating projects from the Wairaki Awa Catchment Plan that can be implemented, such as naturalising the awa at Lynfield Cove
- investing in more climate action and environmental projects

CTA also supports this local board in its collaboration with local groups to enhance disaster preparedness through development of their Emergency Readiness and Response Plan, funding projects to protect and enhance the local ecosystems, and delivering the Climate Action Activator, EcoNeighbourhoods, and Low Carbon Lifestyles projects. We are pleased that environmental sustainability remains central to this local board's vision, and that environmental restoration is also a core priority.

Rodney:

- support community groups, volunteers, and mana whenua to enhance environmental protection and restoration efforts, particularly for waterways and wetlands, while promoting waste reduction
- increase maintenance service levels, such as more frequent mowing of high-profile reserves, pest control, and repair of tracks and car parks
- support Rodney Greenways Plans to facilitate walking, cycling and horse riding
- prepare and review plans for reserves to identify gaps to meet community needs

CTA also supports this local board's work to establish local emergency leadership groups and develop action plans to tackle challenges like droughts and floods, to deliver improvements to open spaces, streetscapes, and townships; to fund initiatives such as planting, pest control, stream and water quality enhancements and waste minimisation projects; and to advocate for increased funding in the 10-year budget for sensitive planning to protect high-biodiversity landscapes and effective environmental compliance for public and private entities.

Upper Harbour:

- appropriate planning and investment for infrastructure and quality open space in areas impacted by growth and intensification e.g. Whenuapai
- continue to prioritise investment in outcomes that ensure our communities have access to high-quality amenities that provide for a range of opportunities including play, pathways and connections, active sports and recreation and connecting with nature

CTA also supports this local board continuing to support its local organisations and volunteers to foster community belonging, strengthen resilience and protect and enhance the environment, and to continue to prioritise support for initiatives that deliver outcomes for its environment including community-led ecological initiatives, construction waste education, industrial pollution prevention and the restoration of Waiarohia Stream.

CTA supports the Upper Harbour Local Board contributing funding for the development of a vision and plan for the future of the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct, as the community have said that they would like to see the stadium and precinct used more effectively [and] for the local community. We are pleased that this local board is working together with the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board on this.

Waiheke:

- programmes which protect, restore, and enhance the island's natural environment, and initiatives that provide opportunities for community connectedness, capability and resilience

CTA also supports this local board continuing to prioritise actions from its Climate Action Plan, on-going ecological restoration, and pest management; implementing the grow stage of the Waiheke Ngahere (Forest) Strategy; supporting stream restoration projects, citizen science programmes to support the health of the aquatic environment, local volunteer programmes which improve biodiversity within the reserves, and programmes to reduce the waste stream.

Waitākere Ranges:

- environmental programmes to help protect and restore the Waitākere Ranges
- trialling phosphite treatment of kauri infected with kauri dieback on selected local parks
- improving neighbourhood parks: George Herring Common, Koroī/ Clayburn Reserve, Tautoru/Maywood Park, and Sandys Parade

CTA also supports this local board in advocating to raise the prominence of the Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area to be a key focus in the Annual Budget and for an increase in dedicated funding to help implement the aims of the Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008. We support their work in resilience planning, preparing a Waitākere Ranges Climate Action Plan, the species spotlight campaign by Waitākere

Ranges Pest Free Alliance, and initiating the community-led Waitākere Ranges Dark Sky Project.

Waitematā:

- prioritising and investigating flood resilience actions for our parks such as Western Park and Grey Lynn Park
- delivering footpath improvements for Auckland Domain
- starting construction for Leys Institute

CTA is particularly supportive of the work to restore the Leys Institute (as mentioned above in 1(f)).

Whau:

- continue to support volunteering, community and business participation, through environmental and ecological initiatives around the Manukau Harbour foreshore, the Whau River and its tributaries, and our urban ngahere
- foster climate/emergency preparedness and resilience in our community

CTA also supports this local board in its development of emergency management plans and programmes; support for a range of existing environmental initiatives and a new group of environmental volunteers, including enabling community access to eco hub workshops and supporting the West Eco festival and bike hub.

Question 5: Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation Document)?

5A. Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026

(a) We have been unable to access the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Integrated Management Plan, as the link on the TMA website at <https://maunga.nz/plans-policies-and-procedures> results in a “Page not found 404” message.

(b) We are in principle supportive of the TMA’s desire to “Preserve the visual and physical integrity of the Maunga as landmarks of Tāmaki,” including the removal of redundant infrastructure and returning areas to open space. We acknowledge the desire to make the forms of the maunga stand out without trees on them but we see this as a vision that may be realised some decades in the future when the trees currently living on the maunga have died a natural death.

(c) We support restoration of indigenous native ecosystems, reintroducing native plants, and attracting native animal species. We support “Native trees to be protected and retained where appropriately located in relationship to other features” (page 21 of the Integrated Management Plan Strategies).

(d) We do not support removing inappropriate exotic trees and weeds, in that “inappropriate” in this context is not defined. We read on page 21 of the IMPS that: “Exotic trees will be assessed for their contribution to the value of the Maunga.” We further read that: “Removal of exotic trees will occur when there is a health and safety risk, they are identified as a weed species, there is risk to Archaeological Features, or they impact on the cultural landscape and viewshafts. Any other tree removals will be assessed on a case by case basis.” This, in our view, places every exotic tree on any maunga under threat of removal. We note that a number of communities have been devastated by the felling of large numbers of exotic trees on

their local maunga. We think most, if not all the exotic trees on the maunga should be allowed to live out their natural life.

(e) CTA supports this principle: “Restore areas of the Tūpuna Maunga with indigenous ecosystems, reintroduce and attract indigenous species and culturally appropriate species, recognise that restoration objectives may be a range of outcomes including different periods of occupation as well as pre-European and pre-human states.”

(f) We support this principle: “Restoration will incorporate traditional indigenous flora and fauna, with the intention of providing for increased biodiversity, cultivation and cultural harvesting of kai, medicinal, textile materials, and other cultural requirements. Propagation and captive management of flora and fauna may be a component of the strategy for some Maunga. Vegetation restoration should be tailored to achieve the specific outcomes and purposes proposed for each individual Maunga.”

(g) We support the removal of exotic pest animal species, with campaigns to encourage people to keep their domestic cats off the maunga, and the use of efficient, effective, humane and ERMA approved animal and pest control methods, including live capture traps and a phased reduction in the use of herbicides and pesticides.

(h) CTA joined the campaign to make maunga car free, and we support banning motorised vehicles from maunga, while allowing some vehicles access to cater for those with mobility issues.

(i) The installation of boardwalks and the opening of the café on Maungawhau we see as very positive, and we support appropriate commercial uses on other maunga as well.

(j) CTA strongly supports the maunga being smoke-free and alcohol-free.

(k) We have submitted in support of the recognition of the maunga as significant heritage items and we support a UNESCO World Heritage bid for the Tūpuna Maunga.

5B Other Feedback

Submissions publicly available

CTA thanks Council for placing all public submissions for the previous annual plan on the Council website (a request we had submitted on), and assumes that this will be done again. This time, we would ask that our submission be included with the regional submissions, instead of, last time, in volume 17 of the Albert-Eden Local Board submissions.

Auckland Transport

(a) We are concerned that when Auckland Transport plants trees on the footpath, they are then concreted in. We understand that this harms trees, as it disrupts natural processes, such as the absorption of water, and restricts root growth. We have seen tree containers broken by the growth of trees, and footpaths broken similarly.

(b) Noting that AT is facing potentially reduced parking and enforcement revenue due to high compliance levels, our view is that high compliance levels are a positive for

the behaviour of Aucklanders who drive vehicles. We still feel that parking fees in AT controlled parking buildings could be increased, to encourage more use of public transport and the reduction of emissions. We are very opposed to the publicly available e-scooters, as the scooters take up space on footpaths, are often irresponsibly used, making the footpaths unsafe and threatening places for all pedestrians, especially those with vision, mobility, and hearing issues. Nationally, between 2021 and 2023, there were over 7,000 ACC claims for e-scooter related injuries, with a 37% increase in 2023. There have been several deaths from e-scooters in Auckland and many serious head injuries.

(c) We repeat our suggestion in earlier submissions that AT investigate adding some smaller buses into routes when/where the demand is less. We also repeat our suggestion of bike racks on buses, particularly on those buses that go over the harbour bridge.

Pets

With regard to animal management costs, perhaps Council could consider funding education about keeping pets, including how pets are generally not climate friendly or biodiversity friendly.

Conclusion

CTA is pleased to see so much focus on the environment, both in Council's region-wide plans and in the local board plans. We note, however, that there are many more local board projects focused on the natural environment and not so many that address problems and opportunities of built heritage.

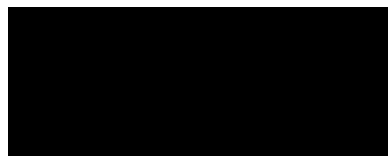
We are very pleased that Council has confirmed its commitment to funding \$15 million for the restoration of the St James Theatre. Built heritage is an element of the environment currently under considerable threat from legislative changes and if Council does not act with urgency to develop a suite of incentives to conserve heritage, in partnership with private owners and developers (as initially identified in the Auckland Plan), then this city faces the irreversible loss of much of its valued built heritage.

The climate change emergency requires Council to focus on tree planting, not tree removal, and we request that Council cease funding the TMA's environmentally irresponsible mass tree-felling.

We feel strongly that local board projects should be informed by robust and transparent consultation with their local community. We have seen that local boards value their local volunteers and acknowledge their work, many of whom are involved in environmental projects.

Date of submission: 28 March, 2025

Signature:



, Secretary, Civic Trust Auckland

Annual Plan 2025-2026

Note: this simplified 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): Creative New Zealand

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

Our proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026 builds on our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP).

The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Other

Tell us why

See attached:

We strongly encourage Council to ensure the Annual Plan is retaining the valuable contributions of the creative sector and ngā toi to Auckland and its communities. As with other

infrastructure, such as transport and water, arts and culture require secure, stable investment from Council as a core funder to survive and service the region.

We encourage Council to ensure the Annual Plan recognises the importance of ngā toi in Auckland, as Council's support is a crucial part of ensuring ngā toi is being produced, enjoyed and celebrated.

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Support

Tell us why

See attached:

We acknowledge Council's financial pressures and the need for alternative funding to support destination management and major events activities, such as through a bed night visitor levy.

However, we do not support a reduction in economic and cultural development investment, and urge Council to maintain its funding for major events until alternative funding is secured.

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Albert-Eden, Aotea/Great Barrier, Devonport-Takapuna, Franklin, Henderson-Massey, Hibiscus and Bays, Howick, Kaipātiki, Māngere-Ōtāhuhu, Manurewa, Maungakiekie-Tāmaki, Ōrākei, Ōtara-Papatoetoe, Papakura, Puketāpapa, Rodney, Upper Harbour, Waiheke, Waitākere Ranges, Waitematā, Whau

Albert-Eden Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026 however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Increasing our community programmes that are delivered from our libraries and community centres in Pt Chevalier Mt Albert Sandringham and Epsom.

Supporting our community leasing groups to be able to share their space and be sustainable over time so they can continue to provide their great range of community services and activities.

Supporting our business associations and vibrant town centres so people can live work shop and play in our local villages.

Talking with young people and children to better understand what is important to them in their area.

Increasing neighbourhood safety and resilience community wellbeing and emergency preparedness.

Reducing waste and increasing the profile and impact of Waiōrea Community Recycling Centre.

Delivering on concept and restoration plans we have made for local parks and trialling a portable pump track to move around parks in our area.

Increasing the number of local events arts and activations especially in local parks and town centres.

Very important

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is essential.

Aotea/Great Barrier Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

All current projects and programmes including community grants, environmental work, and parks upgrades

Set up of a new community-run local fish-supply

Community marine education and marine biosecurity work

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is essential.

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us whyOur priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.**How important are these priorities to you?****Progress the planning and development of the Takapuna Community Hub**

Support local environmental groups to work with volunteers to clean up, manage and plant our local reserves and open spaces contributing to better outcomes and more weather resilient spaces

Continue to maintain and enhance community facilities, including parks and sports fields, libraries and community venues to meet community needs

Progress the Devonport-Takapuna Local Parks Management Plan and refresh of the local boards Greenways Plan

Support our flood impacted communities as their neighbourhoods change by offering ways and places to connect and share experiences and information

Develop a Wairau Catchment Water Quality Action Plan that will ensure future decisions take advantage of existing reports and advice

Support initiatives identified in the Devonport-Takapuna Ethnic Communities Plan in collaboration with the relative representatives of our ethnic communities.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is essential.

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Local arts and culture activities

Franklin Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Delivery of Auckland Council Community Hub Services (library, arts, and customer services) in Beachlands and Clevedon

Extending and improving service outreach to isolated communities like Āwhitu, Ōrere, Glenbrook Beach, Paparimu and Kawakawa Bay

Accelerated delivery on the Sports and Recreational Plan, and additional grant funding for Karaka Sports Park and the Te Puru Sports Centre

Initiatives that improve the quality of the water in our streams and rivers and our environment through pest eradication programmes

Accelerated planting of trees in public places i.e. delivery of the Franklin Ngahere Plan

Continued delivery of the targeted rate funded Franklin Paths Programme.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is essential.

Henderson-Massey Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Working with the community on signature events with the intent for the community to take the lead

Engaging mana whenua, Māori and in collaboration with Te Kete Rukuruku, creating Te Ao Māori activations for whanau that incorporate te reo, tikanga and supporting the area's Pūrakau (Māori history)

Expanding youth voice initiatives to academic students in the local board area

Work on plans to upgrade Catherine Plaza

Continue to support water quality initiatives including the Rivercare group's work in Te Atatū Peninsula, Love Your Streams (EcoMatters) and Ngā Puna Manaaki Īnanga, a project to identify, protect and enhance Īnanga spawning habitats across the Henderson-Massey local board area

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is essential.

Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Support the youth networks in our area to help our young people thrive, and to have a voice in local board decision-making

Support and advocate for further protection of our sea, soil and fresh water from contamination and sedimentation through methods such as re-naturalisation, or daylighting

Support the development and increased use of our local parks, reserves, and sports fields by being available for people of all abilities, ages, and socio-economic backgrounds to enjoy in a range of leisure and recreation activities

Encourage local business associations to continue to support business development, to contribute to safer, more vibrant, and attractive town centres, that continue to meet the changing needs of our residents

Support and fund efforts to mitigate and adapt reserves, parks and public assets from the effects of climate change through initiatives such as the Urban Ngahere (Forest) Strategy

Contribute funding for the development of a vision and plan for the future of the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is essential.

North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct

Our community gave clear feedback in the long-term plan consultation that they would like to see the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct used more effectively for the local community. The Upper Harbour and Hibiscus and Bays Local Boards are jointly leading a working group of local representatives to develop a vision and plan for the future. The work will need both regional and local funding and our local board will need to contribute.

Do you think we should contribute funding to the development of a vision and plan for the future of North Harbour Stadium and the Domain Precinct?

Tell us why

Howick Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Support local businesses and Business Improvement Districts on crime prevention and safety

Work with the Youth Council, Business East Tāmaki, business and tourism sector, and others, on youth upskilling, including increasing funding for the Young Enterprise Scheme

Review and refresh the Howick Local Board Heritage Plan and Tourism Plan

Investigate options to provide a dump station at Half Moon Bay

Trial a surveillance programme to help curb illegal dumping in Flat Bush

Develop initiatives for live monitoring, capturing and documenting the levels of poison/toxicity in our local waterways to increase awareness and enable enforcement

Investigate options on introducing a targeted rate to help fund the delivery of the Flat Bush Library, Community Centre, and Pool and Leisure Centre.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is essential.

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Local arts and culture activities

Kaipātiki Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Community development, including events, community safety, and a greater activation of our community houses, community centres, and libraries

Increased funding in the Kaipātiki Community Grants Programme, so we can support and help a wider reach of our community through their activities

Māori outcomes, through investment in engagement, events, and fostering authentic relationships with Māori.

Youth outcomes, through conversations with young people to identify local activities and services that interest them

Increased sport and recreation opportunities, through grants to organisations to maintain or improve their assets, or to secure community use of non-council owned facilities

Environmental protection and restoration, including working with our local environmental groups to increase their impact

Maintenance, including environmentally friendly open space management, building maintenance, refuse collection, bush track maintenance, and removal of aging pine trees

Compliance, in the areas of building, illegal dumping, noise, animal control, and overnight stays on reserves

Pools and leisure service enhancements and affordability

Sport and recreation facility planning to understand the sport and recreation facility needs of Kaipātiki, to guide future investment

Business support and engagement across Kaipātiki.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is essential.

Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Explore a site for a recycling centre

Local playground improvements in areas like Mangere Bridge

Maintain local road safety with limited budgets

More support to volunteer networks

Push to deliver local business initiatives.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is

essential.

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Local arts and culture activities

Māngere East Village Business Improvement District (BID) programme

A BID is a local economic development initiative run by a business association under the Auckland Council BID Policy (2022). It involves businesses in a defined area paying a targeted rate to fund specific services or projects in their BID boundary. The Māngere East Village Business Association Society Inc. (MEVBA) has failed to meet key BID Policy requirements, including accountability reporting, AGM minutes, strategic plan, and appointing a BID Manager. MEVBA also breached its constitution and did not notify the council of non-compliance. The Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board is now considering terminating the BID programme and targeted rate, with the possibility of re-establishing a compliant BID programme in the future if conditions are met.

Do you think we should end the Māngere East Village Business Improvement District (BID) programme and associated BID targeted rate?

Tell us why

Manurewa Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Increasing the levels of service for maintenance and repair of all assets across buildings, parks, open spaces and sports fields, town centre cleaning, street litter bin emptying, vegetation clearance, and berm mowing works

Improving sports fields including maintenance, sand-carpeting and lighting

Identifying ways to support the council's response to roaming dogs

Boosting the amount of funding available for community grants so more projects and initiatives can be delivered by community, arts and sports groups

Expanding the number of funded initiatives that respond to the needs and aspirations of children and young people

Developing tailored community partnerships with key groups, organisations and networks where their interests and priorities are aligned to outcomes in the Manurewa Local Board Plan 2027

Providing the Pacific community with capacity support, and a grant to undertake feasibility and concept plans to deliver the Pacific hub on Clendon Reserve

Scaling up the work being delivered to achieve environmental outcomes

Investigating the need to extend the opening hours in our community facilities such as the two libraries, the pool and leisure centre and Nathan Homestead

Funding initiatives that stimulate economic growth and generate prosperity in Manurewa.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is essential.

Fenced Dog Exercise Areas

Do you think we should investigate providing fenced dog exercise areas?

Tell us why

Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?**Tell us why**

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Continuing to support community groups and community-led activities through our local community grants

Continuing to build the capacity and capability of local community and sporting groups through our strategic partnerships programme

Activate our local open spaces and facilities, through council-led activities and assessing what amenities our spaces need, such as toilets and power outlets

Empowering community groups and organisations to deliver community events through sustainable funding models

Consider funding activities that increase our community's sense of safety, working with community groups and business associations already delivering safety initiatives

Continuing to support initiatives that deliver outcomes with and for youth, such as our Youth Empowerment programme, and Tiakina te taiao and Ope programmes (biodiversity and climate action education programme in schools)

Collaborate with mana whenua and neighbouring local boards to protect and restore our waterways, particularly the Tāmaki Estuary and Manukau Harbour

Consider a review of Te Oro Music and Arts Centre, to ensure it remains welcoming and responsive to the community's changing needs.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is

essential.

Ōrākei Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Increase our funding for local ecological restoration, and animal and plant pest control, and continue to work with our many community volunteers to enhance our natural environment

Continue local initiatives to enhance neighbourhood connections and increase safety and emergency preparedness, such as through funding for Neighbourhood Support

Fund and support local events, such as Splash Landing, Anzac services, and an event to celebrate the re-opening of Remuera Library to showcase our spaces and benefit local residents and businesses

Maintain efforts to monitor and improve water quality in our local waterways

Continue activating facilities at Tagalad Reserve and The Landing

Progress detailed design and consent work for Thomas Bloodworth Park and Shore Road East sports fields, and for field and sports infrastructure at Colin Maiden Park, and renew artificial playing surfaces at Michaels Avenue Reserve

Find a new partner to develop the Meadowbank Community Centre

Develop an action plan to improve access and the environment at Dingle Dell

Work to enhance the Ellerslie Town Square by improving access, activation ability, safety and public amenity through improved tree management, landscaping and seating.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is essential.

Seawall Repair from Tāmaki Yacht Club to Archilles Point, St Heliers

We would like to maintain and repair seawalls, replenish sand, and extend stormwater outflows further offshore on our beaches from Tāmaki Yacht Club to Archilles Point, St Heliers, as well as re-sand Tāmaki Beach and construct groynes to help keep the sand in place. To fund this, we would need to investigate a targeted rate of around \$10 per year, for each household in the Orakei local board area, for 10 years. If progressed, the Governing Body would need to make a decision on whether to introduce this rate as part of the annual budget 2026/2027, after consultation on a more detailed proposal. The rate could then apply from 2026/2027.

Do you think we should investigate this proposal?**Tell us why****Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board Priorities**

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?**Tell us why**

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Ensuring Māori culture and the values of mātauranga Māori are visible in public spaces

Addressing safety concerns in neighbourhoods, common areas and town centres

Delivering on increased local economic outcomes

Supporting small businesses to act on environmental sustainability

Progressing the planning for options to address community service needs in Old Papatoetoe

Supporting local environment groups to work collaboratively with community volunteers in efforts to clean, manage and plant our local reserves and open spaces

Planning for the delivery of facilities at Manukau Sports Bowl

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is essential.

Manukau Sports Bowl

Do you support prioritising the planning for delivery of facilities at Manukau Sports Bowl?

(This may include exploring alternate sources of revenue, such as a targeted rate in future years)

Tell us why

Hunters Corner Business Improvement District

For the 2024/2025 financial year, the Governing Body did not set a targeted rate for the Hunters Corner Business Improvement District. This was due to the Hunters Corner Town Centre Society Inc (HTCTS) not complying with the BID Policy. If the HTCTS remains non-compliant with the BID Policy by April 2025, council will not set the rate for 2025/2026.

Do you have any comments on the Hunters Corner Business Improvement District?

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Local arts and culture activities

Which three of our services are least important to you? (select up to three)

Papakura Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?**Tell us why**

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Progressing some of the new Sports and Recreation Plan, economic development, and youth projects identified from the work being completed in 2024/2029

Requesting strategic assessments to understand needs relating to: Opaheke sports and passive parks; Awakeri Wetlands; Kuhanui Reserve, Karaka; Park Estate Reserve, Park Green; new play facilities at Pulman Park, and the Greenways/Local Paths Plan

Advocating for access to the legacy parking fund for carparking projects

Assisting the Takanini Business Association's proposed establishment of a Business Improvement District (BID) programme and BID targeted rate for Takanini

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is essential.

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we want feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Local arts and culture activities

Takanini Business Improvement District (BID)

We continue to support the Papakura and Takanini Business Associations to grow and develop businesses, and to make the town centres more lively. Takanini Business Association is seeking to establish a Business Improvement District (BID) programme. If it is successful, business ratepayers and owners located within the BID establishment area will become members of the Takanini BID programme and pay the associated BID target rate.

Do you think we should establish a Takanini Business Improvement District (BID) programme and associated BID targeted rate?

Tell us why

Puketāpapa Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Considering the community programmes that are delivered from Wesley Community Centre and Roskill Youth Zone to get better utilisation of the facility

Investigating the use of the Fickling Centre and Library, to ensure that it is able to respond to the needs of the growing Three Kings community

Supporting community groups that lease council space, so they can find ways to share their spaces and continue to provide great community activities

Implementing recommendations from the Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan so that the recreational needs of our growing communities are met

Planning for the development of Monte Cecilia Park so that this becomes a destination park and an icon for Puketāpapa

Investigating projects from the Wairaki Awa Catchment Plan that can be implemented, such as naturalising the awa at Lynfield Cove

Investing in more climate action and environmental projects

Increasing the number of local events, arts and activations, especially in local parks

Supporting arts and events by working with existing community groups to help coordinate their work and make the most of opportunities

Supporting community-led placemaking initiatives that engage diverse groups, promote safety and community identity, and increase greater connectivity and participation among businesses and community members.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is essential.

Rodney Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Improving services for all communities by enhancing libraries art and youth programmes

Promote physical activity and recreation by increasing play opportunities in more locations

Support community groups, volunteers, and mana whenua to enhance environmental protection and restoration efforts, particularly for waterways and wetlands, while promoting waste reduction

Increase maintenance service levels, such as more frequent mowing of high-profile reserves, pest control, and repair of tracks and car parks.

Support Rodney Greenways Plans to facilitate walking, cycling and horse riding

Prepare and review plans for reserves to identify gaps to meet community needs

Improve the safety of our community and environment through increased education, monitoring and compliance.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is essential.

Upper Harbour Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Appropriate planning and investment for infrastructure and quality open space in areas impacted by growth and intensification e.g. Whenuapai

Continue to prioritise support to our local community organisations and volunteers to deliver outcomes that provide a sense of belonging, wellbeing and resilience for residents

Continue to prioritise investment in outcomes that ensure our communities have access to high-quality amenities that provide for a range of opportunities including play, pathways and connections, active sports and recreation and connecting with nature

Funding to assist in the development, improvement, and renovation of non-council owned community facilities that serve the Upper Harbour area through a facilities grants process

Improve wayfinding in the Upper Harbour area to help our communities to easily discover and enjoy the assets we have

Contribute funding for the development of a vision and plan for the future North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is essential.

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we want feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Local arts and culture activities

North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct

Our community gave clear feedback in the long-term plan consultation that they would like to see the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct used more effectively for the local community. The Upper Harbour and Hibiscus and Bays Local Boards are jointly leading a working group of local representatives to develop a vision and plan for the future. The work will need both regional and local funding and our local board will need to contribute.

Do you think we should contribute funding to the development of a vision and plan for the future of North Harbour Stadium and the Domain Precinct?

Tell us why

Waiheke Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Delivering core council operational services, such as mowing, track and facility maintenance, and the library

Programmes which protect, restore, and enhance the island's natural environment, and initiatives that provide opportunities for community connectedness, capability and resilience

Progressing recommended actions within the Rangihoua Reserve Onetangi Sports Park Reserve Management Plan

Capital projects including the Tawaipareira Reserve playground and loop track, and replacement of the Rakino Hall

Continuing to support local organisations with the development of a community swimming pool and investigating consulting on a local targeted rate

Revitalising Ostend and Oneroa village centres

Commissioning the research of data and surveying residents to understand the state of the motu.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is essential.

Community Pool Development

You have told us a community pool is a priority however building and running a community pool will involve significant funding. A targeted rate for Waiheke residents is one way to fund this development. The board will also explore partnerships and sponsorship opportunities.

Do you think we should investigate a targeted rate to progress development of a community pool?

Tell us why

Waitākere Ranges Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding. The proposed increase in funding ('fairer funding' for local boards) may be taken up by budget pressures outside of the local board's control.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

The Event Partnership Fund to support more community-led events

Arts and culture programmes delivered through our community arts partners

Tailoring programmes to serve diverse communities (youth, older adults, Pacific and ethnic communities)

Community development, placemaking and activation in our growing neighbourhoods and centres such as Glen Eden, Sunnyvale and Swanson

Supporting business associations to continue supporting local businesses and ongoing growth, develop and liven-up our town centres, including assisting Glen Eden Business Association and establishing of Titirangi Business Association

Environmental programmes to help protect and restore the Waitākere Ranges

Trialling phosphite treatment of kauri infected with kauri dieback on selected local parks

Improving neighbourhood parks: George Herring Common, Koroī/ Clayburn Reserve, Tautoru/Maywood Park, and Sandys Parade.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is essential.

Waitematā Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

Tell us why

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Prioritising and investigating flood resilience actions for our parks such as Western Park and Grey Lynn Park

Delivering footpath improvements for Auckland Domain

Starting construction for Leys Institute

Delivery of Heard Park Civic Space

Prioritising sport and recreation opportunities for groups that have less

Investigating transition of Grey Lynn Paddling Pool into a seasonal splashpad

Community services programming to enhance perceptions of safety

Support for ending homelessness in Auckland.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards'

prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is essential.

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Local arts and culture activities

Whau Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Restore funding to service levels in some areas that were cut in recent years, e.g additional library hours, programmes and community grants

Increased service levels in our parks and town centres including progression of Te Hono project

Plan for the future Whau aquatic and recreation facility and facilitate public access to school pools in the interim

Work with local Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) to find new ways of delivering vibrant and welcoming town centres through art activation and beautification projects.

Continue to support volunteering, community and business participation, through environmental and ecological initiatives around the Manukau Harbour foreshore, the Whau River and its tributaries, and our urban ngahere

Increase community participation and capability in community hubs, houses and with established community partners, and progress the development of a new community hub in Fruitvale

Foster climate/emergency preparedness and resilience in our community

Investigate a future space for youth and engage a youth coordinator to support and promote for youth by youth activations

Provide appropriate options for healthy, active lifestyles through recreation in parks and open spaces with particular focus on our ethnically diverse communities, women, and girls.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is essential.

Question 5: Other feedback

Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

27 March 2025

AK Have Your Say
Auckland Council Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau
Private Bag 92 300
Auckland 1142

By email to: akhaveyoursay@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

E te Kaunihera, tēnā koutou katoa

Submission to: Auckland Council Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau
Subject: Draft Annual Plan 2025/2026
From: Arts Council of New Zealand Toi Aotearoa (Creative New Zealand)

1. Creative New Zealand welcomes the opportunity to provide further feedback on Auckland Council's draft Annual Plan 2025/2026. Thank you for your time and questions at the recent Annual Plan 2025/2026 Regional Organisation / Interest Group session too.
2. We thank Council for its ongoing support of arts, ngā toi, culture and creativity in Tāmaki Makaurau, and commend Council's vision for the Annual Plan to create an Auckland that is beautiful, thriving and safe, for all Aucklanders.
3. As part of our advocacy programme, we work with decision-makers across the motu to show that supporting arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi Māori is an essential part of thriving communities, a stronger economy, and a more connected and inclusive Aotearoa. We know that by working together, we can help 'grow the pie' for the arts and ngā toi in Tāmaki Makaurau.
4. Arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi Māori are vital parts of Auckland's communities. Aucklanders' participation in the arts is at its highest ever level, with two in three Aucklanders agreeing that arts and culture have a vital role to play in the future of where they live.¹
5. Council's secure and stable investment in cultural infrastructure, services and activities, throughout the Annual Plan, is crucial for a strong, vibrant and resilient creative ecosystem in Auckland.
6. We share your aspirations for Auckland and look forward to working with you to realise the potential of arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi in the region. Our collective approach will ensure the creative sector and ngā toi can deliver value to Auckland's communities.

¹ *New Zealanders and the arts—Ko Aotearoa me ōna toi* (2023).

KEY POINTS

7. We acknowledge Council's financial pressures and the need for alternative funding to support destination management and major events activities, such as through a bed night visitor levy. However, **we do not support a reduction in economic and cultural development investment, and urge Council to maintain its funding for major events** until alternative funding is secured.
8. We encourage Council to ensure that **investment in arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi Māori is prioritised and visible throughout the Annual Plan's proposals**. This is because:
 - arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi Māori are vital parts of local communities
 - investment in arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi, is investment in prosperous, healthy and vibrant rohe and communities
 - te reo, mātauranga and ngā toi Māori, brought to life by tangata whenua and ringatoi, strengthen communities' sense of belonging, connection and are central to our unique national and regional identities
 - local councils play a crucial role in offering stable support for arts, cultural and creative activity and infrastructure that enable communities to thrive
 - arts, cultural and ngā toi Māori organisations, iwi and hapū can be valuable collaborators with Council to build strong relationships with communities, and create flourishing localities.
9. We strongly encourage Council to ensure **local boards prioritise investment in arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi Māori** for 2025/26 as essential infrastructure for Auckland's local communities.

RESPONSE TO ANNUAL PLAN 2025/26

10. Ongoing investment and support for arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi in the Annual Plan is vital to support strong, connected and healthy communities in Auckland, and to help the region to grow and prosper.
11. From our *New Zealanders and the Arts—Ko Aotearoa me ōna Toi* research, we know that Aucklanders recognise the economic and social benefits of the arts and are engaging with the arts at levels higher than ever before.
12. Our research² demonstrates that:
 - two in three Aucklanders agree that arts and culture have a vital role to play in the future of where they live
 - over half of Aucklanders value the arts for creating opportunities to socialise and connect
 - 65 percent of Aucklanders agree the arts improve New Zealand society
 - Aucklanders' personal connection with the arts has strengthened, with 66 percent of Aucklanders agreeing that the arts are good for their mental health and wellbeing.

² Auckland residents survey findings in *New Zealanders and the arts—Ko Aotearoa me ōna toi* (2023): <https://creativenz.govt.nz/-/media/project/creative-nz/creativenz/publicationsfiles/2024-nzers-and-the-arts/20240730nzartsaucklandfinal.pdf>

13. **Young people, Māori, Pacific peoples and Asian New Zealanders** are also more likely than other Auckland residents to agree that the arts are an important way of connecting with their culture, and taking part in the arts supports their identity. **Rainbow communities and people with lived experience of disability** also participate highly in the arts and need more accessible and inclusive environments to support their engagement.
14. Support for public funding of the arts in Auckland has increased since 2020, with the majority of Aucklanders agreeing that their local council should give money to support the arts.
15. We strongly encourage Council to ensure the Annual Plan is retaining the valuable contributions of the creative sector and ngā toi to Auckland and its communities. As with other infrastructure, such as transport and water, arts and culture require secure, stable investment from Council as a core funder to survive and service the region.

Funding destination management and major events

16. We acknowledge Council's support for economic and cultural development in Auckland. It's heartening to see recognition of the significant contributions made by arts, live performances, events and other cultural experiences to the region's economy in the AP.
17. We recognise Council's need for alternative funding for major events activities, and that visitor levys are increasingly being used to offset financial pressures on local councils globally. A visitor levy has significant potential for equitably supporting cultural infrastructure, arts and cultural activity, and placemaking in Auckland.
18. However, until alternative funding is secured, **we urge Council to maintain its funding and delivery of major events in the region** and reconsider the reduction of rates funding for investment in economic and cultural development.
19. In 2023, Tātaki Auckland Unlimited data showed that the creative economy in Auckland:
 - made up 6 percent of Auckland's economy and directly employed more than 59,500 people
 - generated \$8.8 billion in GDP and grew by 6.5% percent on average over the past five years, outpacing the rest of the Auckland economy.
20. Along with this, 76 percent of Aucklanders agree that Tātaki Auckland Unlimited Trust's programme, events and exhibitions enrich their lives.³
21. Strong arts organisations and regular arts and culture experiences also feed other parts of Auckland's economy, including education, health, trade and enterprise, hospitality, retail and tourism. Arts and cultural events supported by Council and Tātaki Auckland Unlimited's events portfolios – including Synthony, Aotearoa Arts Fair and the NZ International Comedy Festival – create jobs, drive economic growth, and deliver important cultural, economic and social benefits to Aucklanders.
22. If Council were to cease delivery of major events without a bed night visitor levy in place, Auckland's creative ecosystem would be negatively impacted in the long-term. Unstable or paused investment could lead to loss of vital arts and culture infrastructure; this costs more in the long run, as it's harder to rebuild than to maintain.

³ Tātaki Auckland Unlimited Trust, *Annual Report for year ended 30 June 2024* (p.7).

23. The current outlook for the creative sector is very difficult. We know from our research with the Auckland Arts Investors Forum that creative organisations in Auckland – from major companies to community programmes – are under significant financial strain and operating with very limited resources.⁴
24. Arts organisations rely on a mix of central and local government funding, box office and other support. They operate on thin margins with revenue streams under pressure, making them vulnerable to any changes in relationships with funders.
25. Creative New Zealand’s own ability to support the sector is currently under strain, and we will not be in a position to fill gaps left by any withdrawal of Auckland Council’s funding, or a reduction in its investment in arts and culture, through the Annual Plan. Private investments, including corporate sponsorship and private donations, are also down in the current economic climate.
26. Creative New Zealand’s *Profile of Creative Professionals* research found the median income for creative professionals is just \$37,000, substantially less than the median income for New Zealanders earning a wage or salary (\$61,000). Forty-four percent of creative professionals supplement their creative income with other work; the median income from creative pursuits alone is \$19,500 per year.
27. Despite these challenges, arts and cultural events uplift and connect your communities, and support the Annual Plan’s objective to ‘create a thriving economy that supports growth and opportunities for all’.
28. For example, the Auckland Writers Festival – in which Creative New Zealand is a co-investor – broke all attendance records last year, with 85,000 attendees from around New Zealand and around the world. It’s the biggest festival of its kind (per capita) in the Southern Hemisphere. The festival has economic benefits for the Auckland region and creative sector by offering employment, skills development opportunities, and partnerships. It also serves an important social function by connecting writers, economists, journalists and thinkers with the public, through talks, workshops and panel discussions.
29. A reduction in Council’s major events funding not only curtails the benefits of these programmes, events and exhibitions, but puts the survival of arts organisations, collectives and groups at risk. It would likely result in wage reductions, people leaving their professions and a deep loss of skills and expertise.
30. Auckland Council is a crucial investor in these arts and cultural events, and the organisations that deliver them. We would be happy to have further conversations with you on this.

Proposed activities and investment

31. We commend Council’s vision in the Annual Plan to create ‘a diverse and dynamic city which honours the place of Māori and includes a rich array of cultural and sporting events, museums, galleries and built heritage’.

⁴ ‘Mapping the Creative Sector Investment and Outcomes: Creative Sector Funding Case Study Insights’ Report for Tāmaki Makaurau Arts Investors Forum (August 2024): <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/66302a2be2c53361e9bd5ceb/t/671967338a5dab28e69483f8/1729718068609/Case+Study+Insights+Summary.pdf>

32. To achieve this vision, we strongly encourage Council to ensure arts and ngā toi are prioritised throughout the Annual Plan's proposals, projects and outcomes, to ensure its investment in arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi is reaching across the wider creative ecosystem (artists, creatives, arts communities, ringatoi and arts organisations).
33. Arts, cultural and ngā toi Māori practitioners and organisations are **valuable and well-placed partners** for Council to achieve its broader priorities and vision, including delivery of the Annual Plan's **major projects in 2025/2026**, such as the upgrades to community facilities, urban regeneration, and the City Centre Programme.
34. As connectors and innovators, they are particularly skilled at providing effective and impactful ideas for Council's projects, and hold strong relationships with mana whenua, funders, government, non-profits, businesses and other community groups. Partnerships with Council can also build capacity into the creative ecosystem and make a significant contribution to creative workers' incomes.
35. For example, Touch Compass is a disability-led charitable trust that provides high quality performances, art activations, youth and community classes, workshops, and professional development. Their programmes help to strengthen the disability community, support artists to build connections, and provide people with disabilities positions of leadership. Strong and symbiotic relationships sit at the heart of their funding partnerships, including with Creative New Zealand where they have provided policy advisory support on our Accessibility Policy.
36. It is encouraging to see Council's intention to honour the place of Māori, which includes a **\$16 million investment to support Māori outcomes** and the Marae Infrastructure Programme.
37. Te reo, mātauranga Māori and ngā toi Māori are central to Auckland's unique central and regional identity, as the largest Māori city in the world. Success in protecting, revitalising and promoting Māori artforms supports many artists, practitioners and tourism operators in the region, and positively enhances Auckland's national and international reputation.
38. Councils have an important role in their funding and management of Māori cultural institutions, and we are heartened to see Council's commitment to supporting the Marae Infrastructure Programme. Dedicated funding and leadership of ngā toi Māori in Council would also support building cultural capability, and decision-makers should consider partnerships with iwi and hapū to build well-resourced, thriving and visible ngā toi Māori practice and Māori cultural institutions.
39. We encourage Council to ensure the Annual Plan recognises the importance of ngā toi in Auckland, as Council's support is a crucial part of ensuring ngā toi is being produced, enjoyed and celebrated.

Local board priorities

40. We strongly encourage Council to ensure local boards prioritise investment in arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi Māori as an area of importance for communities in 2025/2026.
41. Arts and cultural programmes and services support local board priorities, including employment for rangatahi, celebrating diverse communities, and Māori outcomes, among

many others. Our research also demonstrates that Aucklanders place considerable value on the arts at a community level.⁵

42. Community arts organisations rely on the support of local boards who support arts and culture programmes, events and public art; fund local arts, cultural groups and projects; and support local facilities.⁶
43. In Ōtara, Sistema Aotearoa is a highly-effective and unique youth development programme also supported by Creative New Zealand. The programme supports young people to access orchestral music opportunities. It has a strong community presence, with up to 95 percent engagement from Māori and Pacific participants.
44. Sistema relies on Auckland Council's community facilities as venues to bring people together. Funding through the Ōtara–Papatoetoe Local Board supports Sistema to rent office and programme delivery spaces at the Ōtara Music and Arts Centre. However, the programme is under pressure, with local board funding not currently CPI-adjusted to cover costs.
45. To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture services, activities and programmes in the coming year is essential.

CREATIVE NEW ZEALAND'S INTEREST IN THE ARTS IN AUCKLAND

46. Creative New Zealand receives funding through Vote: Arts, Culture and Heritage and the New Zealand Lottery Grants Board Te Puna Tahua. In 2023/24, Creative New Zealand **invested nearly \$79.4 million in the arts in New Zealand**. We've been investing in the arts in Tāmaki Makaurau for 60 years, since our inception in 1964.
47. In 2023/24, we invested \$22.4 million of direct financial support in Auckland, almost 30 percent of our total investment by region. In addition, our investment in activity that takes place nationwide (16 percent) and online (4 percent) sees benefits flow to Auckland by supporting arts and cultural experiences presented in the region; and our international programme (8.6 percent) adds additional investment to Auckland via artists based in the region. **Our funding continues to match significant population bases and investment in Auckland is proportional to the population** (2018 Census).
48. Our direct support for arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi in Auckland includes the following.
 - Funding for over **30 major Auckland-based arts organisations**, including orchestras, theatre companies, festivals, opera, craft/object and art galleries, dance companies, publishers and residencies through our multi-year Investment programmes (Toi Tōtara Haemata and Toi Uru Kahikatea) which provide three and six-year funding contracts. The total value of these contracts in 2025 is **\$11.36 million**. This investment equates to approximately 33 percent of total investment through these programmes.
 - Under the Creative Communities Scheme, we provide funding to territorial authorities to support local arts activities. The annual allocation to Auckland Council under the Scheme is **\$1.33 million**. In 2023/24, this funding supported approximately **221 projects** which

⁵ Auckland residents survey findings in *New Zealanders and the arts—Ko Aotearoa me ōna toi* (2023): <https://creativenz.govt.nz/-/media/project/creative-nz/creativenz/publicationsfiles/2024-nzers-and-the-arts/20240730nzartsaucklandfinal.pdf>

⁶ *Toi Whītiki Arts and Culture Strategic Action Plan* (2016). Auckland City Council.

engaged 30,397 participants and had 411,034 attendances. Allocations to territorial authorities under Creative Scheme are based on a population-based formula.

- Project-based funding to Auckland-based artists, arts practitioners and arts organisations to support a range of activities. In 2023/24, this funding totalled \$6.9 million to support 136 projects. This investment equates to approximately 26 percent of total investment through these programmes.

49. We also work strategically with key investors in the creative sector in Auckland, including Auckland Council, Tātaki Auckland Unlimited, Foundation North and Te Taumata Toi-a-Iwi through the Auckland Arts Investors Forum, to coordinate our investment in Auckland-based arts.

FINAL COMMENTS

50. Thank you again for the opportunity to provide feedback on Council's Annual Plan. We understand there is pressure on Council's budget and acknowledge your commitment to investment in Auckland's creative sector.
51. Investment in arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi throughout the Annual Plan will ensure Council can achieve its vision and priorities for Aucklanders. The creative sector plays a vital role in Auckland by creating connected, healthy and strong communities.
52. We were thrilled to visit Tāmaki Makaurau, this year and last, to co-host with the Arts Foundation, *All in for Arts—He waka toi e eke noa nei tātou*.⁷ We were excited to again work with the Auckland creative community and hear from locals, who talked about how arts and creativity impact their lives every day.
53. To quote Deputy Mayor Desley Simpson, "I believe that creativity is a necessity in addressing the complex challenges we face... Creativity is key to finding ways to protect our environment for future generations... Through music you can tell stories, pick up on emotions and unite communities. Art is the vibrant pulse of Auckland." We wholeheartedly agree.
54. Please contact us if you have any questions or if you wish to discuss this submission further. The key contact person is:

Name: [REDACTED]

Position: Senior Adviser, Advocacy Local Government
Kaiwhakamahere Matua Taunaki, Kāwangatanga ā Kainga

Contact: [REDACTED]

Ngā mihi maioha, nā



[REDACTED]
Senior Manager, Strategy & Engagement
Pou Whakahaere Matua, Rautaki me te Tūhono

⁷ <https://www.thearts.co.nz/all-in-for-arts>

[Missed the opening]

Events like our nation celebration of Matariki, the Aoteroa Arts Fair, Symphony, Auckland Raiders Festival, Fashion Week, Splore, the New Zealand international Comedy Festival and one off events and concert programming including Te Matatini Maori performing Arts Festival which, I remember fondly storming Eden Park in 2023. And may well return one day, create jobs, boost tourism and bring huge economic and cultural benefits. If this funding disappears, we risk losing arts organisation, jobs and creative talent, in other words, cultural infrastructure. Once this is gone, and we speak from experience, it's exceptionally difficult to rebuild it later and frankly cost even more in the long run.

Together, let's protect and invest and that is what makes Auckland vibrant. Auckland has strongly support art culture and creativity. Our research tells us that more than 60% of Aucklanders recognise the benefits of the arts to the economy and to widen New Zealand society, and there is increasing public support of anything for Auckland Council to fund the arts in Auckland, and Auckland's overall participation in the arts is at its highest ever.

With NATO and Maori Pacific arts and performing arts being the biggest drivers of greater engagement.

Other research shows that 76% of Aucklanders agree that Tataki's programme events and exhibitions directly enrich their lives.

And councillors might remember that during consultation on the annual budget in 23/24, arts and culture was the number one top service mentioned by individual submitters.

Aucklanders love the arts.

And while decisions are getting made on the visitor levy, major events funding has to remain in place. That's our clear position. Arts and culture funding shouldn't be at risk. These events drives tourism, hospo and retail spending. They bring communities together, they improve lives, they create jobs, they make towns and cities places where people really want to live and work and visit. Research from Tataki shows that the creative economy makes up 6% of Auckland's GDP, generating 8.8 billion and employing almost 60,000 people (59.5k people).

One small example from a sector that I have great familiarity with are literature - The Auckland Writers festival. So, annually right here in the Aotea Centre, last year the AWF writers festival broke attendance records with over 85,000 attendees from around the country and the world.

It's the biggest festival of its kind per capita in the southern hemisphere, with the attendance equivalent last year being the same as 7 sold out Spark Arena gigs or 1.7 sold out AB tests at Eden park.

I love that stuff. As you guys all know, many of these attendees stayed in hotels, they ate in restaurants, they went shopping in the central city and events like these create jobs and bring industries together.

Our position is also that Council is a crucial investor and partner.

Your investment unlocks more investment. Council funding enables arts organisations to leverage funding from other sources. Together, we have a shared responsibility to invest in a creative sector so that it can thrive.

Due to the unprecedented level of demand we are facing across all of our funds and all of our investments, Creative New Zealand is unable to make up any shortfall.

Consistent funding from Council is vital in supporting of the arts ecosystem and Tamaki. We're all aware that it's fragile, but our combined support together enables the sector to continue delivering value, connection and community for Aucklanders.

There are many cool examples of art organisations and community centres receiving core funding from council in partnership with Creative New Zealand. To note just a couple of examples: ASB polyfest, the Michael King Riders centre, Auckland Theatre Company and Touch Compass, which delivers disability theatre.

So working together as key.

Arts organisations and Kiwi and hapu are natural partners in building a thriving into this Auckland, Tamaki Makaurau. The creative sector helps Council deliver on its vision for a prosperous, inclusive and vibrant city. As Council works with local boards on their investment priorities, you can look at how local boards are investing in art, culture, creativity, and that's where Maori and engage with creative organisations.

Many are already doing fantastic work in local communities and maintaining their funding will help us continue. A little wee example organisation called Sistema Aotearoa has nothing to do with plastic lunch box that has to do with classical music. These guys support young people and Otara to access orchestral music opportunities in ways that make sense in their communities. They're so cool. These guys have a strong community presence with up to 95% of engagement from Maori and Pacifica participants who otherwise wouldn't learn to play music and get those benefits.

Sistema relies on Auckland Council's community facilities as venues to bring people together and so their funding, which is through the Otara-Papatoetoe local board is currently under pressure.

Corbin Arts Estate is supported by the Henderson Massey Local Community Board supporting overs 30 artists at normal.

To wrap all this up, arts culture and creativity, as we all know, bring life, colour and joy to this city. It's essential infrastructure for strong, prosperous, connected and healthy communities. It needs the same ongoing support from the Council as other Community infrastructure, including transport and water. Continued investment through the annual plan will enable the sector to help you achieve your vision and ambitions.

Your investment unlocks greater impact than dollars alone. Let's keep working together to ensure a thriving, creative and economically strong Tamaki Makaurau.

Annual Plan 2025-2026

Note: this simplified 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): Ngaati Whanaunga Inc

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

Our proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026 builds on our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP).

The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

See attached:

3.1.1 Key Issues

- ☐ Lack of a Ngaati Whanaunga-centric approach (Aua koorero raano)
- ☐ No strategy to ensure transport investment benefits rural and underserved mana whenua communities.
- ☐ Failure to embed mana whenua governance in water infrastructure or uphold Te Mana o te Wai.
- ☐ Fairer funding lacks targeted investment for iwi-led social, cultural, economic and environmental initiatives.
- ☐ Rates increase will disproportionately impact mana whenua whaanau with no clear benefits.
- ☐ Capital expenditure plans lack transparency and alignment with our aspirations.

3.1.2 Recommendations

1. Embed co-governance in infrastructure planning.
2. Ensure all Auckland Council funded projects align with Te Tiriti o Waitangi and support iwi outcomes.
3. Fund the protection of Te Mana o te Wai and integration of maatauranga Maaori.
4. Prioritise accessible, affordable public transport for underserved communities.
5. Strengthen transparency and accountability for debt-funded investments

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Support

Tell us why**3.2.1 Key Issues**

- ☐ Funding has historically favoured large-scale events over Ngaati Whanaunga/Mana Whenua-led cultural initiatives.
- ☐ Ngaati Whanaunga must be involved in destination management governance.
- ☐ Tourism investment should reflect manaakitanga and kaitiakitanga.
- ☐ Access to venues and promotional platforms must be made available.

3.2.2 Recommendations for Improvement

1. Ring-fence funding for Ngaati Whanaunga-led cultural and environmental initiatives.
2. Embed Ngaati Whanaunga in governance and decision-making structures.

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges**3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?**

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

Support

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

3.3.1 Key Issues

- ☐ Refuse Targeted Rates (RTR) may disproportionately impact low-income and rural households.
- ☐ Investment must prioritise waste minimisation and community-led solutions.
- ☐ Rural properties require flexible services or exemptions.

3.3.2 Recommendations for Improvement

1. Include hardship provisions for vulnerable households.
2. Prioritise funding for composting, recycling, and resource recovery.
3. Provide exemptions for whaanau managing their own waste.
4. Ensure transparency in the use of RTRs.

Question 4:**Local board priorities****4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?**

Albert-Eden, Aotea/Great Barrier, Devonport-Takapuna, Franklin, Henderson-Massey, Hibiscus and Bays, Howick, Kaipātiki, Māngere-Ōtāhuhu, Manurewa, Maungakiekie-Tāmaki, Ōrākei, Ōtara-Papatoetoe, Papakura, Puketāpapa, Rodney, Upper Harbour, Waiheke, Waitākere Ranges, Waitematā, Whau

Albert-Eden Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026 however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Support most

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Increasing our community programmes that are delivered from our libraries and community centres in Pt Chevalier Mt Albert Sandringham and Epsom.

Supporting our community leasing groups to be able to share their space and be sustainable over time so they can continue to provide their great range of community services and activities.

Supporting our business associations and vibrant town centres so people can live work shop and play in our local villages.

Talking with young people and children to better understand what is important to them in their area.

Increasing neighbourhood safety and resilience community wellbeing and emergency preparedness.

Reducing waste and increasing the profile and impact of Waiōrea Community Recycling Centre.

Delivering on concept and restoration plans we have made for local parks and trialling a portable pump track to move around parks in our area.

Increasing the number of local events arts and activations especially in local parks and town centres.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

3.4.1 Recommendations

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.
- Support iwi capacity building.
- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Maaori based health and social services.

Aotea/Great Barrier Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Support most

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

All current projects and programmes including community grants, environmental work, and parks upgrades

Set up of a new community-run local fish-supply

Community marine education and marine biosecurity work

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

3.4.1 Recommendations

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.
- Support iwi capacity building.
- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Maaori based health and social services.

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Support most
Tell us why Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below. **How important are these priorities to you?**
Progress the planning and development of the Takapuna Community Hub

Support local environmental groups to work with volunteers to clean up, manage and plant our local reserves and open spaces contributing to better outcomes and more weather resilient spaces

Continue to maintain and enhance community facilities, including parks and sports fields, libraries and community venues to meet community needs

Progress the Devonport-Takapuna Local Parks Management Plan and refresh of the local boards Greenways Plan

Support our flood impacted communities as their neighbourhoods change by offering ways and places to connect and share experiences and information

Develop a Wairau Catchment Water Quality Action Plan that will ensure future decisions take advantage of existing reports and advice

Support initiatives identified in the Devonport-Takapuna Ethnic Communities Plan in collaboration with the relative representatives of our ethnic communities.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

3.4.1 Recommendations

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.
- Support iwi capacity building.
- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Maaori based health and social services.

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Franklin Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Support most

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Delivery of Auckland Council Community Hub Services (library, arts, and customer services) in Beachlands and Clevedon

Extending and improving service outreach to isolated communities like Āwhitu, Ōrere, Glenbrook Beach, Paparimu and Kawakawa Bay

Accelerated delivery on the Sports and Recreational Plan, and additional grant funding for Karaka Sports Park and the Te Puru Sports Centre

Initiatives that improve the quality of the water in our streams and rivers and our environment through pest eradication programmes

Accelerated planting of trees in public places i.e. delivery of the Franklin Ngahere Plan

Continued delivery of the targeted rate funded Franklin Paths Programme.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

3.4.1 Recommendations

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.
- Support iwi capacity building.
- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Maaori based health and social services.

Henderson-Massey Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Support most

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Working with the community on signature events with the intent for the community to take the lead

Engaging mana whenua, Māori and in collaboration with Te Kete Rukuruku, creating Te Ao Māori activations for whanau that incorporate te reo, tikanga and supporting the area's Pūrakau (Māori history)

Expanding youth voice initiatives to academic students in the local board area

Work on plans to upgrade Catherine Plaza

Continue to support water quality initiatives including the Rivercare group's work in Te Atatū Peninsula, Love Your Streams (EcoMatters) and Ngā Puna Manaaki Īnanga, a project to identify, protect and enhance Īnanga spawning habitats across the Henderson-Massey local board area

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

3.4.1 Recommendations

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.
- Support iwi capacity building.
- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Maaori based health and social services.

Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Support most

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Support the youth networks in our area to help our young people thrive, and to have a voice in local board decision-making

Support and advocate for further protection of our sea, soil and fresh water from contamination and sedimentation through methods such as re-naturalisation, or daylighting

Support the development and increased use of our local parks, reserves, and sports fields by being available for people of all abilities, ages, and socio-economic backgrounds to enjoy in a range of leisure and recreation activities

Encourage local business associations to continue to support business development, to contribute to safer, more vibrant, and attractive town centres, that continue to meet the changing needs of our residents

Support and fund efforts to mitigate and adapt reserves, parks and public assets from the effects of climate change through initiatives such as the Urban Ngahere (Forest) Strategy

Contribute funding for the development of a vision and plan for the future of the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

3.4.1 Recommendations

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.
- Support iwi capacity building.
- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Maaori based health and social services.

North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct

Our community gave clear feedback in the long-term plan consultation that they would like to see the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct used more effectively for the local community. The Upper Harbour and Hibiscus and Bays Local Boards are jointly leading a working group of local representatives to develop a vision and plan for the future. The work will need both regional and local funding and our local board will need to contribute.

Do you think we should contribute funding to the development of a vision and plan for the future of North Harbour Stadium and the Domain Precinct?

Tell us why

Howick Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Support most

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Support local businesses and Business Improvement Districts on crime prevention and safety

Work with the Youth Council, Business East Tāmaki, business and tourism sector, and others, on youth upskilling, including increasing funding for the Young Enterprise Scheme

Review and refresh the Howick Local Board Heritage Plan and Tourism Plan

Investigate options to provide a dump station at Half Moon Bay

Trial a surveillance programme to help curb illegal dumping in Flat Bush

Develop initiatives for live monitoring, capturing and documenting the levels of poison/toxicity in our local waterways to increase awareness and enable enforcement

Investigate options on introducing a targeted rate to help fund the delivery of the Flat Bush Library, Community Centre, and Pool and Leisure Centre.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)**3.4.1 Recommendations**

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.
- Support iwi capacity building.
- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Maaori based health and social services.

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in

higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Kaipātiki Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Support most

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Community development, including events, community safety, and a greater activation of our community houses, community centres, and libraries

Increased funding in the Kaipātiki Community Grants Programme, so we can support and help a wider reach of our community through their activities

Māori outcomes, through investment in engagement, events, and fostering authentic relationships with Māori.

Youth outcomes, through conversations with young people to identify local activities and services that interest them

Increased sport and recreation opportunities, through grants to organisations to maintain or improve their assets, or to secure community use of non-council owned facilities

Environmental protection and restoration, including working with our local environmental groups to increase their impact

Maintenance, including environmentally friendly open space management, building maintenance, refuse collection, bush track maintenance, and removal of aging pine trees

Compliance, in the areas of building, illegal dumping, noise, animal control, and overnight stays on reserves

Pools and leisure service enhancements and affordability

Sport and recreation facility planning to understand the sport and recreation facility needs of Kaipātiki, to guide future investment

Business support and engagement across Kaipātiki.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

3.4.1 Recommendations

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.
- Support iwi capacity building.
- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Maaori based health and social services.

Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Support most

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Explore a site for a recycling centre

Local playground improvements in areas like Mangere Bridge

Maintain local road safety with limited budgets

More support to volunteer networks

Push to deliver local business initiatives.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

3.4.1 Recommendations

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.
- Support iwi capacity building.
- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Maaori based health and social services.

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Māngere East Village Business Improvement District (BID) programme

A BID is a local economic development initiative run by a business association under the Auckland Council BID Policy (2022). It involves businesses in a defined area paying a targeted rate to fund specific services or projects in their BID boundary. The Māngere East Village Business Association Society Inc. (MEVBA) has failed to meet key BID Policy requirements, including accountability reporting, AGM minutes, strategic plan, and appointing a BID Manager. MEVBA also breached its constitution and did not notify the council of non-compliance. The Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board is now considering terminating the BID programme and targeted rate, with the possibility of re-establishing a compliant BID programme in the future if conditions are met.

Do you think we should end the Māngere East Village Business Improvement District (BID) programme and associated BID targeted rate?

Tell us why

Manurewa Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Support most

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Increasing the levels of service for maintenance and repair of all assets across buildings, parks, open spaces and sports fields, town centre cleaning, street litter bin emptying, vegetation clearance, and berm mowing works

Improving sports fields including maintenance, sand-carpeting and lighting

Identifying ways to support the council's response to roaming dogs

Boosting the amount of funding available for community grants so more projects and initiatives can be delivered by community, arts and sports groups

Expanding the number of funded initiatives that respond to the needs and aspirations of children and young people

Developing tailored community partnerships with key groups, organisations and networks where their interests and priorities are aligned to outcomes in the Manurewa Local Board Plan 2027

Providing the Pacific community with capacity support, and a grant to undertake feasibility and concept plans to deliver the Pacific hub on Clendon Reserve

Scaling up the work being delivered to achieve environmental outcomes

Investigating the need to extend the opening hours in our community facilities such as the two libraries, the pool and leisure centre and Nathan Homestead

Funding initiatives that stimulate economic growth and generate prosperity in Manurewa.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

3.4.1 Recommendations

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.
- Support iwi capacity building.

- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Maaori based health and social services.

Fenced Dog Exercise Areas

Do you think we should investigate providing fenced dog exercise areas?

Tell us why

Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Support most

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Continuing to support community groups and community-led activities through our local community grants

Continuing to build the capacity and capability of local community and sporting groups through our strategic partnerships programme

Activate our local open spaces and facilities, through council-led activities and assessing what amenities our spaces need, such as toilets and power outlets

Empowering community groups and organisations to deliver community events through sustainable funding models

Consider funding activities that increase our community's sense of safety, working with community groups and business associations already delivering safety initiatives

Continuing to support initiatives that deliver outcomes with and for youth, such as our Youth Empowerment programme, and Tiakina te taiao and Ope programmes (biodiversity and climate action education programme in schools)

Collaborate with mana whenua and neighbouring local boards to protect and restore our waterways, particularly the Tāmaki Estuary and Manukau Harbour

Consider a review of Te Oro Music and Arts Centre, to ensure it remains welcoming and responsive to the community's changing needs.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

3.4.1 Recommendations

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.
- Support iwi capacity building.
- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Maaori based health and social services.

Ōrākei Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Support most

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Increase our funding for local ecological restoration, and animal and plant pest control, and continue to work with our many community volunteers to enhance our natural environment

Continue local initiatives to enhance neighbourhood connections and increase safety and emergency preparedness, such as through funding for Neighbourhood Support

Fund and support local events, such as Splash Landing, Anzac services, and an event to celebrate the re-opening of Remuera Library to showcase our spaces and benefit local residents and businesses

Maintain efforts to monitor and improve water quality in our local waterways

Continue activating facilities at Tagalad Reserve and The Landing

Progress detailed design and consent work for Thomas Bloodworth Park and Shore Road East sports fields, and for field and sports infrastructure at Colin Maiden Park, and renew artificial playing surfaces at Michaels Avenue Reserve

Find a new partner to develop the Meadowbank Community Centre

Develop an action plan to improve access and the environment at Dingle Dell

Work to enhance the Ellerslie Town Square by improving access, activation ability, safety and public amenity through improved tree management, landscaping and seating.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

3.4.1 Recommendations

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.
- Support iwi capacity building.
- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Maaori based health and social services.

Seawall Repair from Tāmaki Yacht Club to Archilles Point, St Heliers

We would like to maintain and repair seawalls, replenish sand, and extend stormwater outflows further offshore on our beaches from Tāmaki Yacht Club to Archilles Point, St Heliers, as well as re-sand Tāmaki Beach and construct groynes to help keep the sand in place. To fund this, we would need to investigate a targeted rate of around \$10 per year, for each household in the Orakei local board area, for 10 years. If progressed, the Governing Body would need to make a decision on whether to introduce this rate as part of the annual budget 2026/2027, after consultation on a more detailed proposal. The rate could then apply from 2026/2027.

Do you think we should investigate this proposal?

Tell us why

Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Support most

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Ensuring Māori culture and the values of mātauranga Māori are visible in public spaces

Addressing safety concerns in neighbourhoods, common areas and town centres

Delivering on increased local economic outcomes

Supporting small businesses to act on environmental sustainability

Progressing the planning for options to address community service needs in Old Papatoetoe

Supporting local environment groups to work collaboratively with community volunteers in efforts to clean, manage and plant our local reserves and open spaces

Planning for the delivery of facilities at Manukau Sports Bowl

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

3.4.1 Recommendations

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.
- Support iwi capacity building.
- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Māori based health and social services.

Manukau Sports Bowl

Do you support prioritising the planning for delivery of facilities at Manukau Sports Bowl?

(This may include exploring alternate sources of revenue, such as a targeted rate in future years)

Tell us why**Hunters Corner Business Improvement District**

For the 2024/2025 financial year, the Governing Body did not set a targeted rate for the Hunters Corner Business Improvement District. This was due to the Hunters Corner Town Centre Society Inc (HTCTS) not complying with the BID Policy. If the HTCTS remains non-compliant with the BID Policy by April 2025, council will not set the rate for 2025/2026.

Do you have any comments on the Hunters Corner Business Improvement District?

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)**Which three of our services are least important to you? (select up to three)****Papakura Local Board Priorities**

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Support most

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Progressing some of the new Sports and Recreation Plan, economic development, and youth projects identified from the work being completed in 2024/2029

Requesting strategic assessments to understand needs relating to: Opaheke sports and passive parks; Awakeri Wetlands; Kuhanui Reserve, Karaka; Park Estate Reserve, Park Green; new play facilities at Pulman Park, and the Greenways/Local Paths Plan

Advocating for access to the legacy parking fund for carparking projects**Assisting the Takanini Business Association's proposed establishment of a Business Improvement District (BID) programme and BID targeted rate for Takanini****Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)****3.4.1 Recommendations**

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.
- Support iwi capacity building.
- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Maaori based health and social services.

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we want feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)**Takanini Business Improvement District (BID)**

We continue to support the Papakura and Takanini Business Associations to grow and develop businesses, and to make the town centres more lively. Takanini Business Association is seeking to establish a Business Improvement District (BID) programme. If it is successful, business ratepayers and owners located within the BID establishment area will become members of the Takanini BID programme and pay the associated BID target rate.

Do you think we should establish a Takanini Business Improvement District (BID) programme and associated BID targeted rate?**Tell us why****Puketāpapa Local Board Priorities**

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Support most

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Considering the community programmes that are delivered from Wesley Community Centre and Roskill Youth Zone to get better utilisation of the facility

Investigating the use of the Fickling Centre and Library, to ensure that it is able to respond to the needs of the growing Three Kings community

Supporting community groups that lease council space, so they can find ways to share their spaces and continue to provide great community activities

Implementing recommendations from the Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan so that the recreational needs of our growing communities are met

Planning for the development of Monte Cecilia Park so that this becomes a destination park and an icon for Puketāpapa

Investigating projects from the Wairaki Awa Catchment Plan that can be implemented, such as naturalising the awa at Lynfield Cove

Investing in more climate action and environmental projects

Increasing the number of local events, arts and activations, especially in local parks

Supporting arts and events by working with existing community groups to help coordinate their work and make the most of opportunities

Supporting community-led placemaking initiatives that engage diverse groups, promote safety and community identity, and increase greater connectivity and participation among businesses and community members.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

3.4.1 Recommendations

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.

- Support iwi capacity building.
- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Maaori based health and social services.

Rodney Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Support most

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Improving services for all communities by enhancing libraries art and youth programmes

Promote physical activity and recreation by increasing play opportunities in more locations

Support community groups, volunteers, and mana whenua to enhance environmental protection and restoration efforts, particularly for waterways and wetlands, while promoting waste reduction

Increase maintenance service levels, such as more frequent mowing of high-profile reserves, pest control, and repair of tracks and car parks.

Support Rodney Greenways Plans to facilitate walking, cycling and horse riding

Prepare and review plans for reserves to identify gaps to meet community needs

Improve the safety of our community and environment through increased education, monitoring and compliance.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

3.4.1 Recommendations

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.
- Support iwi capacity building.
- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Maaori based health and social services.

Upper Harbour Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Support most

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Appropriate planning and investment for infrastructure and quality open space in areas impacted by growth and intensification e.g. Whenuapai

Continue to prioritise support to our local community organisations and volunteers to deliver outcomes that provide a sense of belonging, wellbeing and resilience for residents

Continue to prioritise investment in outcomes that ensure our communities have access to high-quality amenities that provide for a range of opportunities including play, pathways and connections, active sports and recreation and connecting with nature

Funding to assist in the development, improvement, and renovation of non-council owned community facilities that serve the Upper Harbour area through a facilities grants process

Improve wayfinding in the Upper Harbour area to help our communities to easily discover and enjoy the assets we have

Contribute funding for the development of a vision and plan for the future North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

3.4.1 Recommendations

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.
- Support iwi capacity building.
- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Maaori based health and social services.

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we want feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct

Our community gave clear feedback in the long-term plan consultation that they would like to see the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct used more effectively for the local community. The Upper Harbour and Hibiscus and Bays Local Boards are jointly leading a working group of local representatives to develop a vision and plan for the future. The work will need both regional and local funding and our local board will need to contribute.

Do you think we should contribute funding to the development of a vision and plan for the future of North Harbour Stadium and the Domain Precinct?

Tell us why

Waiheke Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Support most

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Delivering core council operational services, such as mowing, track and facility maintenance, and the library

Programmes which protect, restore, and enhance the island's natural environment, and initiatives that provide opportunities for community connectedness, capability and resilience

Progressing recommended actions within the Rangihoua Reserve Onetangi Sports Park Reserve Management Plan

Capital projects including the Tawaipareira Reserve playground and loop track, and replacement of the Rakino Hall

Continuing to support local organisations with the development of a community swimming pool and investigate consulting on a local targeted rate

Revitalising Ostend and Oneroa village centres

Commissioning the research of data and surveying residents to understand the state of the motu.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

3.4.1 Recommendations

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.
- Support iwi capacity building.
- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Maaori based health and social services.

Community Pool Development

You have told us a community pool is a priority however building and running a community pool will involve significant funding. A targeted rate for Waiheke residents is one way to fund this development. The board will also explore partnerships and sponsorship opportunities.

Do you think we should investigate a targeted rate to progress development of a community pool?

Tell us why

Waitākere Ranges Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding. The proposed increase in funding ('fairer funding' for local boards) may be taken up by budget pressures outside of the local board's control.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Support most

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

The Event Partnership Fund to support more community-led events

Arts and culture programmes delivered through our community arts partners

Tailoring programmes to serve diverse communities (youth, older adults, Pacific and ethnic communities)

Community development, placemaking and activation in our growing neighbourhoods and centres such as Glen Eden, Sunnyvale and Swanson

Supporting business associations to continue supporting local businesses and ongoing growth, develop and liven-up our town centres, including assisting Glen Eden Business Association and establishing of Titirangi Business Association

Environmental programmes to help protect and restore the Waitākere Ranges

Trialling phosphite treatment of kauri infected with kauri dieback on selected local parks

Improving neighbourhood parks: George Herring Common, Koroī/ Clayburn Reserve, Tauru/Maywood Park, and Sandys Parade.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

3.4.1 Recommendations

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.

- Support iwi capacity building.
- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Maaori based health and social services.

Waitematā Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

Tell us why

Support most

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Prioritising and investigating flood resilience actions for our parks such as Western Park and Grey Lynn Park

Delivering footpath improvements for Auckland Domain

Starting construction for Leys Institute

Delivery of Heard Park Civic Space

Prioritising sport and recreation opportunities for groups that have less

Investigating transition of Grey Lynn Paddling Pool into a seasonal splashpad

Community services programming to enhance perceptions of safety

Support for ending homelessness in Auckland.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

3.4.1 Recommendations

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.
- Support iwi capacity building.
- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Maaori based health and social services.

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Whau Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Support most

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Restore funding to service levels in some areas that were cut in recent years, e.g additional library hours, programmes and community grants

Increased service levels in our parks and town centres including progression of Te Hono project

Plan for the future Whau aquatic and recreation facility and facilitate public access to school pools in the interim

Work with local Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) to find new ways of delivering vibrant and welcoming town centres through art activation and beautification projects.

Continue to support volunteering, community and business participation, through environmental and ecological initiatives around the Manukau Harbour foreshore, the Whau River and its tributaries, and our urban ngahere

Increase community participation and capability in community hubs, houses and with established community partners, and progress the development of a new community hub in Fruitvale

Foster climate/emergency preparedness and resilience in our community

Investigate a future space for youth and engage a youth coordinator to support and promote for youth by youth activations

Provide appropriate options for healthy, active lifestyles through recreation in parks and open spaces with particular focus on our ethnically diverse communities, women, and girls.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

3.4.1 Recommendations

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.
- Support iwi capacity building.
- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Maaori based health and social services.

Question 5: Other feedback

Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

See Attached

3.5.1 Key Issues

- Lack of formal governance roles for Ngaati Whanaunga.
- Insufficient transparency on mana whenua funding.
- Cultural assets are at risk of disposal without consent.

3.5.2 Recommendations

1. Establish Ngaati Whanaunga representation in Auckland Future Fund governance.
2. Improve reporting on mana whenua outcome investments.

3. Ensure cost savings do not impact iwi services.
4. Seek Ngaati Whanaunga consent before selling or repurposing culturally significant assets.

Ngaati Whanaunga fully supports the Tuupuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan, which affirms our role as kaitiaki and strengthens governance over our ancestral maunga



Auckland Council Annual Budget 2025/2026

Submission from Ngaati Whanaunga

Iwi Name: Ngaati Whanaunga

Date: 28 March 2025

Submitted by: [REDACTED], Chair

On behalf of: Ngaati Whanaunga Incorporated Society

1 Background

1.1 Our Whakapapa

Ngaati Whanaunga is an independent iwi comprising several distinct hapuu and whaanau. Whanaunga's father Marutuuahu, is the ancestor of the Marutuuahu confederation of tribes in Pare Hauraki. These iwi descend from Marutuuahu's marriages to Paremoehau and Hinerunga, daughters of Ruahiore from Ngaati Pou (Te Uri o Poutukeka) of Wharekawa and Taamaki.

Their children became the ancestors of Tamatepoo, Tamateraa, Whanaunga, Te Ngako and Taurakapakapa – each the founding tuupuna of iwi within the Marutuuahu collective, including Ngaati Whanaunga.

1.2 Our Rohe

Our rohe is described in the whakatauki "*Mai Matakana ki Matakana*," describing the vast extent of our ancestral lands - from the sunken reefs of Ngaa Kuri-a-Wharei near Matakana Island in the south; through Taamaki isthmus, Takapuna, Whangaparaoa, and Mahurangi, up to the Matakana River estuary in the north. Our western boundary reaches Mount Te Aroha, through the Huunua and Te Hapu-a-Kohe ranges, to Moumoukai and Papakura. Our rohe includes the Taamaki volcanic cones & spans multiple Auckland Council Local Board areas.

1.3 Our Strategic Direction & Priorities

Our mission is to enhance the wellbeing of our people - now and for future generations – through sustainable management of our resources. This is encapsulated in our vision:

"Ngaati Whanaunga – Healthy and Prosperous People, Whaanau & Hapuu, Business and Environment."

Our priorities include ensuring the long-term wellbeing and enhancement of our lands, waters, ecosystems, cultural heritage, and sites of significance. These places uphold our identity, connect us to our tuupuna, and reinforce our belonging in Taamaki Makaurau.

2 Introduction

Ngaati Whanaunga welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on Auckland Council's Annual Budget 2025/2026.

As mana whenua, we seek a budget that upholds Te Tiriti o Waitangi, recognises our role as kaitiaki, and delivers tangible investment into iwi-led initiatives. While we acknowledge Auckland Council's efforts, we urge stronger partnership through shared governance, transparent investment, and equitable resourcing.

This submission is offered in the spirit of constructive partnership and shared responsibility for the wellbeing of Taamaki Makaurau.

3 Our Feedback

3.1 Question 1: Our Overall Position on the Annual Budget 2025/2026

Response: Do Not Support Most

3.1.1 Key Issues

- Lack of a Ngaati Whanaunga-centric approach (Aua koorero raano)
- No strategy to ensure transport investment benefits rural and underserved mana whenua communities.
- Failure to embed mana whenua governance in water infrastructure or uphold Te Mana o te Wai.
- “*Fairer funding*” lacks targeted investment for iwi-led social, cultural, economic and environmental initiatives.
- Rates increase will disproportionately impact mana whenua whaanau with no clear benefits.
- Capital expenditure plans lack transparency and alignment with our aspirations.

3.1.2 Recommendations

1. Embed co-governance in infrastructure planning.
2. Ensure all Auckland Council funded projects align with Te Tiriti o Waitangi and support iwi outcomes.
3. Fund the protection of Te Mana o te Wai and integration of maatauranga Maaori.
4. Prioritise accessible, affordable public transport for underserved communities.
5. Strengthen transparency and accountability for debt-funded investments.

3.1.3 Conclusion

While we support investment in Auckland's resilience, the Annual Budget does not reflect Ngaati Whanaunga leadership, values or priorities. A genuine Te Tiriti based partnership requires our inclusion in all planning and funding decisions.

3.2 Question 2: Destination Management and Major Events

Response: Support Most

3.2.1 Key Issues

- Funding has historically favoured large-scale events over Ngaati Whanaunga/Mana Whenua-led cultural initiatives.
- Ngaati Whanaunga must be involved in destination management governance.
- Tourism investment should reflect manaakitanga and kaitiakitanga.
- Access to venues and promotional platforms must be made available.

3.2.2 Recommendations for Improvement

1. Ring-fence funding for Ngaati Whanaunga-led cultural and environmental initiatives.
2. Embed Ngaati Whanaunga in governance and decision-making structures.

3.2.3 Conclusion

We support the bed night visitor levy if it ensures equitable investment, shared governance, and prioritises iwi-led tourism, heritage, and environmental initiatives.

3.3 Question 3A: Changes to Other Rates, Fees, and Charges

Response: Support Most

3.3.1 Key Issues

- Refuse Targeted Rates (**RTR**) may disproportionately impact low-income and rural households.
- Investment must prioritise waste minimisation and community-led solutions.
- Rural properties require flexible services or exemptions.

3.3.2 Recommendations for Improvement

1. Include hardship provisions for vulnerable households.
2. Prioritise funding for composting, recycling, and resource recovery.
3. Provide exemptions for whaanau managing their own waste.
4. Ensure transparency in the use of RTRs.

3.3.3 Conclusion

Ngaati Whanaunga supports a consistent, sustainable waste management system if it is fair, culturally responsive, and invests in waste minimisation and resource recovery.

3.4 Question 4: Local Board Priorities

Response: Support Most

3.4.1 Recommendations

- Engage directly and frequently with Ngaati Whanaunga in planning and decisions.
- Support iwi capacity building.
- Invest in iwi-led ecological and cultural initiatives.
- Enhance support for kaupapa Maaori based health and social services.

3.5 Question 5: Other Matters – A Well-Managed Local Government**Response:** Support Most**3.5.1 Key Issues**

- Lack of formal governance roles for Ngaati Whanaunga.
- Insufficient transparency on mana whenua funding.
- Cultural assets are at risk of disposal without consent.

3.5.2 Recommendations

1. Establish Ngaati Whanaunga representation in Auckland Future Fund governance.
2. Improve reporting on mana whenua outcome investments.
3. Ensure cost savings do not impact iwi services.
4. Seek Ngaati Whanaunga consent before selling or repurposing culturally significant assets.

3.5.3 Conclusion

Ngaati Whanaunga supports many of Auckland Council's financial management initiatives. However, to uphold Te Tiriti, Auckland Council must adopt a governance model that is transparent, equitable and inclusive of mana whenua.

3.5.4 Question 5: Other Matters - Tuupuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan**Response:** Support

Ngaati Whanaunga fully supports the Tuupuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan, which affirms our role as kaitiaki and strengthens governance over our ancestral maunga.

4 Summary and Conclusions

Ngaati Whanaunga appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on Auckland Council's Annual Budget 2025/2026. We look forward to strengthening our partnership with Auckland Council and the Local Boards across our rohe.

Our submission highlights consistent priorities:

- The need for co-governance and Te Tiriti based partnerships.
- Improved transparency and accountability in funding and decision-making.
- Greater investment in iwi-led housing, tourism, environmental, and cultural initiatives
- Support for initiatives such as the Refuse Targeted Rates, Local Board priorities, and the Tuupuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan, provided they are appropriately resourced and reflect Ngati Whanaunga/Mana whenua leadership.

We remain committed to working constructively to shape a resilient, equitable, and culturally grounded future for Taamaki Makaurau. We welcome the opportunity to meet directly with Auckland Council representatives to discuss the matters raised in this submission.

Ngaa mihi,



Chair

Ngaati Whanaunga Incorporated Society

Annual Plan 2025-2026

Note: this simplified 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): Aktive

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

Our proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026 builds on our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP).

The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Support most

Tell us why

See attached

Summary of Attachment:

Investment in Community Infrastructure: Support for addressing the shortfall of indoor courts and aquatic facilities.

Sport and Recreation Facility Investment Fund: Strong support for increased funding to address the deficit in sports facilities.

Key Concerns

Community Asset Renewals: Importance of urgent renewals to safeguard facilities.

Asset Recycling: Concerns about the impact of asset sales on existing facilities.

We support ongoing investment into the following major projects in progress until they have been delivered:

- Te Kori Scott Point Sustainable Sports Park
- Te Whau Pathway
- West Wave Aquatic Centre renewal
- The sports field capacity development programme
- Get Auckland Moving new travel solutions and improving public transport
- Land acquisitions for parks and open spaces, as well as make better use of the existing parks
- Waikaraka Park, Onehunga consolidation of speedway at Waikaraka Park
- Michaels Avenue Reserve Stage Two renewal of the carparks and play space
- Ōpaheke Sports Park, Papakura fresh water and wastewater system using the Bellfield Encumbrance reserves fund

Develop neighbourhood parks in Franklin: Bremner Road Drury, Glenbrook, Patumahoe, Clarks Beach, Ngakaroa Reserve, Ray Fausett Reserve.

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Tell us why

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Albert-Eden, Devonport-Takapuna, Franklin, Hibiscus and Bays, Howick, Kaipātiki, Māngere-Ōtāhuhu, Manurewa, Maungakiekie-Tāmaki, Ōrākei, Ōtara-Papatoetoe, Papakura, Puketāpapa, Rodney, Upper Harbour, Waiheke, Waitākere Ranges, Waitematā, Whau

Albert-Eden Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026 however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Increasing our community programmes that are delivered from our libraries and community centres in Pt Chevalier Mt Albert Sandringham and Epsom.

Supporting our community leasing groups to be able to share their space and be sustainable over time so they can continue to provide their great range of community services and activities.

Supporting our business associations and vibrant town centres so people can live work shop and play in our local villages.

Talking with young people and children to better understand what is important to them in their area.

Increasing neighbourhood safety and resilience community wellbeing and emergency preparedness.

Reducing waste and increasing the profile and impact of Waiōrea Community Recycling Centre.

Delivering on concept and restoration plans we have made for local parks and trialling a portable pump track to move around parks in our area.

Increasing the number of local events arts and activations especially in local parks and town centres.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached

We support the Local Board enabling community leasing groups to be able to share their space and be sustainable over time, so they can continue to provide their great range of community services and activities. This enables community groups to generate much needed operational income, ensures a wider section of the community can access these facilities and makes the most of existing assets.

We note that Chair's message includes an initiative to advancing the first phase of the Windmill Park concept plan which we strongly support. We also note and support the Local Board's commitment to upgrading community facilities, parks, and reserves.

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us whyOur priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.**How important are these priorities to you?****Progress the planning and development of the Takapuna Community Hub**

Support local environmental groups to work with volunteers to clean up, manage and plant our local reserves and open spaces contributing to better outcomes and more weather resilient spaces

Continue to maintain and enhance community facilities, including parks and sports fields, libraries and community venues to meet community needs

Progress the Devonport-Takapuna Local Parks Management Plan and refresh of the local boards Greenways Plan

Very important

Support our flood impacted communities as their neighbourhoods change by offering ways and places to connect and share experiences and information

Develop a Wairau Catchment Water Quality Action Plan that will ensure future decisions take advantage of existing reports and advice

Support initiatives identified in the Devonport-Takapuna Ethnic Communities Plan in collaboration with the relative representatives of our ethnic communities.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached

We support the Local Board continuing to maintain and enhance community facilities, including parks and sports fields, libraries and community venues to meet community needs. Maintaining and enhancing the existing network of community facilities ensures people have access to places where they can be active and it is critical investment responds to increases in urban density. We also support the Local Board progressing the Devonport-Takapuna Local Parks Management Plan and refreshing the Local Board's Greenways Plan.

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Franklin Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Delivery of Auckland Council Community Hub Services (library, arts, and customer services) in Beachlands and Clevedon

Extending and improving service outreach to isolated communities like Āwhitu, Ōrere, Glenbrook Beach, Paparimu and Kawakawa Bay

Accelerated delivery on the Sports and Recreational Plan, and additional grant funding for Karaka Sports Park and the Te Puru Sports Centre

Very important

Initiatives that improve the quality of the water in our streams and rivers and our environment through pest eradication programmes

Accelerated planting of trees in public places i.e. delivery of the Franklin Ngahere Plan

Continued delivery of the targeted rate funded Franklin Paths Programme.

Very important

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

We strongly support accelerated delivery of the Local Board's Sport and Active Recreation Facilities Plan (referred to as Sports and Recreational Plan), and additional grant funding for Karaka Sports Park and the Te Puru Sports Centre. We commend the Local Board for refreshing this Plan and want to see the priority projects included in the work programme. We support the continued delivery of the targeted rate funded Franklin Paths Programme and commend the Local Board for finding an innovative way of funding this programme

Henderson-Massey Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Working with the community on signature events with the intent for the community to take the lead

Engaging mana whenua, Māori and in collaboration with Te Kete Rukuruku, creating Te Ao Māori activations for whanau that incorporate te reo, tikanga and supporting the area's Pūrakau (Māori history)

Expanding youth voice initiatives to academic students in the local board area

Work on plans to upgrade Catherine Plaza

Continue to support water quality initiatives including the Rivercare group's work in Te Atatū Peninsula, Love Your Streams (EcoMatters) and Ngā Puna Manaaki Īnanga, a project to identify, protect and enhance Īnanga spawning habitats across the Henderson-Massey local board area

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Support the youth networks in our area to help our young people thrive, and to have a voice in local board decision-making

Support and advocate for further protection of our sea, soil and fresh water from contamination and sedimentation through methods such as re-naturalisation, or daylighting

Very important

Support the development and increased use of our local parks, reserves, and sports fields by being available for people of all abilities, ages, and socio-economic backgrounds to enjoy in a range of leisure and recreation activities

Very important

Encourage local business associations to continue to support business development, to contribute to safer, more vibrant, and attractive town centres, that continue to meet the changing needs of our residents

Support and fund efforts to mitigate and adapt reserves, parks and public assets from the effects of climate change through initiatives such as the Urban Ngahere (Forest) Strategy

Very important

Contribute funding for the development of a vision and plan for the future of the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct.

Very important

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached;

We welcome the Local Board supporting and advocating for further protection of the sea, soil and fresh water from contamination and sedimentation through methods such as re-naturalisation, or daylighting. We also support the development and increased use of local parks, reserves, and sports fields by being available for people of all abilities, ages, and socio-economic backgrounds to enjoy in a range of leisure and recreation activities.

We support the Local Board funding efforts to mitigate and adapt reserves, parks and public assets from the effects of climate change through initiatives such as the Urban Ngahere (Forest) Strategy. The impacts of climate change support a transition to open spaces which serve as multi-purpose assets for community activity and mitigate the impacts such a flooding.

We support the Local Board contributing funding for the development of a vision and plan for the future of the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct. The areas surrounding Stadium are a significant community asset and planning for their long-term sustainability is strongly supported. When considered with Albany Pool and Albany Sports Park indoor court development this area acts as an important community sport and recreation hub. We support the partnership opportunity with the Upper Harbour Local Board. We also support the Local Board focussing on the long-planned Sports Hub at Metro Park

North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct

Our community gave clear feedback in the long-term plan consultation that they would like to see the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct used more effectively for the local community.

The Upper Harbour and Hibiscus and Bays Local Boards are jointly leading a working group of local representatives to develop a vision and plan for the future. The work will need both regional and local funding and our local board will need to contribute.

Do you think we should contribute funding to the development of a vision and plan for the future of North Harbour Stadium and the Domain Precinct?

Yes

Tell us why

We support the Local Board contributing funding for the development of a vision and plan for the future of the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct. The areas surrounding Stadium are a significant community asset and planning for their long-term sustainability is strongly supported

Howick Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Support local businesses and Business Improvement Districts on crime prevention and safety

Work with the Youth Council, Business East Tāmaki, business and tourism sector, and others, on youth upskilling, including increasing funding for the Young Enterprise Scheme

Review and refresh the Howick Local Board Heritage Plan and Tourism Plan

Investigate options to provide a dump station at Half Moon Bay

Trial a surveillance programme to help curb illegal dumping in Flat Bush

Develop initiatives for live monitoring, capturing and documenting the levels of poison/toxicity in our local waterways to increase awareness and enable enforcement

Investigate options on introducing a targeted rate to help fund the delivery of the Flat Bush Library, Community Centre, and Pool and Leisure Centre.

Very important

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

We support the Local Board investigating options on introducing a targeted rate to help fund the delivery of the Flat Bush Pool and Leisure Centre. Funding significant recreational assets is increasingly challenging due to costs and the length of time from concept to delivery, but such facilities are critical to developing active and connected communities. We commend the Local Board for looking at an alternative way to fund these facilities and recommend looking at how a targeted rate this has worked in the Franklin Local Board area

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Kaipātiki Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Community development, including events, community safety, and a greater activation of our community houses, community centres, and libraries

Increased funding in the Kaipātiki Community Grants Programme, so we can support and help a wider reach of our community through their activities

Māori outcomes, through investment in engagement, events, and fostering authentic relationships with Māori.

Youth outcomes, through conversations with young people to identify local activities and services that interest them

Increased sport and recreation opportunities, through grants to organisations to maintain or improve their assets, or to secure community use of non-council owned facilities

Very important

Environmental protection and restoration, including working with our local environmental groups to increase their impact

Maintenance, including environmentally friendly open space management, building maintenance, refuse collection, bush track maintenance, and removal of aging pine trees

Compliance, in the areas of building, illegal dumping, noise, animal control, and overnight stays on reserves

Pools and leisure service enhancements and affordability

Sport and recreation facility planning to understand the sport and recreation facility needs of Kaipātiki, to guide future investment

Very important

Business support and engagement across Kaipātiki.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

We support the Local Board's focus on increasing sport and recreation opportunities, through grants to organisations to maintain or improve their assets or to secure community use of non-council owned facilities. We support approaches to achieve pool and leisure service enhancements and affordability.

We strongly support sport and recreation facility planning to understand the sport and

recreation facility needs of Kaipātiki to guide future investment. We submit that a Sport and Active Recreation Facility Investment Plan as has been undertaken in other local board areas (eg Otara-Papatoetoe, Henderson-Massey) will provide a clear and robust basis for prioritised future investment

Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Explore a site for a recycling centre

Local playground improvements in areas like Mangere Bridge

Very important

Maintain local road safety with limited budgets

Very important

More support to volunteer networks

Push to deliver local business initiatives.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

We support the Local Board focus on local playground improvements in areas like Māngere Bridge and completing the David Lange Park playground improvements.

Investing into play enables our youngest tamariki to be active and have fun in a way that is important to them while they develop fundamental movement skills, self-directed creativity and better decision making around risks.

We support the Local Board maintaining local road safety despite limited budgets to make roads places where people feel comfortable walking and cycling. We also support

ongoing improvements at local parks such as Cyclamen Park as noted in the Chair's

Message

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Māngere East Village Business Improvement District (BID) programme

A BID is a local economic development initiative run by a business association under the Auckland Council BID Policy (2022). It involves businesses in a defined area paying a targeted rate to fund specific services or projects in their BID boundary. The Māngere East Village Business Association Society Inc. (MEVBA) has failed to meet key BID Policy requirements, including accountability reporting, AGM minutes, strategic plan, and appointing a BID Manager. MEVBA also breached its constitution and did not notify the council of non-compliance. The Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board is now considering terminating the BID programme and targeted rate, with the possibility of re-establishing a compliant BID programme in the future if conditions are met.

Do you think we should end the Māngere East Village Business Improvement District (BID) programme and associated BID targeted rate?

Tell us why

Manurewa Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Increasing the levels of service for maintenance and repair of all assets across buildings, parks, open spaces and sports fields, town centre cleaning, street litter bin emptying, vegetation clearance, and berm mowing works

Very important

Improving sports fields including maintenance, sand-carpeting and lighting

Identifying ways to support the council's response to roaming dogs

Boosting the amount of funding available for community grants so more projects and initiatives can be delivered by community, arts and sports groups

Very important

Expanding the number of funded initiatives that respond to the needs and aspirations of children and young people

Developing tailored community partnerships with key groups, organisations and networks where their interests and priorities are aligned to outcomes in the Manurewa Local Board Plan 2027

Providing the Pacific community with capacity support, and a grant to undertake feasibility and concept plans to deliver the Pacific hub on Clendon Reserve

Scaling up the work being delivered to achieve environmental outcomes

Investigating the need to extend the opening hours in our community facilities such as the two libraries, the pool and leisure centre and Nathan Homestead

Very important

Funding initiatives that stimulate economic growth and generate prosperity in Manurewa.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

We support the Local Board increasing the levels of service for maintenance and repair of all assets across buildings, parks, open spaces and sports fields and improving sports fields including maintenance, sand carpeting and lighting. This will enable the community to enjoy greater use of existing assets and support the sustainability of local clubs.

We support the Local Board boosting the amount of funding available for community grants so more projects and initiatives can be delivered by community and sports groups. We are seeing a challenge in the community funding space with traditional funders such as the Class 4 Gaming Trusts impacted by reduced incomes and increasing application numbers. The Local Board stepping further into this space will have a

positive impact on sport and active recreation organisations.

We agree with the Local Board investigating the need to extend the opening hours of community facilities such as libraries and the pool and leisure centre

Fenced Dog Exercise Areas

Do you think we should investigate providing fenced dog exercise areas?

Tell us why

Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Continuing to support community groups and community-led activities through our local community grants

Very important

Continuing to build the capacity and capability of local community and sporting groups through our strategic partnerships programme

Very important

Activate our local open spaces and facilities, through council-led activities and assessing what amenities our spaces need, such as toilets and power outlets

Very important

Empowering community groups and organisations to deliver community events through sustainable funding models

Consider funding activities that increase our community's sense of safety, working with community groups and business associations already delivering safety initiatives

Continuing to support initiatives that deliver outcomes with and for youth, such as our Youth Empowerment programme, and Tiakina te taiao and Ope programmes (biodiversity and climate action education programme in schools)

Collaborate with mana whenua and neighbouring local boards to protect and restore our waterways, particularly the Tāmaki Estuary and Manukau Harbour

Consider a review of Te Oro Music and Arts Centre, to ensure it remains welcoming and responsive to the community's changing needs.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

We support the Local Board continuing to support community groups and community led activities through local community grants. This is an increasingly important source of funding in a challenging space. We strongly support continuing to build the capacity and capability of local community and sporting groups through strategic partnerships programme and acknowledge the excellent relationship the Local Board holds with our partner Sport Auckland.

We see value in the Local Board activating local open spaces and facilities, through council-led activities and assessing what amenities these spaces need, such as toilets and power outlets.

We commend the Local Board for the development of a Sport and Active Recreation Facility Plan, and we were pleased to contribute funding to enable this Plan. To deliver great sport and recreation outcomes for the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki community it is critical the Plan is a focus of future work programmes

Ōrākei Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Increase our funding for local ecological restoration, and animal and plant pest control, and continue to work with our many community volunteers to enhance our natural environment

Continue local initiatives to enhance neighbourhood connections and increase safety and emergency preparedness, such as through funding for Neighbourhood Support

Fund and support local events, such as Splash Landing, Anzac services, and an event to celebrate the re-opening of Remuera Library to showcase our spaces and benefit local residents and businesses

Maintain efforts to monitor and improve water quality in our local waterways

Continue activating facilities at Tagalad Reserve and The Landing

Very important

Progress detailed design and consent work for Thomas Bloodworth Park and Shore Road East sports fields, and for field and sports infrastructure at Colin Maiden Park, and renew artificial playing surfaces at Michaels Avenue Reserve

Very important

Find a new partner to develop the Meadowbank Community Centre

Develop an action plan to improve access and the environment at Dingle Dell

Work to enhance the Ellerslie Town Square by improving access, activation ability, safety and public amenity through improved tree management, landscaping and seating.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

We support the Local Board continuing to activate facilities at Tagalag Reserve and The Landing and urge the Local Board to retain Tagalag Reserve in public ownership.

We strongly support progressing detailed design and consent work for Thomas Bloodworth Park and Shore Road East sports fields, for field and sports infrastructure at Colin Maiden Park and renewing the artificial playing surfaces at Michaels Avenue Reserve.

We support the Local Board's advocacy to Auckland Transport and NZTA to progress the Gowing Drive connection to Te Ara Ki Uta Ki Tai – the Glen Innes to Tāmaki Drive Shared

Path which will enable a significantly greater number of residents to access this exceptional asset.

Seawall Repair from Tāmaki Yacht Club to Archilles Point, St Heliers

We would like to maintain and repair seawalls, replenish sand, and extend stormwater outflows further offshore on our beaches from Tāmaki Yacht Club to Archilles Point, St Heliers, as well as re-sand Tāmaki Beach and construct groynes to help keep the sand in place. To fund this, we would need to investigate a targeted rate of around \$10 per year, for each household in the Orakei local board area, for 10 years. If progressed, the Governing Body would need to make a decision on whether to introduce this rate as part of the annual budget 2026/2027, after consultation on a more detailed proposal. The rate could then apply from 2026/2027.

Do you think we should investigate this proposal?

Yes

Tell us why

See attached:

We see value in a targeted rate to maintain and repair seawalls, replenish sand, and extend stormwater outflows further offshore on our beaches from Tāmaki Yacht Club to Archilles Point, as well as re-sanding Tāmaki Beach and constructing groynes to keep the sand in place.

Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Ensuring Māori culture and the values of mātauranga Māori are visible in public spaces

Addressing safety concerns in neighbourhoods, common areas and town centres

Delivering on increased local economic outcomes

Supporting small businesses to act on environmental sustainability**Progressing the planning for options to address community service needs in Old Papatoetoe****Supporting local environment groups to work collaboratively with community volunteers in efforts to clean, manage and plant our local reserves and open spaces****Planning for the delivery of facilities at Manukau Sports Bowl**

Very important

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

We strongly support the Local Board planning for the delivery of facilities at the Manukau Sports Bowl. This park is a significant asset for the South Auckland area and is currently under used and not attractive to many in the local community. We agree with the Chair's support for implementing the Manukau Sports Bowl masterplan and with prioritising the athletics track which constitutes a relatively low cost and achievable project. We believe that the Local Board exploring alternate sources of revenue, such as a targeted rate, to fund delivery of the Masterplan is a great initiative.

We support the Local Board aim to promote walking, cycling and public transport to help improve community health outcomes

Manukau Sports Bowl**Do you support prioritising the planning for delivery of facilities at Manukau Sports Bowl?**

(This may include exploring alternate sources of revenue, such as a targeted rate in future years)

Yes

Tell us why

We strongly support the Local Board planning for the delivery of facilities at the Manukau Sports Bowl. This park is a significant asset for the South Auckland area and is currently under used and not attractive to many in the local community. We agree with the Chair's support for implementing the Manukau Sports Bowl masterplan and with prioritising the athletics track which constitutes a relatively low cost and achievable project. We believe that the Local Board exploring alternate sources of revenue, such as a targeted rate, to fund delivery of the Masterplan is a great initiative.

Hunters Corner Business Improvement District

For the 2024/2025 financial year, the Governing Body did not set a targeted rate for the Hunters Corner Business Improvement District. This was due to the Hunters Corner Town Centre Society Inc (HTCTS) not complying with the BID Policy. If the HTCTS remains non-compliant with the BID Policy by April 2025, council will not set the rate for 2025/2026.

Do you have any comments on the Hunters Corner Business Improvement District?

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)**Which three of our services are least important to you? (select up to three)****Papakura Local Board Priorities**

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?**Tell us why**

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Progressing some of the new Sports and Recreation Plan, economic development, and youth projects identified from the work being completed in 2024/2029

Very important

Requesting strategic assessments to understand needs relating to: Opaheke sports and passive parks; Awakeri Wetlands; Kuhanui Reserve, Karaka; Park Estate Reserve, Park Green; new play facilities at Pulman Park, and the Greenways/Local Paths Plan

Very important

Advocating for access to the legacy parking fund for carparking projects

Very important

Assisting the Takanini Business Association's proposed establishment of a Business Improvement District (BID) programme and BID targeted rate for Takanini

Very important

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

We commend the Local Board for developing the Papakura Sport and Active Recreation Plan and we were delighted to be able to part fund this document. Consequently we strongly support the Local Board progressing the priority projects identified in this Plan.

We agree with the Local Board's plan to request strategic assessments to understand the needs and funding opportunities relating to Opaheke sports and passive parks such as Kuhanui Reserve, Karaka Park Estate Reserve, Park Green and for new play facilities at Bruce Pulman Park and the Greenways/Local Paths Plan. Opaheke Sports Park is becoming a critical asset as the wider area is developed for housing and worthy of priority investment

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we want feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Takanini Business Improvement District (BID)

We continue to support the Papakura and Takanini Business Associations to grow and develop businesses, and to make the town centres more lively. Takanini Business Association is seeking to establish a Business Improvement District (BID) programme. If it is successful, business ratepayers and owners located within the BID establishment area will become members of the Takanini BID programme and pay the associated BID target rate.

Do you think we should establish a Takanini Business Improvement District (BID) programme and associated BID targeted rate?

Tell us why

Puketāpapa Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Considering the community programmes that are delivered from Wesley Community Centre and Roskill Youth Zone to get better utilisation of the facility

Investigating the use of the Fickling Centre and Library, to ensure that it is able to respond to the needs of the growing Three Kings community

Supporting community groups that lease council space, so they can find ways to share their spaces and continue to provide great community activities

Very important

Implementing recommendations from the Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan so that the recreational needs of our growing communities are met

Very important

Planning for the development of Monte Cecilia Park so that this becomes a destination park and an icon for Puketāpapa

Investigating projects from the Wairaki Awa Catchment Plan that can be implemented, such as naturalising the awa at Lynfield Cove

Investing in more climate action and environmental projects

Increasing the number of local events, arts and activations, especially in local parks

Supporting arts and events by working with existing community groups to help coordinate their work and make the most of opportunities

Supporting community-led placemaking initiatives that engage diverse groups, promote safety and community identity, and increase greater connectivity and participation among businesses and community members.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

We agree with the Local Board's approach to support community groups that lease

council space, so they can find ways to share their spaces and continue to provide great community activities. This enables greater accessibility to, and use of, existing facilities to a wider part of the community for diverse activities that meet their needs.

We commend the Local Board for developing a Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan and acknowledge the comprehensive nature of this document. Consequently, we strongly support the Local Board implementing recommendations and priority projects from the Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan so that the sporting and recreational needs of Puketāpapa's growing, diverse communities can be met.

Rodney Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Improving services for all communities by enhancing libraries art and youth programmes

Promote physical activity and recreation by increasing play opportunities in more locations

Very important

Support community groups, volunteers, and mana whenua to enhance environmental protection and restoration efforts, particularly for waterways and wetlands, while promoting waste reduction

Increase maintenance service levels, such as more frequent mowing of high-profile reserves, pest control, and repair of tracks and car parks.

Very important

Support Rodney Greenways Plans to facilitate walking, cycling and horse riding

Very important

Prepare and review plans for reserves to identify gaps to meet community needs

Very important

Improve the safety of our community and environment through increased education, monitoring and compliance.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

We support the Local Board promoting physical activity and recreation by increasing play opportunities in more locations. Investment into play helps our youngest tamariki be active in a fun way that develops fundamental movement skills, encourages self-directed creativity and better decision-making around elements of challenge and risk.

We support increased maintenance service levels, such as more frequent mowing of high-profile reserves and the Local Board's support for the Rodney Greenways Plans to facilitate walking, cycling and horse riding. This project is critical to enable local residents to use active transport modes safely.

We see great value in the Local Board preparing and reviewing plans for reserves to identify gaps to meet community needs. We encourage the Local Board to continue its support of the Mahurangi Multi-sport Facility at the Warkworth Showgrounds and the redevelopment of the facilities at Centennial Park, Wellsford.

Upper Harbour Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?**Tell us why**

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Appropriate planning and investment for infrastructure and quality open space in areas impacted by growth and intensification e.g. Whenuapai

Very important

Continue to prioritise support to our local community organisations and volunteers to deliver outcomes that provide a sense of belonging, wellbeing and resilience for residents

Continue to prioritise investment in outcomes that ensure our communities have access to high-quality amenities that provide for a range of opportunities including play, pathways and connections, active sports and recreation and connecting with nature

Very important

Funding to assist in the development, improvement, and renovation of non-council owned community facilities that serve the Upper Harbour area through a facilities grants process

Very important

Improve wayfinding in the Upper Harbour area to help our communities to easily discover and enjoy the assets we have**Contribute funding for the development of a vision and plan for the future North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct.**

Very important

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

We strongly support the Local Board planning investment for infrastructure and quality open space in areas impacted by growth and intensification such as Whenuapai. We believe it is critical that areas of urban intensification have access to adequate open space as well as sport and recreation facilities that meet identified need.

We support the Local Board continuing to prioritise investment in outcomes that ensure the Upper Harbour communities have access to high-quality amenities that provide for a range of opportunities including play, pathways and connections, active sports and recreation and connecting with nature.

We acknowledge the Local Board's current commitment to funding non-council facilities and strongly support assisting in the development, improvement, and renovation of non-council owned community facilities that serve the Upper Harbour area through a facility grants process. We believe that the Local Board has a critical role in this funding space and funding support for these facilities is welcomed.

We support the Local Board contributing funding for the development of a vision and plan for the future of the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct. The areas surrounding Stadium are a significant community asset and planning for their long-term sustainability is strongly supported. When considered with Albany Pool and Albany Sports Park indoor court development this area acts as an important community sport and recreation hub. We support the partnership opportunity with the Hibiscus and

Bays

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we want feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct

Our community gave clear feedback in the long-term plan consultation that they would like to see the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct used more effectively for the local community. The Upper Harbour and Hibiscus and Bays Local Boards are jointly leading a working group of local representatives to develop a vision and plan for the future. The work will need both regional and local funding and our local board will need to contribute.

Do you think we should contribute funding to the development of a vision and plan for the future of North Harbour Stadium and the Domain Precinct?

Yes

Tell us why

We support the Local Board contributing funding for the development of a vision and plan for the future of the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct. The areas surrounding Stadium are a significant community asset and planning for their long-term sustainability is strongly supported

Waiheke Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Delivering core council operational services, such as mowing, track and facility maintenance, and the library

Programmes which protect, restore, and enhance the island's natural environment, and initiatives that provide opportunities for community connectedness, capability and resilience

Progressing recommended actions within the Rangihoua Reserve Onetangi Sports Park Reserve Management Plan

Very important

Capital projects including the Tawaipareira Reserve playground and loop track, and replacement of the Rakino Hall

Very important

Continuing to support local organisations with the development of a community swimming pool and investigate consulting on a local targeted rate

Very important

Revitalising Ostend and Oneroa village centres

Commissioning the research of data and surveying residents to understand the state of the motu.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

see attached:

We support the Local Board progressing the recommended actions within the Rangihoua Reserve Onetangi Sports Park Reserve Management Plan, improving Anzac Reserve and the proposed capital projects such as the Tawaipareira Reserve playground and loop track.

We support the Local Board continuing to support local organisations with the development of a community swimming pool and agree with investigating a local targeted rate to help deliver this project. We recommend the Local Board connects with Franklin Local Board to discuss how they have applied a targeted rate approach to active recreation investment.

Community Pool Development

You have told us a community pool is a priority however building and running a community pool will involve significant funding. A targeted rate for Waiheke residents is one way to fund this development. The board will also explore partnerships and sponsorship opportunities.

Do you think we should investigate a targeted rate to progress development of a community pool?

Yes

Tell us why

see attached:

We support the Local Board continuing to support local organisations with the development of a community swimming pool and agree with investigating a local targeted rate to help deliver this project. We recommend the Local Board connects with

Franklin Local Board to discuss how they have applied a targeted rate approach to active recreation investment

Waitākere Ranges Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding. The proposed increase in funding ('fairer funding' for local boards) may be taken up by budget pressures outside of the local board's control.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

The Event Partnership Fund to support more community-led events

Arts and culture programmes delivered through our community arts partners

Tailoring programmes to serve diverse communities (youth, older adults, Pacific and ethnic communities)

Community development, placemaking and activation in our growing neighbourhoods and centres such as Glen Eden, Sunnyvale and Swanson

Supporting business associations to continue supporting local businesses and ongoing growth, develop and liven-up our town centres, including assisting Glen Eden Business Association and establishing of Titirangi Business Association

Environmental programmes to help protect and restore the Waitākere Ranges

Trialling phosphite treatment of kauri infected with kauri dieback on selected local parks

Improving neighbourhood parks: George Herring Common, Koroī/ Clayburn Reserve, Tautoru/Maywood Park, and Sandys Parade.

Very important

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

We support improving neighbourhood parks such as George Herring Common, Koroī Clayburn Reserve, Tautoru Maywood Park, and Sandys Parade and recommend investment into a range of play and active recreation infrastructure

Waitematā Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

Tell us why

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Prioritising and investigating flood resilience actions for our parks such as Western Park and Grey Lynn Park

Very important

Delivering footpath improvements for Auckland Domain

Very important

Starting construction for Leys Institute

Delivery of Heard Park Civic Space

Very important

Prioritising sport and recreation opportunities for groups that have less

Very important

Investigating transition of Grey Lynn Paddling Pool into a seasonal splashpad

Very important

Community services programming to enhance perceptions of safety

Support for ending homelessness in Auckland.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

We strongly support the Local Board prioritising and investigating flood resilience

actions for Western Park and Grey Lynn Park. It is critical that Auckland Council implements resilience initiatives for sport and recreation facilities that are vulnerable to climate change events such as the devastating flood impact to the Richmond Rovers Clubhouse during the 2023 Auckland Anniversary Weekend floods. We see value in delivering footpath improvements for Auckland Domain given the level of use this regionally significant asset is subject to and support delivery of the Heard Park Civic Space.

We agree with the Local Board prioritising sport and recreation opportunities for groups that have less, albeit it is not clear what is meant by those that have less and how this can be delivered in practice.

We see value in investigating transitioning the Grey Lynn Paddling Pool into a seasonal splashpad subject to comprehensive community consultation given the value placed on this facility by the local community. We believe that a splash pad will be attractive to a wider range of ages and users and well used as evidenced by the splash pad at Nicholson Park.

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Whau Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Restore funding to service levels in some areas that were cut in recent years, e.g additional library hours, programmes and community grants

Very important

Increased service levels in our parks and town centres including progression of Te Hono project

Very important

Plan for the future Whau aquatic and recreation facility and facilitate public access to school pools in the interim

Very important

Work with local Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) to find new ways of delivering vibrant and welcoming town centres through art activation and beautification projects.

Continue to support volunteering, community and business participation, through environmental and ecological initiatives around the Manukau Harbour foreshore, the Whau River and its tributaries, and our urban ngahere

Increase community participation and capability in community hubs, houses and with established community partners, and progress the development of a new community hub in Fruitvale

Foster climate/emergency preparedness and resilience in our community

Investigate a future space for youth and engage a youth coordinator to support and promote for youth by youth activations

Provide appropriate options for healthy, active lifestyles through recreation in parks and open spaces with particular focus on our ethnically diverse communities, women, and girls.

Very important

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

We support the Local Board restoring funding to community grants that were subject to earlier cuts. Strategic investment by the Local Board is critical to the sustainability of the sport and recreation network and we support increasing service levels in parks to complement this investment.

We strongly support progressing planning for the future Whau aquatic and recreation facility and facilitating of public access to school pools in the interim. Addressing the aquatic shortfall in the local board area and wider west Auckland area should be a primary focus for Auckland Council. We agree that access to school pools provides an

appropriate interim solution and we are pleased to be working with our partners Sport Waitākere to progress this initiative.

We strongly support the Whau Local Board providing appropriate options for healthy, active lifestyles through recreation in parks and open spaces with a particular focus on ethnically diverse communities and women and girls. We see great value in a focus on members of the community who are underactive and recognise the importance of offerings which connect diverse communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the 2025-2025 Annual Plan consultation.

We look forward to the positive sport and active recreation outcomes Council's investment in our communities can deliver.

Question 5: Other feedback

Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

AK Have your Say Annual Plan 2025-2026

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on Auckland Council's draft Annual Plan 2025-2026.

Introduction

Active is a charitable trust with a vision of making Auckland the world's most active city. Our purpose is to unite and inspire leaders and organisations in Tāmaki Makaurau to enhance the wellbeing of Aucklanders and create more connected communities through sport and physical activity.

We are a key strategic partner of Sport New Zealand, Auckland Council and major grant-makers and funders. Active partners with, and invests in, a range of organisations and projects that get more people active in Auckland.

Response to the Annual Plan 2025-2026 Consultation Documents

We have read the consultation document and supporting information to help inform this submission. We acknowledge the fiscal challenges facing Auckland Council and the need to balance investment.

Our overall plan. What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

We support Auckland Council's ongoing investment in community infrastructure and encourage a focus on addressing the regional shortfall of indoor courts and aquatic facilities.

We strongly support the increase to the Sport and Recreation Facility Investment Fund to address the deficit in sports facilities in Auckland. The increase to the Fund was a key part of Active and the sport and recreation sector's 2024-2034 Long-term Plan advocacy. We believe that this increase has already made a material difference to the delivery of

community-led sport and recreation facilities which have been increasingly challenging to deliver.

We understand the drivers for transitioning the Parks and Community Asset portfolio to deliver differently, however we note the importance of retaining a network of fit-for-purpose facilities and being clear about the community impacts of lesser dependence on assets and ways of delivering Council services.

We strongly support Council progressing urgent community asset renewals to safeguard facilities from asset failure and support high priority growth projects. Given the challenges facing Council and community-led delivery of sport and recreation facilities it is critical that Council invests into the existing network of facilities to ensure they remain fit for purpose and part of the network. We believe that it is critical that growth areas have access to quality sport and recreation facilities to help create connected, happy and active communities.

We remain concerned about the implications and impacts of the asset recycling and would ask that greater detail is provided to enable a more in depth understanding of what assets have been identified for sale and how this may impact the existing network of facilities.

We support ongoing investment into the following major projects in progress until they have been delivered:

- Te Kori Scott Point Sustainable Sports Park
- Te Whau Pathway
- West Wave Aquatic Centre renewal
- The sports field capacity development programme
- “Get Auckland Moving” new travel solutions and improving public transport
- Land acquisitions for parks and open spaces, as well as make better use of the existing parks
- Waikaraka Park, Onehunga consolidation of speedway at Waikaraka Park
- Michaels Avenue Reserve Stage Two renewal of the carparks and play space
- Ōpaheke Sports Park, Papakura fresh water and wastewater system using the Bellfield Encumbrance reserves fund

- Develop neighbourhood parks in Franklin: Bremner Road Drury, Glenbrook, Patumahoe, Clarks Beach, Ngakaroa Reserve, Ray Fausett Reserve.

We greatly appreciate the level of investment committed to these projects.

Local board priorities. What do you think of our proposals for local board areas in 2025/2026?

We acknowledge and value the commitment and investment Local Boards make into our communities, particularly into play, active recreation and sport and the places where these activities can be undertaken whether playing fields, open spaces, playgrounds, pools or indoor courts. We have reviewed what each Local Board proposes to deliver in 2025-2026 and comment as follows:

Albert-Eden Local Board

We support the Local Board enabling community leasing groups to be able to share their space and be sustainable over time, so they can continue to provide their great range of community services and activities. This enables community groups to generate much needed operational income, ensures a wider section of the community can access these facilities and makes the most of existing assets.

We note that Chair's message includes an initiative to advancing the first phase of the Windmill Park concept plan which we strongly support. We also note and support the Local Board's commitment to upgrading community facilities, parks, and reserves.

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

We support the Local Board continuing to maintain and enhance community facilities, including parks and sports fields, libraries and community venues to meet community needs. Maintaining and enhancing the existing network of community facilities ensures people have access to places where they can be active and it is critical investment responds to increases in urban density. We also support the Local Board progressing the Devonport-Takapuna Local Parks Management Plan and refreshing the Local Board's Greenways Plan.

Franklin Local Board

We strongly support accelerated delivery of the Local Board's Sport and Active Recreation Facilities Plan (referred to as Sports and Recreational Plan), and additional grant funding for Karaka Sports Park and the Te Puru Sports Centre. We commend the Local Board for refreshing this Plan and want to see the priority projects included in the work programme. We support the continued delivery of the targeted rate funded Franklin Paths Programme and commend the Local Board for finding an innovative way of funding this programme.

Hibiscus and Bays Local Board

We welcome the Local Board supporting and advocating for further protection of the sea, soil and fresh water from contamination and sedimentation through methods such as re-naturalisation, or daylighting. We also support the development and increased use of local parks, reserves, and sports fields by being available for people of all abilities, ages, and socio-economic backgrounds to enjoy in a range of leisure and recreation activities.

We support the Local Board funding efforts to mitigate and adapt reserves, parks and public assets from the effects of climate change through initiatives such as the Urban Ngahere (Forest) Strategy. The impacts of climate change support a transition to open spaces which serve as multi-purpose assets for community activity and mitigate the impacts such as flooding.

We support the Local Board contributing funding for the development of a vision and plan for the future of the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct. The areas surrounding Stadium are a significant community asset and planning for their long-term sustainability is strongly supported. When considered with Albany Pool and Albany Sports Park indoor court development this area acts as an important community sport and recreation hub. We support the partnership opportunity with the Upper Harbour Local Board. We also support the Local Board focussing on the long-planned Sports Hub at Metro Park.

Howick Local Board

We support the Local Board investigating options on introducing a targeted rate to help fund the delivery of the Flat Bush Pool and Leisure Centre. Funding significant recreational assets is increasingly challenging due to costs and the length of time from concept to delivery, but such facilities are critical to developing active and connected communities. We commend the Local Board for looking at an alternative way to fund these facilities and recommend looking at how a targeted rate this has worked in the Franklin Local Board area.

Kaipātiki Local Board

We support the Local Board's focus on increasing sport and recreation opportunities, through grants to organisations to maintain or improve their assets or to secure community use of non-council owned facilities. We support approaches to achieve pool and leisure service enhancements and affordability.

We strongly support sport and recreation facility planning to understand the sport and recreation facility needs of Kaipātiki to guide future investment. We submit that a Sport and Active Recreation Facility Investment Plan as has been undertaken in other local board areas (eg Otara-Papatoetoe, Henderson-Massey) will provide a clear and robust basis for prioritised future investment.

Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board

We support the Local Board focus on local playground improvements in areas like Māngere Bridge and completing the David Lange Park playground improvements. Investing into play enables our youngest tamariki to be active and have fun in a way that is important to them while they develop fundamental movement skills, self-directed creativity and better decision making around risks.

We support the Local Board maintaining local road safety despite limited budgets to make roads places where people feel comfortable walking and cycling. We also support ongoing improvements at local parks such as Cyclamen Park as noted in the Chair's Message.

Manurewa Local Board

We support the Local Board increasing the levels of service for maintenance and repair of all assets across buildings, parks, open spaces and sports fields and improving sports fields including maintenance, sand carpeting and lighting. This will enable the community to enjoy greater use of existing assets and support the sustainability of local clubs.

We support the Local Board boosting the amount of funding available for community grants so more projects and initiatives can be delivered by community and sports groups. We are seeing a challenge in the community funding space with traditional funders such as the Class 4 Gaming Trusts impacted by reduced incomes and increasing application numbers. The Local Board stepping further into this space will have a positive impact on sport and active recreation organisations.

We agree with the Local Board investigating the need to extend the opening hours of community facilities such as libraries and the pool and leisure centre.

Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board

We support the Local Board continuing to support community groups and community led activities through local community grants. This is an increasingly important source of funding in a challenging space. We strongly support continuing to build the capacity and capability of local community and sporting groups through strategic partnerships programme and acknowledge the excellent relationship the Local Board holds with our partner Sport Auckland.

We see value in the Local Board activating local open spaces and facilities, through council-led activities and assessing what amenities these spaces need, such as toilets and power outlets.

We commend the Local Board for the development of a Sport and Active Recreation Facility Plan, and we were pleased to contribute funding to enable this Plan. To deliver great sport and recreation outcomes for the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki community it is critical the Plan is a focus of future work programmes.

Ōrākei Local Board

We support the Local Board continuing to activate facilities at Tagalag Reserve and The Landing and urge the Local Board to retain Tagalag Reserve in public ownership.

We strongly support progressing detailed design and consent work for Thomas Bloodworth Park and Shore Road East sports fields, for field and sports infrastructure at Colin Maiden Park and renewing the artificial playing surfaces at Michaels Avenue Reserve.

We support the Local Board's advocacy to Auckland Transport and NZTA to progress the Gowing Drive connection to Te Ara Ki Uta Ki Tai – the Glen Innes to Tāmaki Drive Shared Path which will enable a significantly greater number of residents to access this exceptional asset.

We see value in a targeted rate to maintain and repair seawalls, replenish sand, and extend stormwater outflows further offshore on our beaches from Tāmaki Yacht Club to Archilles Point, as well as re-sanding Tāmaki Beach and constructing groynes to keep the sand in place.

Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board

We strongly support the Local Board planning for the delivery of facilities at the Manukau Sports Bowl. This park is a significant asset for the South Auckland area and is currently under used and not attractive to many in the local community. We agree with the Chair's support for implementing the Manukau Sports Bowl masterplan and with prioritising the athletics track which constitutes a relatively low cost and achievable project. We believe that the Local Board exploring alternate sources of revenue, such as a targeted rate, to fund delivery of the Masterplan is a great initiative.

We support the Local Board aim to promote walking, cycling and public transport to help improve community health outcomes.

Papakura Local Board

We commend the Local Board for developing the Papakura Sport and Active Recreation Plan and we were delighted to be able to part fund this document. Consequently we strongly support the Local Board progressing the priority projects identified in this Plan.

We agree with the Local Board's plan to request strategic assessments to understand the needs and funding opportunities relating to Opaheke sports and passive parks such as Kuhanui Reserve, Karaka Park Estate Reserve, Park Green and for new play facilities at Bruce Pulman Park and the Greenways/Local Paths Plan. Opaheke Sports Park is becoming a critical asset as the wider area is developed for housing and worthy of priority investment.

Puketāpapa Local Board

We agree with the Local Board's approach to support community groups that lease council space, so they can find ways to share their spaces and continue to provide great community activities. This enables greater accessibility to, and use of, existing facilities to a wider part of the community for diverse activities that meet their needs.

We commend the Local Board for developing a Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan and acknowledge the comprehensive nature of this document. Consequently, we strongly support the Local Board implementing recommendations and priority projects from the Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan so that the sporting and recreational needs of Puketāpapa's growing, diverse communities can be met.

Rodney Local Board

We support the Local Board promoting physical activity and recreation by increasing play opportunities in more locations. Investment into play helps our youngest tamariki be active in a fun way that develops fundamental movement skills, encourages self-directed creativity and better decision-making around elements of challenge and risk.

We support increased maintenance service levels, such as more frequent mowing of high-profile reserves and the Local Board's support for the Rodney Greenways Plans to

facilitate walking, cycling and horse riding. This project is critical to enable local residents to use active transport modes safely.

We see great value in the Local Board preparing and reviewing plans for reserves to identify gaps to meet community needs. We encourage the Local Board to continue its support of the Mahurangi Multi-sport Facility at the Warkworth Showgrounds and the redevelopment of the facilities at Centennial Park, Wellsford.

Upper Harbour Local Board

We strongly support the Local Board planning investment for infrastructure and quality open space in areas impacted by growth and intensification such as Whenuapai. We believe it is critical that areas of urban intensification have access to adequate open space as well as sport and recreation facilities that meet identified need.

We support the Local Board continuing to prioritise investment in outcomes that ensure the Upper Harbour communities have access to high-quality amenities that provide for a range of opportunities including play, pathways and connections, active sports and recreation and connecting with nature.

We acknowledge the Local Board's current commitment to funding non-council facilities and strongly support assisting in the development, improvement, and renovation of non-council owned community facilities that serve the Upper Harbour area through a facility grants process. We believe that the Local Board has a critical role in this funding space and funding support for these facilities is welcomed.

We support the Local Board contributing funding for the development of a vision and plan for the future of the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct. The areas surrounding Stadium are a significant community asset and planning for their long-term sustainability is strongly supported. When considered with Albany Pool and Albany Sports Park indoor court development this area acts as an important community sport and recreation hub. We support the partnership opportunity with the Hibiscus and Bays.

Waiheke Local Board

We support the Local Board progressing the recommended actions within the Rangihoua Reserve Onetangi Sports Park Reserve Management Plan, improving Anzac Reserve and the proposed capital projects such as the Tawaipareira Reserve playground and loop track.

We support the Local Board continuing to support local organisations with the development of a community swimming pool and agree with investigating a local targeted rate to help deliver this project. We recommend the Local Board connects with Franklin Local Board to discuss how they have applied a targeted rate approach to active recreation investment.

Waitākere Ranges Local Board

We support improving neighbourhood parks such as George Herring Common, Korōi Clayburn Reserve, Tautoru Maywood Park, and Sandys Parade and recommend investment into a range of play and active recreation infrastructure.

Waitematā Local Board

We strongly support the Local Board prioritising and investigating flood resilience actions for Western Park and Grey Lynn Park. It is critical that Auckland Council implements resilience initiatives for sport and recreation facilities that are vulnerable to climate change events such as the devastating flood impact to the Richmond Rovers Clubhouse during the 2023 Auckland Anniversary Weekend floods. We see value in delivering footpath improvements for Auckland Domain given the level of use this regionally significant asset is subject to and support delivery of the Heard Park Civic Space.

We agree with the Local Board prioritising sport and recreation opportunities for groups that have less, albeit it is not clear what is meant by “those that have less” and how this can be delivered in practice.

We see value in investigating transitioning the Grey Lynn Paddling Pool into a seasonal splashpad subject to comprehensive community consultation given the value placed on

this facility by the local community. We believe that a splash pad will be attractive to a wider range of ages and users and well used as evidenced by the splash pad at Nicholson Park.

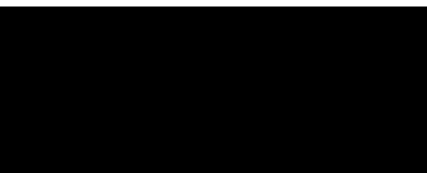
Whau Local Board

We support the Local Board restoring funding to community grants that were subject to earlier cuts. Strategic investment by the Local Board is critical to the sustainability of the sport and recreation network and we support increasing service levels in parks to complement this investment.

We strongly support progressing planning for the future Whau aquatic and recreation facility and facilitating of public access to school pools in the interim. Addressing the aquatic shortfall in the local board area and wider west Auckland area should be a primary focus for Auckland Council. We agree that access to school pools provides an appropriate interim solution and we are pleased to be working with our partners Sport Waitākere to progress this initiative.

We strongly support the Whau Local Board providing appropriate options for healthy, active lifestyles through recreation in parks and open spaces with a particular focus on ethnically diverse communities and women and girls. We see great value in a focus on members of the community who are underactive and recognise the importance of offerings which connect diverse communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the 2025-2025 Annual Plan consultation. We look forward to the positive sport and active recreation outcomes Council's investment in our communities can deliver.



Active Environments Manager



Annual Plan 2025-2026

Note: this simplified 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): Friends of Oakley Creek

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

Our proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026 builds on our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP).

The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Other

Tell us why

See attached

Summary of Attachment:

Key Points in the Submission

A. Water

Support for Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR): Continued funding for water quality improvements.

Requests: Inclusion of provisions from the 2024 LTP, \$52M for isthmus infrastructure upgrades, and future funding via targeted rate methodology.

Making Space for Water Programme: Support for flood risk reduction initiatives.

Central Interceptor Wastewater Tunnel: Support for its near completion.

B. Water Reform

Support for Financial Separation of Watercare: Greater flexibility and cheaper borrowing rates for wastewater infrastructure upgrades.

C. Natural Environment

Support for Pest Management: Increased funding for pest control and restoration activities.

Funding Concerns: Need for sufficient funding to protect biodiversity and control invasive species.

D. Community

Fair Funding for Local Boards: Support for additional operating and capital funding to address funding shortfalls since 2010.

E. Well-managed Local Government

Investment in Māori Outcomes: Support for \$16 million investment in Māori outcomes, including Marae Infrastructure Programme and grants for mana whenua and mataawaka engagement.

F. Major Projects – Region Wide

Land Acquisition: Support for acquiring land for parks and open spaces, with a call for proposed budgets to allow meaningful feedback.

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Tell us why

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

Other

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

See attached:

Summary of Attachment:

Climate Action Transport Targeted Rate (CATTR): Support for the increase but disappointment over the lack of detailed climate commitments in the Annual Plan.

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Albert-Eden, Puketāpapa, Whau

Albert-Eden Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026 however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Increasing our community programmes that are delivered from our libraries and community centres in Pt Chevalier Mt Albert Sandringham and Epsom.

Supporting our community leasing groups to be able to share their space and be sustainable over time so they can continue to provide their great range of community services and activities.

Supporting our business associations and vibrant town centres so people can live work shop and play in our local villages.

Talking with young people and children to better understand what is important to them in their area.

Increasing neighbourhood safety and resilience community wellbeing and emergency preparedness.

Reducing waste and increasing the profile and impact of Waiōrea Community Recycling Centre.

Delivering on concept and restoration plans we have made for local parks and trialling a portable pump track to move around parks in our area.

Very important

Increasing the number of local events arts and activations especially in local parks and town centres.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

We support the following:

- Delivering on concept and restoration plans we have made for local parks.

We recommend that the local board also investigate other areas for developing and delivering long-term ecological restoration plans such as Waititiko – Meola Creek

Puketāpapa Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Considering the community programmes that are delivered from Wesley Community Centre and Roskill Youth Zone to get better utilisation of the facility

Investigating the use of the Fickling Centre and Library, to ensure that it is able to respond to the needs of the growing Three Kings community

Supporting community groups that lease council space, so they can find ways to share their spaces and continue to provide great community activities

Implementing recommendations from the Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan so that the recreational needs of our growing communities are met

Planning for the development of Monte Cecilia Park so that this becomes a destination park and an icon for Puketāpapa

Investigating projects from the Wairaki Awa Catchment Plan that can be implemented, such as naturalising the awa at Lynfield Cove

Very important

Investing in more climate action and environmental projects

Very important

Increasing the number of local events, arts and activations, especially in local parks

Supporting arts and events by working with existing community groups to help coordinate their work and make the most of opportunities

Supporting community-led placemaking initiatives that engage diverse groups, promote safety and community identity, and increase greater connectivity and participation among businesses and community members.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

We support the following:

- Investigating projects from the Wairaki Awa Catchment Plan that can be implemented, such as naturalising the awa at Lynfield Cove
- Investing in more climate action and environmental projects.

We recommend that the board continue supporting the ecological restoration across the Te Auaunga – Oakley Creek catchment

Whau Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Restore funding to service levels in some areas that were cut in recent years, e.g additional library hours, programmes and community grants

Increased service levels in our parks and town centres including progression of Te Hono project

Very important

Plan for the future Whau aquatic and recreation facility and facilitate public access to school pools in the interim

Work with local Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) to find new ways of delivering vibrant and welcoming town centres through art activation and beautification projects.

Continue to support volunteering, community and business participation, through environmental and ecological initiatives around the Manukau Harbour foreshore, the Whau River and its tributaries, and our urban ngahere

Very important

Increase community participation and capability in community hubs, houses and with established community partners, and progress the development of a new community hub in Fruitvale

Foster climate/emergency preparedness and resilience in our community

Very important

Investigate a future space for youth and engage a youth coordinator to support and promote for youth by youth activations

Provide appropriate options for healthy, active lifestyles through recreation in parks and open spaces with particular focus on our ethnically diverse communities, women, and girls.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

Question 5: Other feedback

Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here



Submission on Auckland Council's Annual Budget 2025-2026

To:

Auckland Council - akhaveyoursay@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Name of Submitter:

Ngā Ringa o Te Auaunga - Friends of Oakley Creek
4/65 Woodward Road
Mt Albert
Auckland 1025

Introduction:

Ngā Ringa o Te Auaunga - Friends of Oakley Creek Te Auaunga (FofOC) is a community-based organisation that plays the role of on-the-ground kaitiaki for Te Auaunga and concerns itself with the protection, restoration and enhancement of the natural ecological values of Te Auaunga and its surrounding environs.

Te Auaunga - Oakley Creek is one of the few remaining open waterways on the Auckland isthmus, situated in an extensive network of green space and parks in the city. It provides a range of values, including open space, recreation, heritage, habitat and connectivity for both people and wildlife. It flows from the northern slopes of the Hillsborough Road ridge through Puketāpapa, Owairaka and Waterview into a marine reserve of national significance – the Motu Manawa Pollen Island Marine Reserve, and the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park. Te Auaunga is significant as a natural resource and has a unique Māori and early European heritage along its length that is still apparent in many places.

Since 2004, FofOC has worked in partnership with Auckland Council, local boards and the local and wider community to protect and restore our precious awa and whenua. We have planted over 100,000 plants, undertaken extensive pest plant and pest animal control and regular water quality monitoring across the catchment.

Whenever the opportunity arises, FofOC has advocated for greater protection of the natural environment and improved freshwater quality through policy and regulations, and has submitted on relevant bills and policies, both locally and nationally.

Submission:

Friends of Oakley Creek welcomes the opportunity to submit on the Auckland Council Annual Budget 2025-2026.

The 2025-2026 Annual Budget provides an opportunity for Council to be bold, innovative and to show definitive leadership, particularly with regards to cleaning up and managing our waterways, protecting our natural environment and advancing action to prevent climate change.

A. Water (P10):

Friends of Oakley Creek supports the proposals listed, in the budget, particularly the following:

- The continued work funded by the *Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR)* programme, including the Western Isthmus and Eastern Isthmus Water Quality Improvements Programmes.

We request that Auckland Council:

- Ensures all provisions and arrangements from the 2024 LTP are included in the proposed 2025-2026 plan for Healthy Waters.
- Ensures the Healthy Waters 2025-2026 finalised Annual Plan / Budget includes the \$52M expenditure for isthmus infrastructure upgrades, as envisaged in the LTP via the WQTR process.
- Ensures the concept of funding future isthmus infrastructure via the targeted rate methodology, by borrowing for the infrastructure upgrades, and incorporating only the interest payable on those borrowings as the WQTR, is applied.
- Ensures that any interest charged via the WQTR is from expenditure envisaged and incurred as per the 2024 LTP.

However, the fact that the 2025-2026 Annual Plan does not include a budget for this work makes it impossible to give meaningful feedback on the plan.

We, thus, recommend that budgets be included in future annual plans to promote informed public commentary.

- Advancing the *Making Space for Water* programme that aims to reduce, avoid and raise awareness of flood risks.

While it took such catastrophic events as the 2023 storms for Council to set up this innovative and forward-thinking programme, we fully support it and the seven 'initiatives' that sit within it.

- Bringing the Central Interceptor wastewater tunnel close to completion, with service expected to commence in 2026-2027.

B. Water Reform (P7):

We fully support the financial separation of Watercare from Council. This is long overdue and will provide much greater flexibility for Watercare's borrowing programme, including the ability for them to borrow at a cheaper rate than Auckland Council. This will mean

more funding and greater security of funding for upgrading our wastewater infrastructure, which is essential.

C. Natural Environment (P10):

Friends of Oakley Creek supports the proposals listed on page 10, particularly the following:

- Meeting the Council's obligations set out in the Regional Pest Management Plan 2020-2030 and increasing funding and the extension of the *Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR)* in delivering pest plant, animal and pathogen control and restoration activities.

While some boards support pest eradication and / or control, again, as per with 'water' without a budget, it is difficult to give informed feedback.

It is crucial that sufficient funding be made available to continue the work that has been and is already happening across the region. Past funding has barely been enough to make any significant headway with regards to the protection of our precious biodiversity and the reduction of key pest plants species, both terrestrial and aquatic, that are invading our natural environment.

D. Community (P11):

Fair Funding - Friends of Oakley Creek supports the implementation of Fairer Funding for local boards, to redress the shortfall that has been in place since 2010, including the proposed allocation of an additional \$35 million of operating funding and \$33 million of capital funding to local boards in 2025-2026.

E. Well-managed Local Government (P11):

FofOC supports the proposal to *Invest \$16 million into Māori outcomes including the ongoing Marae Infrastructure Programme, and grants to improve the capacity of mana whenua and mataawaka to engage in Auckland Council decision-making processes.*

This is critical to Council fulfilling its commitment to a healthy partnership with mana whenua and mataawaka under Te Tiriti.

F. Major Projects – Region Wide (P14):

Land Acquisition – Friends of Oakley Creek FofOC supports the proposal to *acquire land for parks and open spaces to contribute to Aucklanders' quality of life, as well as making better use of the parks we already have*, particularly in wards that have a serious shortage such as the Albert Eden ward.

However, we were disappointed to see the lack of a proposed budgets regarding the proposed land acquisition. Again, this meant there was no opportunity to give any meaningful and informed feedback.

G. Other:

Climate Action – while there a proposed increase in the *Climate Action Transport Targeted Rate (CATTR)*, and there is mention of ‘climate action’ and sustainability activities in many of the local board plans, we were disappointed that, apart from proposing, under **Question 1** ‘*a pattern that enables us to live in decent houses in nice communities and move around the region easily, affordably and in a way that meets our climate commitments*’, there is no other mention of how the Council will meet its climate commitments, in the Annual Plan.

H. Local Boards:

Albert-Eden Local Board:

We support the following:

- Delivering on concept and restoration plans we have made for local parks.

We recommend that the local board also investigate other areas for developing and delivering long-term ecological restoration plans such as Waititiko – Meola Creek.

Puketāpapa Local Board:

We support the following:

- Investigating projects from the Wairaki Awa Catchment Plan that can be implemented, such as naturalising the awa at Lynfield Cove
- Investing in more climate action and environmental projects.

We recommend that the board continue supporting the ecological restoration across the Te Auaunga – Oakley Creek catchment.

Whau Local Board:

We support the following:

- Increased service levels in our parks.
- Continue to support volunteering, community and business participation, through environmental and ecological initiatives.
- Foster climate/emergency preparedness and resilience in our community


Project Manager


www.oakleycreek.org.nz

28th March, 2025

Support for submissions by other groups

FofOC supports the views expressed in the submissions of SASOC - Stop Auckland Sewerage Overflows Coalition and STEPS – St Lukes Environmental Protection Society.

Annual Plan 2025-2026

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Submitter details:

Organisation (if applicable): Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

Our proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026 builds on our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP).

The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

See attached:

These priorities do not align with mana whenua aspirations.

Investment based on population and size of the Local Board will place further burden on Aotea than almost every other area because we have compounding costs due to our isolation. They are leaders in environmental work

Sustainability – need help with power supply options, fuel, cost of living, overfishing, kauri dieback, Caulerpa,

Did not quite align with our aspirations – in particular environment and services investment needs to be higher.

Greater representation for mana whenua at the Local Board level needed

LB makes decisions on where funding goes – wealth South vs poverty north – most investment goes to the south – address deprivation in the North.

Mana whenua needs and concerns need to be heard and ratified by providing seats at the decision-making table. The iwi with around 3,500 registered beneficiaries who cannot return home due to cost-of-living and gentrification are silenced by those who can afford to reside on Aotea.

Aotea roading up north is unsealed – safety for those walking and driving. In the South investing in new roads for holiday homes. No public transport options. Singular monopolised ferry option. Poor roads lead to very expensive damage to cars. Increased cost to Māori.

Auckland Transport benefits aren't benefitting them on Aotea.

Forward thinking of decarbonised ferries – but no ferry under AT currently goes to Aotea.

Noted: Potholes on gravel roads

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Support

Tell us why

See attached:

Tourism and environmentalism are two main sources of economic activity

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

Other

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

See attached:

LB makes decisions on where funding goes – wealth South poverty north – most investment goes to the south – address deprivation in the North.

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Aotea/Great Barrier

Aotea/Great Barrier Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

All current projects and programmes including community grants, environmental work, and parks upgrades

Set up of a new community-run local fish-supply

Community marine education and marine biosecurity work

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

Local Board Priorities:

Some of the Aotea Local Board priorities – we are looking at Local Board proposed funding our feeling as mana whenua is they did not quite align with our aspirations – in particular environment and services investment needs to be higher.

Questions the Local Board marine education proposal. questions what will that look like? – General education needs to be prioritised – There is no high school on the island –therefore to send our tamariki to school can be expensive for our whanau.

Marine biosecurity – big problem for Aotea – MPI control notice creates a burden on the economy – we are really stressed and concerned – whanau livelihood could be lost due to biosecurity impact – does not align with our aspirations consultation needed.

Rangatahi and whanau access to education

Lack of educational resourcing – big problem desperately need help - looking at a charter school.

Hauora – Health – mental health

Low access to health resources – there have been 3 suicides among their whanau on the island in three months. Need desperate help on Aotea – only have Aotea health clinic – limited in what they can do.

Housing

Lack of available affordable housing – whanau are living in cars.

Gentrification and expensive holiday living.

Our whanau live up north - where it is mostly Crown land – south property now costs millions.

Basic needs – food access – food cost – fuel cost

Lack of access to food – Crown causes issues like overfishing - there is no supermarket on the island – cost of food – if needed urgently food is flown in making it very expensive.

Minimal access to power supply options – rely on generators - however petrol cost \$4 per litre – one person holds a monopoly on fuel – if you have (can afford) one solar panel it does not last long during short winter days.

Question 5: Other feedback

Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

LTP Feedback reporting

Group: #4 Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea

Feedback from Māori entities

Representative: [REDACTED] – **Trustee - Online**

Identify: Mana whenua

Notes from verbal presentation to Annual Budget discussion.

[REDACTED] provided opening mihi.

[REDACTED] provided response in return

[REDACTED] Chair of meeting AC

15 minute time allocation

- **Noted:** Some of the Aotea Local Board priorities did not quite align with our aspirations – in particular environment and services investment needs to be higher.
- **Noted:** Questions the Local Board marine education proposal. General education needs to be prioritised – There is no high school on the island – therefore to send our tamariki to school on the mainland can be expensive for our whānau.
- **Noted:** Marine biosecurity MPI control notice creates a burden on the economy and their sources of income / careers on the line. Does not align with our aspirations. Strong consultation needed.
- **Noted:** there is no supermarket on the island – cost of food – if needed urgently, food is flown in making it very expensive.

Overall direction for Annual Budget

Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?	Do not Support “These priorities do not align with mana whenua aspirations.” Investment based on population and size of the Local Board will place further burden on Aotea than almost every other area because we have compounding costs due to our isolation”.
Environment - Sustainability	Support They are leaders in environmental work Sustainability – need help with power supply options, fuel, cost of living, overfishing, kauri dieback, Caulerpa,
Do you support Bed night visitor levy?	Not stated – implied Support Tourism and environmentalism are two main sources of economic activity

Local Board priorities – Fairer Funding	<p>Do not support most</p> <p>“Did not quite align with our aspirations – in particular environment and services investment needs to be higher.”</p> <p>Greater representation for mana whenua at the Local Board level needed</p> <p>LB makes decisions on where funding goes – wealth South vs poverty north – most investment goes to the south – address deprivation in the North.</p> <p>Mana whenua needs and concerns need to be heard and ratified by providing seats at the decision-making table. The iwi with around 3,500 registered beneficiaries who cannot return home due to cost-of-living and gentrification are silenced by those who can afford to reside on Aotea.</p>
Rates and Charges	<p>Not stated</p> <p>“LB makes decisions on where funding goes – wealth South poverty north – most investment goes to the south – address deprivation in the North.”</p>
Transport	<p>More investment in roading needed</p> <p>Aotea roading up north is unsealed – safety for those walking and driving. In the South investing in new roads for holiday homes. No public transport options. Singular monopolised ferry option. Poor roads lead to very expensive damage to cars. Increased cost to Māori.</p> <p>Auckland Transport benefits aren’t benefitting them on Aotea.</p> <p>Forward thinking of decarbonised ferries – but no ferry under AT currently goes to Aotea.</p> <p>Noted: Potholes on gravel roads</p>

What else is important to you?

Transcript – *Not a complete record of meeting.*

Representative - [REDACTED]

See Strategic Plan with 7 Pou.

Calling in from Wellington – About Aotea and our environment we work hard to protect it. Our environment and mahi makes a huge contribution to our economy.

We lead in many areas – we lead in addressing Kauri dieback and the Caulerpa crisis – birthplace of those two issues. We work to keep our whenua safe.

Local Board Priorities:

Some of the Aotea Local Board priorities – we are looking at Local Board proposed funding our feeling as mana whenua is they did not quite align with our aspirations – in particular environment and services investment needs to be higher.

Questions the Local Board marine education proposal. questions what will that look like? – General education needs to be prioritised – There is no high school on the island –therefore to send our tamariki to school can be expensive for our whanau.

Marine biosecurity – big problem for Aotea – MPI control notice creates a burden on the economy – we are really stressed and concerned – whanau livelihood could be lost due to biosecurity impact – does not align with our aspirations consultation needed.

Issues facing Ngati Rehua

Rangatahi and whanau access to education

Lack of educational resourcing – big problem desperately need help - looking at a charter school.

Hauora – Health – mental health

Low access to health resources – there have been 3 suicides among their whanau on the island in three months. Need desperate help on Aotea – only have Aotea health clinic – limited in what they can do.

Housing

Lack of available affordable housing – whanau are living in cars.

Gentrification and expensive holiday living.

Our whanau live up north - where it is mostly Crown land – south property now costs millions.

Basic needs – food access – food cost – fuel cost

Lack of access to food – Crown causes issues like overfishing - there is no supermarket on the island – cost of food – if needed urgently food is flown in making it very expensive.

Minimal access to power supply options – rely on generators - however petrol cost \$4 per litre – one person holds a monopoly on fuel – if you have (can afford) one solar panel it does not last long during short winter days.

Low cultural capability.

Summarise – CCOs –

Transport

AT huge investment in roading and infrastructure has benefit only mainland –

Aotea roading up north is unsealed. In the South investing in new roads for holiday homes. Poor roads lead to very expensive damage to cars. Increased cost to Māori.

Noted: Potholes on gravel roads

Requested: De carbonise ferries – no ferry to Aotea Island.

Environment

Investment changes – Transport v environment – Environmental services accounts for a lot of work on the Island.

Māori Outcomes

Māori Outcomes and CCOs – no complaint looks really good – happy with how things have been going.

Amazing job – Nga Mātārae have been doing looks really good – future looks good.

Local Board changes/ challenges –

Equality v equity – 89% pop 15% deprivation 5 % areas.

Compounding issues – freight cost, damage to cars – we feel overinvestment in population should be geared toward deprivation as the poorest area in Auckland and job opportunities are needed – Health issues arise due to run on health effects such as suicide. Lack of on Island support for these issues.

Power, health education off grid living any help that comes with that would be good – suitable power source needed.

Representation at LB level

LB makes decisions on where funding goes – wealth South poverty north – most investment goes to the south – address deprivation in the North.

Whanau reside in the north – greater representation needed. 3500 beneficiaries can't afford to live on Aotea. People who can afford to live there make the decisions further pushing us out.

Greg Sayers – Statement: Important information South V North differentiation – Blind Road upgrade – (South) Deprivation % creates a pool the board gets – opportunity to advocate to the board on priority spending – are representatives of the Iwi getting in front of local board enough? more energy applied to –

Tasman Higgins: –We have a good relationship and work closely with Izzy – difficult working within two different lived experiences – sometimes not fully understood how difficult it is to live in the north on the reservation – I stress LB are great – however in addressing our needs there is a cultural and cognisance dissonance.

Presentation content**Ngati Rehua Ngati Wai****Aotea**

- Population as of June 2024 1,230 people.
- 18% Māori population.
- Tourism and environmentalism are two main sources of economic activity.
- In 2023-24, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park saw approximately 2.24 million visitor days, a 2% increase from the previous year, though still slightly lower than the pre-pandemic average.
- The island is entirely off-grid, relying on renewable solar power and collection of freshwater.
- Boasts a night sky sanctuary.
- Hot water natural springs.
- A popular destination for diving, fishing, surfing, kayaking, mountain biking, hiking, camping and stargazing.
- Great Barrier is home to 11 Endemic taonga species.
- Birthplace of kauri die-back and Caulerpa (though now disputed with Northland)
- Rat and cats prevalent
- We have the potential to be world leaders on the international environment stage - zero waste, carbon free, pest free, wildlife sanctuary, etc.
- IUCN sites Islands as very special cases in terms of biodiversity conservation.

Aotea Local Board Proposed Funding

- These priorities do not align with mana whenua aspirations.
- Mana whenua have an issue with the amount of investment, which is highlighted later.
- Environmental services need to be higher to reflect the image and opportunity that Aotea has to be world leading.
- Issue with a marine education, where general education is urgently sought for our tamariki and rangatahi.
- Marine biosecurity has already placed a heavy burden on Aotea, heavily impacting businesses, cultural rights and responsibilities, and social activities.

Issues facing Aotea for Mana Whenua

- Lack of educational resourcing
- Low access to health resources, very high suicide rates amongst our whānau living on Aotea.
- Lack of available and affordable housing.
- Lack of access to food due to overfishing and a Controlled Area Notice and expensive freight costs for shipping.

- Minimal access to power supply options (solar power) due to costs and incredibly high fuel costs (\$4/L) to run generators.
- Low cultural capability uplift and investment.

Council-Controlled Organisations

- Auckland Transport
- There is a big investment into roading and infrastructure, but the changes only benefit mainland Auckland. Aotea still has many unsealed roads, which causes faster wear and tear on vehicles and costs for residents.
- Decarbonise Ferries
- What impact will this have on prices of ferries for an island that relies on ferries and planes for transportation?
- Investment Changes
- The disparity in investment between transport and environment has a big impact on Aotea where environmental services is one of the largest contributors to the Aotea economy.

Māori Outcomes and CCO

- We work across Auckland Council with various teams to deliver multiple kaupapa relevant to Aotea and our whānau.
- Overall, our relationship with these various teams is very positive and how they engage with us as an iwi and recognise our mana.
- Further to this, Ngāti Rehua-Ngātiwai ki Aotea recently met with Ngā Mātārae to discuss their objectives and enhancing our relationship.
- Overall, this was a pleasant and positive experience. The objectives outlined in the Ngā Mātārae kaupapa aligned to the priorities we have as an iwi.
- The changes proposed here for Māori Outcomes and CCO look good overall, and we look forward to seeing how it gets implemented.
- Great wording and looks awesome!

Local Board Changes

- **Equality versus Equity:**
- Aotea and mana whenua struggle to find paid employment or contracts due to lack of access to fundamental resources such as education, power, health, etc.
- Investment based on population and size of the Local Board will place further burden on Aotea than almost every other area because we have compounding costs due to our isolation.
- One of the worst economies in the Auckland region due to underinvestment and pillaging at a national level.
- Greater representation for mana whenua at the Local Board level
- Mana whenua needs and concerns need to be heard and ratified by providing seats at the decision-making table. A Whānau with around 3,500 registered beneficiaries who cannot

return home due to cost-of-living and gentrification are silenced by those who can afford to reside on Aotea.



#8880



Annual Plan 2025-2026

Note: this simplified 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): Beautification Trust

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

Our proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026 builds on our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP).

The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Support all

Tell us why

See attached:

Summary of Attachment:

Transport:

Support for reducing carbon emissions, decarbonizing ferries, and enhancing bus and rail networks.

Water:

Support for the Making Space for Water programme and improving water quality.

Natural Environment:

Support for pest management, kauri dieback control, and expanding resource recovery facilities.

Community:

Support for fairer funding for local boards and boosting community safety.

Cultural Development:

Support for cultural events and investments in cultural institutions.

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Support

Tell us why

See attached:

In response to this proposal, we fully support the introduction of a bed night visitor levy as a sustainable funding solution for major festivals and events in Auckland. The proposed levy is essential for addressing the \$7 million shortfall in funding. The levy offers a practical and fair way to fund these initiatives without overburdening local ratepayers, especially avoiding the

need to put this burden onto households from the South Auckland communities we work with.

Securing a bed night visitor levy will not only help preserve the city's cultural vibrancy but also ensure that the economic benefits of hosting major events continue to flow into Auckland's economy.

As a supporter of Auckland's diverse cultural events, we recognise the immense value these festivals and events bring to our city

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

Support

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

See attached:

We support the implementation of a standardised waste management collection service and the associated refuse targeted rate. This initiative promotes consistency and equity across Auckland, ensuring that all have access to essential waste management services. The expansion of waste management services to areas such as Franklin and Rodney will contribute to cleaner communities and align with the city's sustainability goals and makes the process fairer and more transparent for all residents and businesses.

Business associations

Yes, we support the establishment of the Takanini Business Improvement District (BID) programme and the associated BID targeted rate. We have seen the positive impact of focused and resourced BIDs in other areas, and believe it will bring tangible benefits to the Takanini community by fostering business growth, enhancing the local environment, and making the town centre more vibrant and attractive

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Franklin, Howick, Māngere-Ōtāhuhu, Manurewa, Ōtara-Papatoetoe, Papakura

Franklin Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Delivery of Auckland Council Community Hub Services (library, arts, and customer services) in Beachlands and Clevedon

Extending and improving service outreach to isolated communities like Āwhitu, Ōrere, Glenbrook Beach, Paparimu and Kawakawa Bay

Very important

Accelerated delivery on the Sports and Recreational Plan, and additional grant funding for Karaka Sports Park and the Te Puru Sports Centre

Very important

Initiatives that improve the quality of the water in our streams and rivers and our environment through pest eradication programmes

Very important

Accelerated planting of trees in public places i.e. delivery of the Franklin Ngahere Plan

Very important

Continued delivery of the targeted rate funded Franklin Paths Programme.

Very important

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See Attached:

We support Franklin Local Board's planned initiatives, particularly those that enhance environmental sustainability and community well-being. Efforts to improve water quality in

streams and rivers, alongside pest eradication programs, align with our commitment to protecting Auckland's natural environment. Accelerated tree planting under the Franklin Ngahere Plan will contribute to climate resilience and urban greening. Additionally, extending services to isolated communities ensures equitable access to resources, while investment in sports and recreation fosters community engagement and well-being. The continued delivery of the Franklin Paths Programme further enhances connectivity and encourages active transport, supporting a more sustainable Auckland

Henderson-Massey Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Working with the community on signature events with the intent for the community to take the lead

Engaging mana whenua, Māori and in collaboration with Te Kete Rukuruku, creating Te Ao Māori activations for whanau that incorporate te reo, tikanga and supporting the area's Pūrakau (Māori history)

Expanding youth voice initiatives to academic students in the local board area

Work on plans to upgrade Catherine Plaza

Continue to support water quality initiatives including the Rivercare group's work in Te Atatū Peninsula, Love Your Streams (EcoMatters) and Ngā Puna Manaaki Īnanga, a project to identify, protect and enhance Īnanga spawning habitats across the Henderson-Massey local board area

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

Howick Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Support local businesses and Business Improvement Districts on crime prevention and safety

Very important

Work with the Youth Council, Business East Tāmaki, business and tourism sector, and others, on youth upskilling, including increasing funding for the Young Enterprise Scheme

Very important

Review and refresh the Howick Local Board Heritage Plan and Tourism Plan

Investigate options to provide a dump station at Half Moon Bay

Very important

Trial a surveillance programme to help curb illegal dumping in Flat Bush

Very important

Develop initiatives for live monitoring, capturing and documenting the levels of poison/toxicity in our local waterways to increase awareness and enable enforcement

Very important

Investigate options on introducing a targeted rate to help fund the delivery of the Flat Bush Library, Community Centre, and Pool and Leisure Centre.

Very important

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

We support Howick Local Board's planned initiatives, particularly those that enhance community safety, environmental protection, and youth development. Strengthening crime prevention efforts and supporting Business Improvement Districts will help create a safer and more vibrant local economy. Increased funding for youth upskilling through the Young

Enterprise Scheme aligns with our commitment to fostering future leaders and providing pathways to employment.

Environmental initiatives such as monitoring waterway toxicity, addressing illegal dumping in Flat Bush, and investigating a new dump station at Half Moon Bay will contribute to a cleaner and healthier local environment. We also support efforts to improve community infrastructure, such as the investigation into funding options for a Flat Bush Library, Community Centre, and Pool and Leisure Centre, which would provide much-needed community resources and spaces for connection.

The three services most important to us are:

1. Community climate action and sustainability activities – Supporting initiatives that drive climate resilience, sustainability, and local environmental action, ensuring long-term benefits for our communities.
2. Environmental restoration, volunteers & pest control activities – Enhancing biodiversity, protecting natural spaces, and empowering communities to take an active role in conservation efforts.
3. Local water quality activities – Improving the health of our waterways through monitoring, restoration, and pollution prevention initiatives, safeguarding this vital resource for future generations

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Community climate action and sustainability activities, Environmental restoration, volunteers & pest control activities, Local water quality activities

Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Explore a site for a recycling centre

Very important

Local playground improvements in areas like Mangere Bridge

Very important

Maintain local road safety with limited budgets

Very important

More support to volunteer networks

Push to deliver local business initiatives.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

We support Māngere/Ōtāhuhu Local Board's proposed initiatives, particularly those that enhance environmental sustainability, community well-being, and safety. Identifying a site for a local recycling centre aligns with our commitment to waste minimisation and the circular economy. Improvements to David Lange Park and increased activation of parks and playgrounds will provide valuable recreational spaces for the community.

We strongly support initiatives that improve local safety, including addressing unleashed dogs, road safety, and anti-social behaviour. Additionally, investment in environmental, arts, cultural, and economic programmes will help strengthen community identity and engagement.

Our top priorities for investment include:

1. Community climate action and sustainability activities – Driving local environmental initiatives that mitigate climate impacts and enhance resilience.
2. Environmental restoration, volunteers, and pest control activities – Protecting local biodiversity and fostering community-led conservation efforts.
3. Local water quality activities – Ensuring clean and healthy waterways through restoration and pollution prevention initiatives.

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Community climate action and sustainability activities, Environmental restoration, volunteers, and pest control activities, Local water quality activities

Māngere East Village Business Improvement District (BID) programme

A BID is a local economic development initiative run by a business association under the Auckland Council BID Policy (2022). It involves businesses in a defined area paying a targeted rate to fund specific services or projects in their BID boundary. The Māngere East Village Business Association Society Inc. (MEVBA) has failed to meet key BID Policy requirements, including accountability reporting, AGM minutes, strategic plan, and appointing a BID Manager. MEVBA also breached its constitution and did not notify the council of non-compliance. The Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board is now considering terminating the BID programme and targeted rate, with the possibility of re-establishing a compliant BID programme in the future if conditions are met.

Do you think we should end the Māngere East Village Business Improvement District (BID) programme and associated BID targeted rate?

Tell us why

Manurewa Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Increasing the levels of service for maintenance and repair of all assets across buildings, parks, open spaces and sports fields, town centre cleaning, street litter bin emptying, vegetation clearance, and berm mowing works

Very important

Improving sports fields including maintenance, sand-carpeting and lighting

Identifying ways to support the council's response to roaming dogs

Boosting the amount of funding available for community grants so more projects and initiatives can be delivered by community, arts and sports groups

Expanding the number of funded initiatives that respond to the needs and aspirations of children and young people

Very important

Developing tailored community partnerships with key groups, organisations and networks where their interests and priorities are aligned to outcomes in the Manurewa Local Board Plan 2027

Providing the Pacific community with capacity support, and a grant to undertake feasibility and concept plans to deliver the Pacific hub on Clendon Reserve

Very important

Scaling up the work being delivered to achieve environmental outcomes

Very important

Investigating the need to extend the opening hours in our community facilities such as the two libraries, the pool and leisure centre and Nathan Homestead

Funding initiatives that stimulate economic growth and generate prosperity in Manurewa.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

We support Manurewa Local Board's proposed initiatives, particularly those that enhance community well-being, environmental sustainability, and local economic development.

We strongly endorse:

1. Increased levels of service for maintenance and repair – Ensuring parks, sports fields, town centres, and public spaces remain safe, accessible, and well-maintained.
2. Expanded youth-focused initiatives – Supporting mental health, food security, natural play, creativity, and leadership opportunities to empower young people in Manurewa.
3. Environmental sustainability efforts – Scaling up waste minimisation, pest management, stream regeneration, urban tree planting, and pollution prevention aligns with our commitment to a cleaner, greener Auckland.

Additionally, we support increased funding for community grants to enable local groups to deliver impactful projects and the feasibility study for a Pacific hub on Clendon Reserve, which will strengthen cultural identity and community connections

Investing in these areas will ensure Manurewa continues to thrive as a vibrant, inclusive, and

resilient community

Fenced Dog Exercise Areas

Do you think we should investigate providing fenced dog exercise areas?

Tell us why

See attached:

Providing fenced dog exercise areas are a positive move and can have several benefits, including:

- Protecting environmentally sensitive areas – By directing off-leash activity to designated spaces, we can reduce damage to native wildlife and vegetation.
- Encouraging responsible dog ownership – Giving dogs a designated space to run freely reduces off-leash issues in other public areas.
- Enhancing community safety – Contained spaces help prevent roaming dogs and potential conflicts with other park users.
- Supporting social interaction – These areas provide opportunities for dog owners to connect and build community relationships.

Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Ensuring Māori culture and the values of mātauranga Māori are visible in public spaces

Very important

Addressing safety concerns in neighbourhoods, common areas and town centres

Very important

Delivering on increased local economic outcomes

Very important

Supporting small businesses to act on environmental sustainability

Very important

Progressing the planning for options to address community service needs in Old Papatoetoe

Supporting local environment groups to work collaboratively with community volunteers in efforts to clean, manage and plant our local reserves and open spaces

Very important

Planning for the delivery of facilities at Manukau Sports Bowl

Very important

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

We support the initiatives outlined, particularly those that align with our commitment to environmental sustainability, community well-being, and cultural recognition.

- Māori culture & mātauranga Māori – Making Māori culture and knowledge more visible in public spaces through programs like Te Kete Rukuruku strengthens cultural identity and enriches Auckland's shared heritage.
- Community safety – Addressing safety concerns in neighbourhoods and town centres is crucial for creating welcoming and secure environments for residents and businesses and reducing the incidence of graffiti.
- Local economic growth & sustainability – Supporting businesses, especially small enterprises, to act on environmental sustainability helps drive positive economic and environmental outcomes.
- Environmental restoration – Collaborating with local groups and volunteers to clean, manage, and plant reserves enhances biodiversity, expands urban tree canopy, and builds climate resilience.
- Community service planning – Progressing plans for Old Papatoetoe and facilities at Manukau Sports Bowl ensure long-term investment in community needs⁴

Manukau Sports Bowl

Do you support prioritising the planning for delivery of facilities at Manukau Sports Bowl?

(This may include exploring alternate sources of revenue, such as a targeted rate in future years)

Yes

Tell us why

See Attached:

Community service planning – Progressing plans for Old Papatoetoe and facilities at Manukau Sports Bowl ensure long-term investment in community needs

Hunters Corner Business Improvement District

For the 2024/2025 financial year, the Governing Body did not set a targeted rate for the Hunters Corner Business Improvement District. This was due to the Hunters Corner Town Centre Society Inc (HTCTS) not complying with the BID Policy. If the HTCTS remains non-compliant with the BID Policy by April 2025, council will not set the rate for 2025/2026.

Do you have any comments on the Hunters Corner Business Improvement District?

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Community climate action and sustainability activities, Environmental restoration, volunteers, and pest control activities, Local waste minimisation activities

Which three of our services are least important to you? (select up to three)

Papakura Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Progressing some of the new Sports and Recreation Plan, economic development, and youth projects identified from the work being completed in 2024/2029

Requesting strategic assessments to understand needs relating to: Opaheke sports and passive parks; Awakeri Wetlands; Kuhanui Reserve, Karaka; Park Estate Reserve, Park Green; new play facilities at Pulman Park, and the Greenways/Local Paths Plan

Very important

Advocating for access to the legacy parking fund for carparking projects

Assisting the Takanini Business Association's proposed establishment of a Business Improvement District (BID) programme and BID targeted rate for Takanini**Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)**

See attached:

We support the Papakura Local Board's focus on advancing parks, reserves, and greenways initiatives, especially the progression of the greenways plan, which enhances connectivity and accessibility for the community. The investment in pathways like the McLennan Park pathway and connecting Kauri Flats School to Pulman Park is a valuable step in creating safer, more sustainable routes for active transport. Additionally, we support the focus on environmental and recreational improvements in local parks and reserves, including projects like Awakeri Wetlands, Kuhanui Reserve, and Park Estate Reserve, as they promote both community well-being and environmental sustainability

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we want feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Community climate action and sustainability activities, Environmental restoration, volunteers and pest control activities, Local waste minimisation activities

Takanini Business Improvement District (BID)

We continue to support the Papakura and Takanini Business Associations to grow and develop businesses, and to make the town centres more lively. Takanini Business Association is seeking to establish a Business Improvement District (BID) programme. If it is successful, business ratepayers and owners located within the BID establishment area will become members of the Takanini BID programme and pay the associated BID target rate.

Do you think we should establish a Takanini Business Improvement District (BID) programme and associated BID targeted rate?

Yes

Tell us why

See attached:

Yes, we support the establishment of the Takanini Business Improvement District (BID) programme and the associated BID targeted rate. We have seen the positive impact of focused and resourced BIDs in other areas, and believe it will bring tangible benefits to the Takanini community by fostering business growth, enhancing the local environment, and making the town centre more vibrant and attractive

Question 5: Other feedback

Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

27th March 2025

Annual Plan 2025-2026 consultation

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beautification.org.nz

Who this submission is from:

We at the Beautification Trust are a community organisation (accredited social enterprise and registered charitable trust) with a mission to connect and empower communities to learn, love and look after our environment. Since 2001, we've been leading beautification projects, community events, zero waste programmes and environmental education all over South and East Auckland. Our key impacts are to see that communities have pride and feel safe, the environment is healthier and cleaner, and Communities are connected and empowered.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Support all

Transport: We support the proposed initiatives in the transport section, especially those focused on reducing carbon emissions. The development of the 30-year Auckland Integrated Transport Plan, along with the decarbonisation of ferries and the installation of driver safety screens, will contribute significantly to Auckland's sustainability goals. Enhancing the bus and rail network, alongside improving safety measures, aligns with our commitment to reducing environmental impact and encouraging sustainable transportation choices.

Water: We fully support the continuation of the "Making Space for Water" programme, as it not only addresses flood risks but also enhances our city's resilience to extreme weather events. We also support efforts to improve water quality, including the Lower Khyber separation works. Clean and healthy waterways are vital to the community and the environment, and we commend the Council's ongoing investment in these essential projects.

Natural Environment: We support the initiatives outlined under the natural environment section. These actions, including pest management, kauri dieback control, and expanding resource recovery facilities, are crucial for preserving Auckland's biodiversity and ensuring the longevity of our native species. We commend the Council's focus on proactive environmental stewardship and restoration efforts, which will have long-lasting benefits for both the environment and local communities.



Community: We strongly support the proposal for fairer funding for local boards, especially as it applies to South Auckland communities. This approach will help ensure that the region receives the investment needed for crucial services and development. Additionally, we fully support the focus on boosting community safety with initiatives such as safety hubs in the city centre and compliance wardens, which will improve safety across Auckland and foster a sense of security for all residents.

Cultural Development: We support any initiatives that further Auckland's rich cultural diversity. Events such as Pasifika, Diwali, and the Lantern Festival, along with ongoing investments in iconic cultural institutions like the Auckland Zoo and Auckland Art Gallery, are vital to enhance cultural inclusion in our city. These initiatives celebrate and promote the unique cultural identities that make Auckland a vibrant and dynamic place to live and visit.

2. Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Support

In response to this proposal, we fully support the introduction of a bed night visitor levy as a sustainable funding solution for major festivals and events in Auckland. The proposed levy is essential for addressing the \$7 million shortfall in funding. The levy offers a practical and fair way to fund these initiatives without overburdening local ratepayers, especially avoiding the need to put this burden onto households from the South Auckland communities we work with.

Securing a bed night visitor levy will not only help preserve the city's cultural vibrancy but also ensure that the economic benefits of hosting major events continue to flow into Auckland's economy.

As a supporter of Auckland's diverse cultural events, we recognise the immense value these festivals and events bring to our city.

3. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for the council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags

Support

We support the implementation of a standardised waste management collection service and the associated refuse targeted rate. This initiative promotes consistency and equity across Auckland, ensuring that all have access to essential waste management services. The expansion of waste management services to areas such as Franklin and Rodney will contribute to cleaner communities and align with the city's sustainability goals and makes the process fairer and more transparent for all residents and businesses.



4. Local Board Priorities

Franklin

We support Franklin Local Board's planned initiatives, particularly those that enhance environmental sustainability and community well-being. Efforts to improve water quality in streams and rivers, alongside pest eradication programs, align with our commitment to protecting Auckland's natural environment. Accelerated tree planting under the Franklin Ngahere Plan will contribute to climate resilience and urban greening. Additionally, extending services to isolated communities ensures equitable access to resources, while investment in sports and recreation fosters community engagement and well-being. The continued delivery of the Franklin Paths Programme further enhances connectivity and encourages active transport, supporting a more sustainable Auckland.

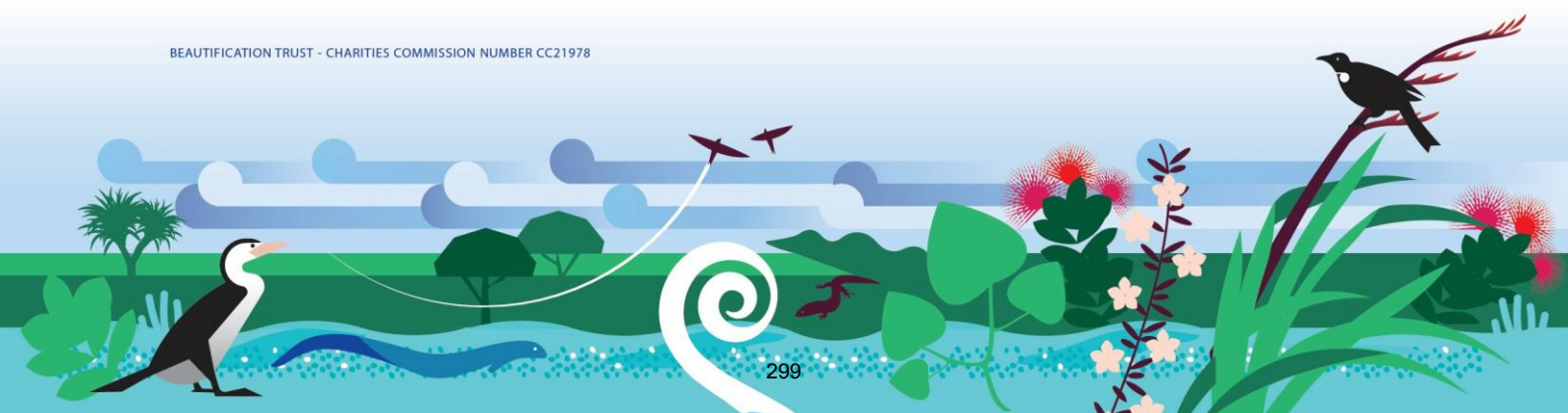
Howick

We support Howick Local Board's planned initiatives, particularly those that enhance community safety, environmental protection, and youth development. Strengthening crime prevention efforts and supporting Business Improvement Districts will help create a safer and more vibrant local economy. Increased funding for youth upskilling through the Young Enterprise Scheme aligns with our commitment to fostering future leaders and providing pathways to employment.

Environmental initiatives such as monitoring waterway toxicity, addressing illegal dumping in Flat Bush, and investigating a new dump station at Half Moon Bay will contribute to a cleaner and healthier local environment. We also support efforts to improve community infrastructure, such as the investigation into funding options for a Flat Bush Library, Community Centre, and Pool and Leisure Centre, which would provide much-needed community resources and spaces for connection.

The three services most important to us are:

1. Community climate action and sustainability activities – Supporting initiatives that drive climate resilience, sustainability, and local environmental action, ensuring long-term benefits for our communities.
2. Environmental restoration, volunteers & pest control activities – Enhancing biodiversity, protecting natural spaces, and empowering communities to take an active role in conservation efforts.
3. Local water quality activities – Improving the health of our waterways through monitoring, restoration, and pollution prevention initiatives, safeguarding this vital resource for future generations.



Māngere/Ōtāhuhu

We support Māngere/Ōtāhuhu Local Board's proposed initiatives, particularly those that enhance environmental sustainability, community well-being, and safety. Identifying a site for a local recycling centre aligns with our commitment to waste minimisation and the circular economy. Improvements to David Lange Park and increased activation of parks and playgrounds will provide valuable recreational spaces for the community.

We strongly support initiatives that improve local safety, including addressing unleashed dogs, road safety, and anti-social behaviour. Additionally, investment in environmental, arts, cultural, and economic programmes will help strengthen community identity and engagement.

Our top priorities for investment include:

1. Community climate action and sustainability activities – Driving local environmental initiatives that mitigate climate impacts and enhance resilience.
2. Environmental restoration, volunteers, and pest control activities – Protecting local biodiversity and fostering community-led conservation efforts.
3. Local water quality activities – Ensuring clean and healthy waterways through restoration and pollution prevention initiatives.

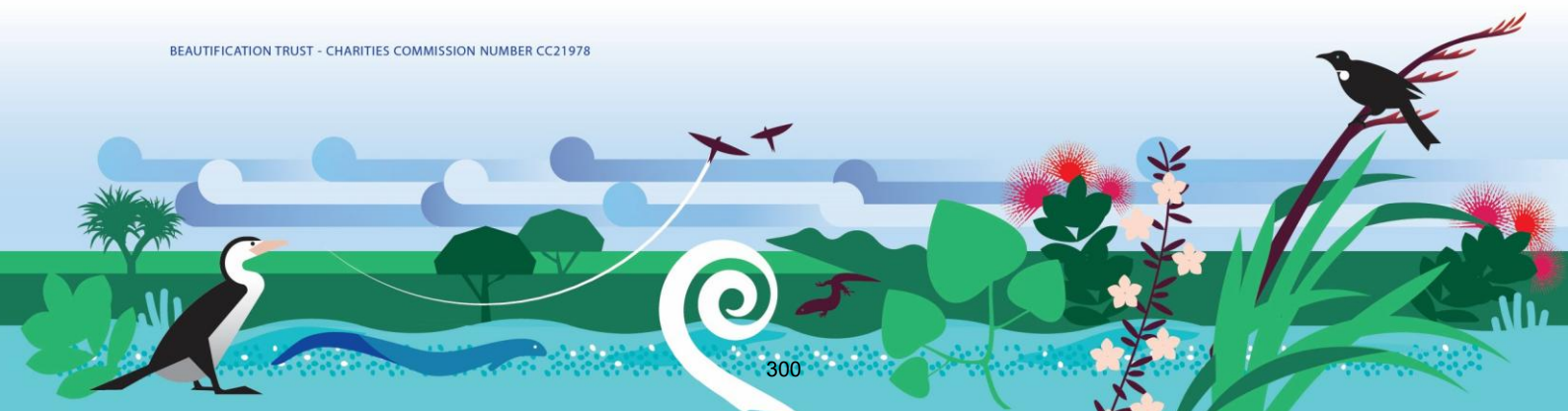
Manurewa

We support Manurewa Local Board's proposed initiatives, particularly those that enhance community well-being, environmental sustainability, and local economic development.

We strongly endorse:

1. Increased levels of service for maintenance and repair – Ensuring parks, sports fields, town centres, and public spaces remain safe, accessible, and well-maintained.
2. Expanded youth-focused initiatives – Supporting mental health, food security, natural play, creativity, and leadership opportunities to empower young people in Manurewa.
3. Environmental sustainability efforts – Scaling up waste minimisation, pest management, stream regeneration, urban tree planting, and pollution prevention aligns with our commitment to a cleaner, greener Auckland.

Additionally, we support increased funding for community grants to enable local groups to deliver impactful projects and the feasibility study for a Pacific hub on Clendon Reserve, which will strengthen cultural identity and community connections.



Investing in these areas will ensure Manurewa continues to thrive as a vibrant, inclusive, and resilient community.

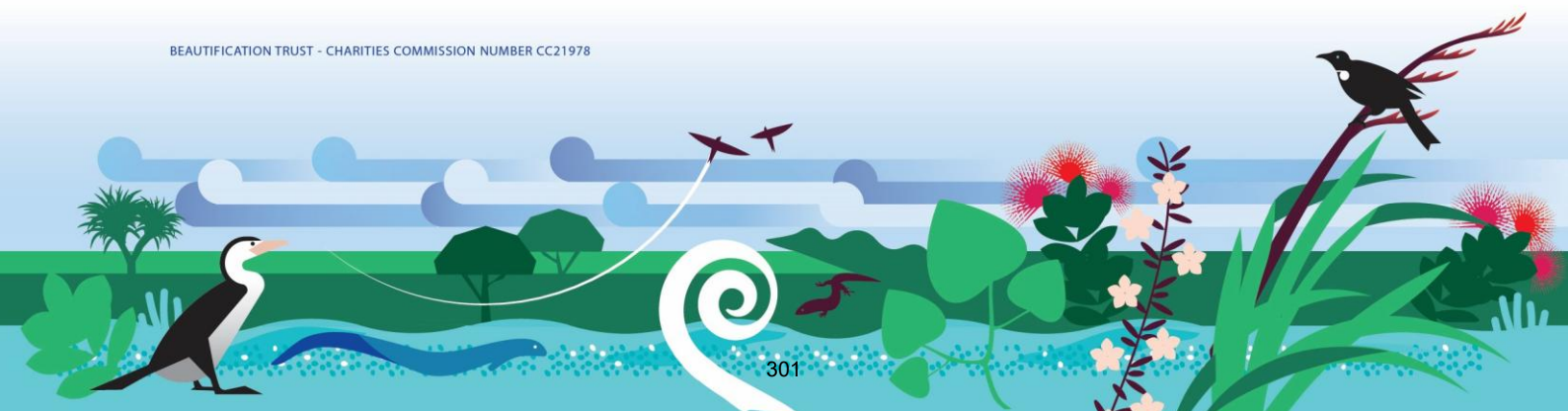
Providing fenced dog exercise areas are a positive move and can have several benefits, including:

- Protecting environmentally sensitive areas – By directing off-leash activity to designated spaces, we can reduce damage to native wildlife and vegetation.
- Encouraging responsible dog ownership – Giving dogs a designated space to run freely reduces off-leash issues in other public areas.
- Enhancing community safety – Contained spaces help prevent roaming dogs and potential conflicts with other park users.
- Supporting social interaction – These areas provide opportunities for dog owners to connect and build community relationships.

Ōtara-Papatoetoe

We support the initiatives outlined, particularly those that align with our commitment to environmental sustainability, community well-being, and cultural recognition.

- Māori culture & mātauranga Māori – Making Māori culture and knowledge more visible in public spaces through programs like Te Kete Rukuruku strengthens cultural identity and enriches Auckland's shared heritage.
- Community safety – Addressing safety concerns in neighbourhoods and town centres is crucial for creating welcoming and secure environments for residents and businesses and reducing the incidence of graffiti.
- Local economic growth & sustainability – Supporting businesses, especially small enterprises, to act on environmental sustainability helps drive positive economic and environmental outcomes.
- Environmental restoration – Collaborating with local groups and volunteers to clean, manage, and plant reserves enhances biodiversity, expands urban tree canopy, and builds climate resilience.
- Community service planning – Progressing plans for Old Papatoetoe and facilities at Manukau Sports Bowl ensure long-term investment in community needs.



The three areas most important to us are:

- Community climate action and sustainability activities: These initiatives are key to addressing climate change and fostering a sustainable future for the community.
- Environmental restoration, volunteers, and pest control activities: They directly contribute to protecting local ecosystems and improving biodiversity.
- Local waste minimisation activities: Prioritizing waste reduction helps reduce environmental impact and supports a cleaner, more sustainable community.

Papakura

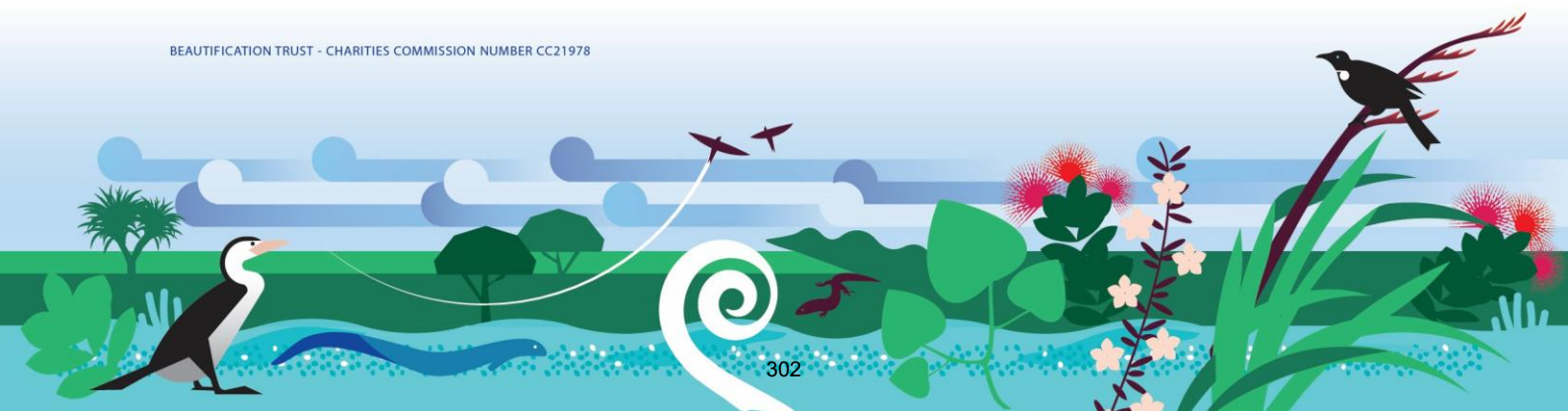
We support the Papakura Local Board's focus on advancing parks, reserves, and greenways initiatives, especially the progression of the greenways plan, which enhances connectivity and accessibility for the community. The investment in pathways like the McLennan Park pathway and connecting Kauri Flats School to Pulman Park is a valuable step in creating safer, more sustainable routes for active transport. Additionally, we support the focus on environmental and recreational improvements in local parks and reserves, including projects like Awakeri Wetlands, Kuhanui Reserve, and Park Estate Reserve, as they promote both community well-being and environmental sustainability.

Based on our priorities, the three most important services are:

1. Community climate action and sustainability activities – These are crucial for addressing environmental challenges and promoting long-term sustainability in our communities.
2. Local waste minimisation activities – Essential for reducing environmental impact, encouraging responsible consumption, and supporting a circular economy.
3. Environmental restoration, volunteers, and pest control activities – These initiatives are vital for preserving and enhancing our local ecosystems, contributing to biodiversity and overall environmental health.

Business associations

Yes, we support the establishment of the Takanini Business Improvement District (BID) programme and the associated BID targeted rate. We have seen the positive impact of focused and resourced BIDs in other areas, and believe it will bring tangible benefits to the Takanini community by fostering business growth, enhancing the local environment, and making the town centre more vibrant and attractive.





#9100



Annual Plan 2025-2026

Note: this simplified 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): Hoani Waititi Marae

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

Our proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026 builds on our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP).

The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Other

Tell us why

See attached:

Our Marae strategic priorities align tightly with Auckland Council's goals across our proudly serving three local boards. Together, we see an opportunity to deepen and formalise a partnership that leverages shared values and delivers meaningful outcomes

- Noted: Embed the marae within the Council's strategic outcomes, ensuring Māori-led solutions are at the forefront
- Noted: Co-invest in existing programmes and infrastructure

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Tell us why

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Henderson-Massey, Waitākere Ranges, Whau

Henderson-Massey Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Working with the community on signature events with the intent for the community to take the lead

Engaging mana whenua, Māori and in collaboration with Te Kete Rukuruku, creating Te Ao Māori activations for whanau that incorporate te reo, tikanga and supporting the area's Pūrakau (Māori history)

Expanding youth voice initiatives to academic students in the local board area

Work on plans to upgrade Catherine Plaza

Continue to support water quality initiatives including the Rivercare group's work in Te Atatū Peninsula, Love Your Streams (EcoMatters) and Ngā Puna Manaaki Īnanga, a project to identify, protect and enhance Īnanga spawning habitats across the Henderson-Massey local board area

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached

Henderson Massey – Rangatahi and kaumatua programmes – womb to tomb support – Te Kete Rukuruku – happens on our Marae – education for everybody – our disengaged, our disengaged rangatahi - our rangatahi who are challenged - they all feel included here and they have a place to go.

Waitākere Ranges Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, however there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which may need to be considered alongside the additional funding. The proposed increase in funding ('fairer funding' for local boards) may be taken up by budget pressures outside of the local board's control.

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

The Event Partnership Fund to support more community-led events

Arts and culture programmes delivered through our community arts partners

Tailoring programmes to serve diverse communities (youth, older adults, Pacific and ethnic communities)

Community development, placemaking and activation in our growing neighbourhoods and centres such as Glen Eden, Sunnyvale and Swanson

Supporting business associations to continue supporting local businesses and ongoing growth, develop and liven-up our town centres, including assisting Glen Eden Business Association and establishing of Titirangi Business Association

Environmental programmes to help protect and restore the Waitākere Ranges

Trialling phosphite treatment of kauri infected with kauri dieback on selected local parks

Improving neighbourhood parks: George Herring Common, Koroī/ Clayburn Reserve, Tautoru/Maywood Park, and Sandys Parade.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

Outono is co-governance and real partnership – don't want to be boxed in – we are the go-to Māori Marae in West – we have good relationships with manawhenua and mataawaka – five decades of coexistence.

Co-invest in existing programmes and infrastructure – we are facing sewage issues due to water infrastructure that needs upgrading. 448 West Coast Road - available for programmes.

Anything Māori led ensure we agree at the decision-making table – disservice to our hapori when we are not included –

Develop Whare Wananga.

Unlock the potential of our economic development opportunities at 448 West Coast Road (Currently vacant)

Whau Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Restore funding to service levels in some areas that were cut in recent years, e.g additional library hours, programmes and community grants

Increased service levels in our parks and town centres including progression of Te Hono project

Plan for the future Whau aquatic and recreation facility and facilitate public access to school pools in the interim

Work with local Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) to find new ways of delivering vibrant and welcoming town centres through art activation and beautification projects.

Continue to support volunteering, community and business participation, through environmental and ecological initiatives around the Manukau Harbour foreshore, the Whau River and its tributaries, and our urban ngahere

Increase community participation and capability in community hubs, houses and with established community partners, and progress the development of a new community hub in Fruitvale

Foster climate/emergency preparedness and resilience in our community

Investigate a future space for youth and engage a youth coordinator to support and promote for youth by youth activations

Provide appropriate options for healthy, active lifestyles through recreation in parks and open spaces with particular focus on our ethnically diverse communities, women, and girls.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

Whau – youth aspirations – looking for a youth coordinator – we have a hub and at 4448 West Coast Road five buildings – no longer in use sitting vacant – we could use that space.

Question 5: Other feedback

Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

LTP Feedback reporting

Group: #8 Hoani Waititi Marae

Feedback from Māori entities

Representative: [REDACTED]

Identify: Mataawaka

Notes from verbal presentation to Annual Budget discussion.

[REDACTED] provided opening mihi.

[REDACTED] Chair of meeting AC

15 Minute time allocation

- **Noted:** Co-invest in existing programmes and infrastructure
- **Noted:** Unlock the potential of our economic development opportunities at 448 West Coast Road (Currently vacant)
- **Noted:** Embed the marae within the Councils strategic outcomes, ensuring Māori-led solutions are at the forefront
- **Noted:** Support development of our Whare Wananga

Overall direction for Annual Budget

Hoani Waititi Marae

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?	Supported Seek a role in delivery of services west.
Environment - Sustainability	Not discussed
Do you support Bed night visitor levy?	Not discussed
Local Board priorities – Fairer Funding	Support Our Marae strategic priorities align tightly with Auckland Council's goals across our proudly serving three local boards. Together, we see an opportunity to deepen and formalise a partnership that leverages shared values and delivers meaningful outcomes.
Rates and Charges	Not discussed
Transport	Not discussed

Faye Peke

Call us a really great Māori outcome – Whare kura o Hoane Waititi Marae – what it has done for us (as locals) and continues to do . The relationship between us helps us do all this good mahi.

Te Hira Paenga is now our new Principal of the kura kaupapa.

We will give you a feel of us out there – currently raukura (graduate) – born – bred – raised through our Kura Kaupapa - every Chair on every board is raukura - We have come full circle – this is the

success of Hoani Waititi Marae. We have a moral responsibility to give back to this Marae – investing in our people.

Despite all we achieved over five decades – there remains a lack of resourcing and support. We know how to run anything off of nothing – however we need real backing – real support.

Programmes we run include Youth justice, Whanau Ora, a lot of fruitful kaupapa. We are making significant change in the community - strong kohanga reo – Te Kahu Kaumatua Kura Kaupapa – we are now a living intergenerational community.

Real support and partnership is needed – real co-governance.

Presentation – introducing Te Angitu – four strategic goals

- Whanau Wellbeing – wellbeing through service delivery
- Organisation sustainability – financial sustainability
- Stakeholder engagement – strong relationships
- Waitititanga – community connection

What council wants to deliver on its already done at Waititi Marae.

Resource us to deliver the kaupapa we are already delivering on.

Sustainable funding –

Our strategic priorities for Waitakere Ranges – they align – living breathing Taiao

Henderson Massey – Rangatahi and kaumatua programmes – womb to tomb support – Te Kete Rukuruku – happens on our Marae – education for everybody – our disengaged, our disengaged rangatahi - our rangatahi who are challenged - they all feel included here and they have a place to go.

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Co-invest in existing programmes and infrastructure – we are facing sewage issues due to water infrastructure that needs upgrading. 448 West Coast Road - available for programmes.

Anything Māori led ensure we agree at the decision-making table – disservice to our hapori when we are not included –

Develop Whare Wananga.

██████████

██████████ - Awesome to hear – really supportive of your outcomes.

We are doing work with Hoani Waititi across three boards – spending time and running meetings there – LBs support ██████'s role through funding. Aware of challenges faced in the community re housing. Met with ██████ and ██████ regarding a capacity grant. ██████ is leading those discussions. Bearing in mind resourcing across 271 thousand Māori in Auckland and all the 19 Iwi and mataawaka organisations we work with there are many opportunities for us to work with you.

We will work towards the capacity grant first – then look at other opportunities.

Presentation provided.

Annual Plan 2025-2026

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Submitter details:

Organisation (if applicable): Te Ahiwaru

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

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- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Other

Tell us why

See attached

Support for traffic calming and improved safety for whanau

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Tell us why

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

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3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Māngere-Ōtāhuhu

Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?**Tell us why**

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Explore a site for a recycling centre

Local playground improvements in areas like Mangere Bridge

Maintain local road safety with limited budgets

More support to volunteer networks

Push to deliver local business initiatives.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached

- Noted: Ngahere strategy – needs inclusion in the plan
- Noted: Seeking resources for Otuataua Stonefield's – restoration National landscapes
- Noted for Action - Questions to Council from Pania: How was Nathan homestead prioritised? – why was Ngahere strategy not included? – appreciate a response in the near

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we are seeking feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

Māngere East Village Business Improvement District (BID) programme

A BID is a local economic development initiative run by a business association under the Auckland Council BID Policy (2022). It involves businesses in a defined area paying a targeted rate to fund specific services or projects in their BID boundary. The Māngere East Village Business Association Society Inc. (MEVBA) has failed to meet key BID Policy requirements, including accountability reporting, AGM minutes, strategic plan, and appointing a BID Manager. MEVBA also breached its constitution and did not notify the council of non-compliance. The Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board is now considering terminating the BID programme and targeted rate, with the possibility of re-establishing a compliant BID programme in the future if conditions are met.

Do you think we should end the Māngere East Village Business Improvement District (BID) programme and associated BID targeted rate?

Tell us why

Question 5: Other feedback**Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?**

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

Key Priorities:

Te Mana Motuhake o Te Ahiwaru:

Upholding Te Tiriti o Waitangi obligations.

Embedding tangata whenua leadership in council processes.

Supporting Māori economic development.

Waahi Tapu/Waahi Taonga:

Protecting and managing significant cultural sites like Ootuatua Stonefields.

Halting overdevelopment near sensitive landscapes.

Ensuring non-invasive archaeological practices.

Toituu Te Taiao:

Restoring and protecting natural systems.

Investing in waterway and ecological restoration.

Supporting pest management and ngahere regeneration.

Hoki Whenua Mai:

Creating pathways for the return of land to ahi kaa.

Involving Te Ahiwaru in land acquisition and management processes.

Oranga Whaanau:

Supporting papakāinga housing development.

Ensuring fair council investment in South Auckland.

LTP Feedback reporting

Group: #9 Te Ahiwaru

Feedback from Māori entities

Representative: [REDACTED]

Identify: Mana whenua:

Notes from verbal presentation to Annual Budget discussion.

[REDACTED] provided opening mihi.

[REDACTED] Chair of meeting AC

15 Minute time allocation

- **Noted:** Ngahere strategy – needs inclusion in the plan
- **Noted:** Seeking resources for Otuataua Stonefield's – restoration National landscapes
- **Noted for Action -** Questions to Council from [REDACTED]: How was Nathan homestead prioritised? – why was Ngahere strategy not included? – appreciate a response in the near future.
- **Noted:**
- **Noted:**

Overall direction for Annual Budget

Te Ahiwaru

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?	Not specific – but generally supportive of council Te Ahiwaru relationships
Environment - Sustainability	Supportive Seeking resources for Otuataua Stonefield's and other environmental restoration work
Do you support Bed night visitor levy?	Not mentioned
Local Board priorities – Fairer Funding	Not mentioned Commented on Ngahere strategy – needs inclusion in the plan
Rates and Charges	Not mentioned
Transport	Support for traffic calming and improved safety for whanau

What else is important to you?

[REDACTED] – Kaimahi Te Ahiwaru Trust

Te Ahiwaru takes our role seriously to ensure this plan upholds Tiriti o Waitangi and our ahi ka within it.

Based on our current workload we have not had capacity to wananga and fully feedback on Annual plan. We welcome opportunity to share **our** framework as ahi ka in Tamaki Makaurau. We offer this in good spirit and seek action on balance and equity.

Te Ahiwaru priorities

Mana Motuhake – uphold Te Tiriti obligations

Fit for purpose protocols across council.

- Inclusion of Te Ahiwaru
- Visibility of Te Ahiwaru identity
- Economic development and Māori procurement policies.

Wahi Tapu and Wahi Taonga – Otuataua Stonefield's

Secondly – our wahi tapu and wahi taonga – you / we must increase management and protection for Otuataua Reserve and other taonga – resourcing must reflect their status and nationally important lands and landscapes.

Toi Tu te Taiao

We seek restoration, budgets to support restoration of our waterways.

Partner with us on restoration and water quality – pest management and progressing the Mangere Ngahere strategy – needs inclusion in the plan – Restore our native ecosystems – priorities flooding and stormwater infrastructure in Mangere and Hoki Whenua mai – meaningful return of whenua to ahi ka.

Procurement

Procurement design and long-term management – involved in site selection and care – see these lands returned co governance – returned to ahi ka.

Transparent and just process

Oranga Whanau - Transport

We want our people to live well, safely in our own rohe – support papakainga investment and targeted funding – support for traffic calming within Papakainga –

Opportunity :

Our pa is the oldest living papakainga in Auckland Area.

Ensure whanau receive a fair share of investment – education, housing and public infrastructure.

Encourage you to go beyond consultation shared responsibility with us – our voices are heard and empowered.

Questions to Council from [REDACTED] How was Nathan homestead prioritised? – why was Ngahere strategy not included? – appreciate a response in the near future.

[REDACTED] – Rangatahi query – Ahi Waru have worked with others on our Rangatahi in education and vocational pathways

██████ - We have advocated for further support for those kaupapa – want to work alongside Māori led organisations – who operate in our rohe to ensure alignment with Te Ahiwaru aspirations. We will invite Nga Mātārae back to our whare to present our framework and governing body regarding our framework. Invite council to work with us to achieve our aspirations within our rohe.

██████████ - Acknowledged Council – past such requests would have been 100% no – we have come a long way.

**Oral Submission – Te Ahiwaru Trust
Auckland Council Annual Plan 2025/2026**

Submitted by: Te Ahiwaru Trust

Ko Mataoho te tupua
Ko Hape te tohunga
Ko Kaiwhare te taniwha
Ko Tainui te waka
Ko Te Maanukanuka oo Hoturoa te moana
Ko Manukau te whanga
Ko Te Wai oo Ruarangi te awa
Ko Te Puketaapapatanga aa Hape te maunga
Ko Puketaapapa-Ihumaatao te papakaainga
Ko Makaurau te marae
Ko Te Ahiwaru te hapuu

Teene koutou e te Kaunihera o Taamaki Makaurau,
Ko au te reo e kawe ana i ngaa whakaaro o Te Ahiwaru Trust – ngaa uri o Te Ahiwaru ngaa kaitiaki tuku iho o Te Ihu o Mataoho, o te Manukau, o te taiwhenua kei te tonga o Taamaki Makaurau.

We acknowledge this opportunity to speak to the Auckland Council Annual Plan for 2025/2026. Te Ahiwaru plays a crucial role in ensuring that this plan upholds Te Tiriti o Waitangi obligations and protects the interests of tangata whenua – especially in the context of our rohe and our aspirations as ahi kaa within our rohe.

Firstly, I extend our apologies on behalf of our General Manager, [REDACTED], who unfortunately became unwell last night and is therefore unable to attend and deliver this oral submission, which she was very much looking forward to presenting today.

Secondly, I wish to be transparent in acknowledging that, due to current workload pressures, we have not had the capacity to thoroughly review, waananga, and provide the level of feedback on the Annual Plan that we would have ideally intended. As such, today's submission is intentionally light and brief.

However, we would welcome the opportunity in the near future to present to you the Te Ahiwaru Ahi Kaa Framework, which articulates and actualises our collective aspirations in a way that reaffirms our mana motuhake and ongoing presence as ahi kaa in Taamaki Makaurau.

We offer this submission in the spirit of kaupapa Maaori partnership, and we call for action that reflects more than consultation, we seek action that restores balance, equity, and tino rangatiratanga. Our submission is grounded in our Te Ahiwaru Ahi Kaa Framework which is underpinned by five high-level priorities.

1. Te Mana Motuhake o Te Ahiwaru

We seek a plan that genuinely upholds Te Tiriti o Waitangi obligations, affirms Te Ahiwaru identity, and embeds tangata whenua leadership across all council processes. This includes:

- Developing fit-for-purpose protocols with Council under mana whakahono arrangements to enact our mana motuhake.
- Inclusion of Te Ahiwaru in decision-making for all policy and spatial planning that affects our rohe.
- Visibility of Te Ahiwaru identity in the landscape through signage, storytelling, and wayfinding.
- Support for Maaori economic development as a pathway to financial sustainability – including Maaori procurement policies, whaanau-led enterprise support, and career pathways for rangatahi.

2. Waahi Tapu/Waahi Taonga

Our commitment to our tuupuna and taonga tuku iho must be reflected in Council's plan and investment. We urge:

- Increased recognition, management and protection for Ootuaataua Stonefields Historic Reserve and surrounding waahi tapu, including Waitomokia, Te Motu a Hiaroa, and Te Puketaapapatanga aa Hape. These taonga tuku iho and waahi tapu must not be compromised. Resourcing must reflect their status as nationally significant sites and management should be led by ahi kaa.
- A halt to overdevelopment near culturally and ecologically sensitive landscapes.
- Greater Council accountability to ensure non-invasive archaeological practice and adherence to Te Ahiwaru cultural monitoring protocols.
- Council to support Te Ahiwaru proposals seeking zoning changes that will see greater protections to our waahi tapu and sites of significance to Te Ahiwaru.

3. Toituu Te Taiao

As kaitiaki, we seek restoration and protection of our natural systems through:

- Stronger policy and budget commitment to protect and restore waterways within the Manukau and the wider rohe of Te Ahiwaru including Ooruarangi awa, Te Ararata, and Harania.
- Investment in cleaning and sustaining these taonga, with Te Ahiwaru as a partner in ecological restoration and water quality programmes.
- Embedding Te Ahiwaru in the delivery of pest management and ngahere regeneration in line with the Maangere Ngahere Strategy. We support the Maangere Ngahere Strategy and advocate for its inclusion in the plan and resourcing and implementation to be led by our community with Te Ahiwaru, ensuring our maatauranga guides this climate action initiative and the restoration of native ecosystems within our rohe.
- Prioritising stormwater and flooding infrastructure in Maangere, where poor systems continue to threaten our people and whenua.
- Support for reclaiming our mahinga kai practices and local food resilience through ecological restoration efforts.

4. Hoki Whenua Mai

Council's plan must create real and meaningful pathways for the return of whenua to ahi kaa through:

- Partnership with Te Ahiwaru in land acquisition processes for new parks, including procurement, design, and long-term management. As Council acquires new parkland, Te Ahiwaru requests to be involved in site selection, procurement, design, and long-term care. Through mana whakahono arrangements, we seek pathways for these lands to be returned under ahi kaa kaitiakitanga with protocols for co-governance and ultimately land return to ahi kaa, as a matter of redress, equity, and resilience.
- Transparent and just processes in land transactions that prioritise the wellbeing of future generations.

5. Oranga Whaanau

Our whaanau must be able to live well, safely, and securely in our own rohe. We call on Council to:

- Support papakaainga housing development through infrastructure investment, planning alignment, and targeted funding.
- We request direct support for Te Ahiwaru to implement traffic calming and safety measures within our papakaainga. Our living paa is not just a residential area – it is the oldest continuously occupied paa in Auckland – to protect our whaanau and enhance mana whenua presence in our own spaces.
- Ensure that whaanau in South Auckland receive their fair share of Council investment – especially in areas like education, employment, health, and public infrastructure.

In Closing

Te Ahiwaru Trust is committed to working alongside Auckland Council in ways that uphold Te Tiriti o Waitangi, honour ahi kaa, and secure enduring outcomes for people and place. We encourage the Council to go beyond consultation and step into true partnership — where shared decisions, shared care, and shared responsibility shape the future of Taamaki Makaurau. We ask that our voices are not only heard – but upheld.

Ngaa mihi maioha,
Naa Te Ahiwaru Trust

Respectfully I ask two questions regarding the Annual Plan Priorities for South Auckland and the Maangere/Otahuhu Local Board:

- How was it that the Nathan Homestead was prioritised? And
- Why was the Maangere Ngaahere Strategy not included in the priorities for the Maangere/Otahuhu Local Board?

I don't expect anyone to answer that now but would appreciate a response in the near future.

Annual Plan 2025-2026

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Submitter details:

Organisation (if applicable): Ngāti Pāoa

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

Our proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026 builds on our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP).

The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Other

Tell us why

See attached

Centralising control may limit Ngāti Tamaterā's direct influence over urban development projects within their rohe, potentially affecting their ability to exercise kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and participate in decision-making processes. (NPIT written submission)

Iwi engagement in planning and co-governance of projects to ensure that Māori interests are prioritised in decision-making. (NPIT written submission)

Omaru reserve development discussed.

Aligns with Ngāti Tamaterā's role as kaitiaki, offering opportunities to engage in environmental restoration and protection projects that uphold iwi values. (NPIT written submission)

We are committed to ensuring equitable outcomes for Māori across the city.

No decisions about us, without us.

Noted relationship and co management relationship for Omaru reserve with Maungakiekie Tamaki local board needs to be progressed quickly

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Support

Tell us why

See attached

Omaru Reserve development planned to be a major event centre and Marae.

We do support the levy however understand the complexities around legislation and urge the council to work closely with iwi to implement shared event outcomes. (NPIT written submission)

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Maungakiekie-Tāmaki

Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Continuing to support community groups and community-led activities through our local community grants

Continuing to build the capacity and capability of local community and sporting groups through our strategic partnerships programme

Activate our local open spaces and facilities, through council-led activities and assessing what amenities our spaces need, such as toilets and power outlets

Empowering community groups and organisations to deliver community events through sustainable funding models

Consider funding activities that increase our community's sense of safety, working with community groups and business associations already delivering safety initiatives

Continuing to support initiatives that deliver outcomes with and for youth, such as our Youth Empowerment programme, and Tiakina te taiao and Ope programmes (biodiversity and climate action education programme in schools)

Collaborate with mana whenua and neighbouring local boards to protect and restore our waterways, particularly the Tāmaki Estuary and Manukau Harbour

Consider a review of Te Oro Music and Arts Centre, to ensure it remains welcoming and responsive to the community's changing needs.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

There are important steps ahead –

Actions Required:

- a new road is required across reserve land – previous planning included a road
- other need is support for planning and design
- a refreshed reserve management plan

We plan to change the reserve to something special.

The Māori Outcomes fund can help us to some extent.

Nick informs us that all funding to 2026-2027 is currently committed.

This impacts on timing. Staff (Council) have committed to work with us to try and move things forward.

Action Required: We are seeking political support for this shared vision for Omaru Reserve.

Action Required: We are seeking endorsement of the plans as we move ahead.

Action Required: Maungakiekie Tamaki local board will help with creating a co-management board to administer the reserve – (this work can begin immediately)

Action Required: Ngāti Pāoa seek investment across the AC family to support this project - it has been on notice for a decade – it's happening now.

Regards Waiheke Island - Blackpool NPIT acknowledge LB support.

Question 5: Other feedback

Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

LTP Feedback reporting

Group: #6 Ngāti Pāoa

Feedback from Māori entities

Representative: John Hutton and Tipa Compain

Identify: Mana whenua

Notes from verbal presentation to Annual Budget discussion.

Richard Nahi provided opening mihi.

Tipa Compain provided a mihi in return to Richards opening.

Greg Sayers Chair of meeting AC

15 Minute time allocation

- **Noted:** Submission was largely identifying the needs of the Iwi to progress the proposed Omaru Reserve Papakainga and Marae development – some urgency required to align resource consent process, planning, council reserve management and co-governance arrangements ahead of Ngāti Pāoa settlement due end 2025.
- **Noted:** Seeking political support for this regional project.

Overall direction for Annual Budget

Ngati Paoa

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?	Not Stated Noted Ngāti Pāoa need for resources, political, co-management structure for Omaru reserve, financial assistance and project assistance to progress Omaru development. Seeking provision by council to support this co-governance reserve development.
CCO Governance reforms	Not specified – some concerns
Environment - Sustainability	Not Stated Omaru reserve development discussed.
Do you support Bed night visitor levy?	Not Stated Omaru Reserve development planned to be a major event centre and Marae.
Māori Outcomes Fund Review	Not Stated
Local Board priorities – Fairer Funding	Not Stated

	Noted relationship and co management relationship for Omaru reserve with Maungakiekie Tamaki local board needs to be progressed quickly
Rates and Charges	Not Stated
Transport	Not Stated Road connection into Omaru reserve planned and now required – provision for road needs to be planned for the reserve.

What else is important to you?

John Hutton

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on AP.

This feedback on behalf of Ngāti Pāoa Iwi Trust. The vision underpinning the plan – rich array of cultural events, environment enjoyed across the regions – we speak here to descent public services and infrastructure .

Ngāti Pāoa is working through Tiriti settlement process. In 2023 – Auckland Council supported our claims settlement bill.

In March 2024 our claim was supported by parliament – we are optimistic about a third and final reading later this year – three months later we will expect full settlement in late 2025 or early 2026.

Ngāti Pāoa has made great achievements after decades of struggle – one of the first Wai 10 Waiheke Island claims. In 2025 - 40 yrs later our settlement journey is coming to an end – 6402 individuals identify as Ngāti Pāoa –

Setting aside Iwi north and South – we are one of three largest Auckland Iwi by population.

Ngāti Pāoa will become more active economically

This presentation directly relates to Auckland Council.

Three reserves pass to NP – two require co-governance plans

Haukoura Black pool Park and Omaru reserve – and the third at Kawakawa currently administered by Auckland Council. Modest size.

For Ngāti Pāoa the settlement at Omaru reserve is our current focus - due to scale and opportunity to establish a living tribal community on ancestral lands.

Aerial view shown.

This proposed development is the most significant move on the isthmus since 1991.

40.6 hectares – Omaru is a big deal for Auckland Council – 2 hectares for papakainga – sports fields and a centre are already well developed - much of the area is neglected - stream and kikuyu - public currently look at a mowed a paddock with cows.

That the reserve remains underdeveloped reflects the long journey Ngāti Pāoa has been on.

A Management plan in 2005 staff looked at new plans in the middle of Ngāti Pāoa submissions (TOW) and there was a reluctance to take the plan further while waiting for settlement outcomes .

The Settlement company proposed social housing. Ngāti Pāoa proposed to Nick Smith that the development should be commercial redress to Ngāti Pāoa .

The Pink Block is 11.7 Hectares to develop three hundred homes – which has been communicated to wider public – there was some opposition to the development. Minister claimed the land would best be turned to housing – Labour members provided dissenting opinion – Govt Labour/ NZ first – Phil Twyford – Ngāti Pāoa agreed to walk away from 11 h commercial development for Crown to give 2 hectares in return for papakainga and keeping it as a reserve.

This was a big call and cost to Ngāti Pāoa including delays to finalising settlement.

Now that Ngāti Pāoa bill will progress we have started a master plan to lodge a Resource Consent in near future –

We are engaging with Maungakiekie Tamaki local board .

There are important steps ahead –

Actions Required:

- a new road is required across reserve land – previous planning included a road
- other need is support for planning and design
- a refreshed reserve management plan

We plan to change the reserve to something special.

The Māori Outcomes fund can help us to some extent.

Nick informs us that all funding to 2026-2027 is currently committed.

This impacts on timing. Staff (Council) have committed to work with us to try and move things forward.

Action Required: We are seeking political support for this shared vision for Omaru Reserve.

Action Required: We are seeking endorsement of the plans as we move ahead.

Action Required: Maungakiekie Tamaki local board will help with creating a co-management board to administer the reserve – (this work can begin immediately)

Action Required: Ngāti Pāoa seek investment across the AC family to support this project - it has been on notice for a decade – it's happening now.

Regards Waiheke Island - Blackpool NPIT acknowledge LB support.

Q: AC and NPIT to jointly create a reserve management plan.

John Hutton: Best way is through a constituted committee with delegated powers – confident on co-governance – issue is lining up financial support in next few years – we have talked many times – Ngāti Pāoa has been hindered by uncertainty around timing due to parliament timing we really want to get cracking – spectacular opportunity in front of us.

CR Kerin Leonie Q: Do we have third reading timeframe?

John Hutton: – Mid-year – cannot determine – optimistic

CR Kerin Leonie Q: Re the model – look at co-governance mahi and be ready for third reading saves time and resource

John Hutton: It is possible to do the work now – keen to have relevant decisions made by local board ahead of time – looking good with local board.

Greg Sayers: – Access Al street – is there any problem putting a road in?

John Hutton: Easement comes with the settlement – Marae and papakainga are safe according to Geotech – best on the site – very early plan shown on the screen we retain lines of sight – to the Island as planned by NPIT. Need to align all the pieces internal and external.

Tipa Compain: Acknowledged Cr Bartley.

Annual Plan 2025-2026

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Submitter details:

Organisation (if applicable): Cabra Developments Limited

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

Our proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026 builds on our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP).

The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Other

Tell us why

See attached

Summary of attachment:

Cabra supports the allocation of funds for transport projects, property costs, and rapid transit access in priority growth areas but seeks clarity on specific projects and funding sufficiency.

They support funding for the Whenuapai & Redhills Wastewater Scheme and the North Harbour 2 Watermain but need more details on the scope and sufficiency of these funds

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Tell us why

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

Question 4:**Local board priorities**

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Upper Harbour

Upper Harbour Local Board Priorities

The following are the key projects and activities we plan to deliver next year, and any key changes to services.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Appropriate planning and investment for infrastructure and quality open space in areas impacted by growth and intensification e.g. Whenuapai

Continue to prioritise support to our local community organisations and volunteers to deliver outcomes that provide a sense of belonging, wellbeing and resilience for residents

Continue to prioritise investment in outcomes that ensure our communities have access to high-quality amenities that provide for a range of opportunities including play, pathways and connections, active sports and recreation and connecting with nature

Funding to assist in the development, improvement, and renovation of non-council owned community facilities that serve the Upper Harbour area through a facilities grants process

Improve wayfinding in the Upper Harbour area to help our communities to easily discover and enjoy the assets we have

Contribute funding for the development of a vision and plan for the future North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached:

Summary of Attachment:

Support for Local Board Initiatives:

Cabra supports the Upper-Harbour Local Board's planning and investment in infrastructure and quality open spaces in growth-impacted areas

Cabra suggests prioritizing and ensuring certainty in funding infrastructure in the North West.

To help the local board understand priorities and areas of importance for the community, we want feedback on areas that are the most important to you so we can prioritise investment in higher priority areas or address rising costs by potentially decreasing investment in lower priority areas.

Which three of our services are most important to you? (select up to three)

North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct

Our community gave clear feedback in the long-term plan consultation that they would like to see the North Harbour Stadium and Domain Precinct used more effectively for the local community. The Upper Harbour and Hibiscus and Bays Local Boards are jointly leading a working group of local representatives to develop a vision and plan for the future. The work will need both regional and local funding and our local board will need to contribute.

Do you think we should contribute funding to the development of a vision and plan for the future of North Harbour Stadium and the Domain Precinct?

Tell us why

Question 5: Other feedback

Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

See attached

Summary of Attachment:

Policy Planning Funding:

Cabra advocates for increased funding for the Policy Planning team to facilitate Council-led plan changes, especially in Future Urban zoned areas, to avoid ad hoc infrastructure upgrades.

Key Concerns:

Cabra emphasizes the need for detailed specifications on the scope of works funded and whether the allocated funds are sufficient.

They call for increased funding to the Policy Planning team to enhance housing supply and employment opportunities, particularly in the North West.

**FEEDBACK ON AUCKLAND COUNCIL'S
ANNUAL PLAN 2025 - 2026**

To: Auckland Council
Private Bag 92300, Victoria Street West, Auckland 1142

Submission on: Draft Auckland Council Annual Plan 2025-2026

Name: Cabra Developments Limited

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Cabra Developments Limited (**Cabra**) is a land development company established in 1987 specialising in greenfield subdivision and residential development within the western and northern parts of the Auckland region. Cabra is committed to contributing to the response to critical housing demand through providing for additional serviced lots for residential development to the private market, thus facilitating housing supply and enabling growth within Auckland.
- 1.2. Cabra has successfully undertaken the subdivision of several large land parcels in the region (including in Huapai, Riverhead, Orewa, Greenhithe, Papakura, Snells Beach and Whangaparaoa) and has a proven track record in the delivery of quality residential outcomes. Cabra has numerous landholdings in Whenuapai and Westgate.

2. Feedback

- 2.1. In its 2024 Long-Term Plan, Auckland Council identified the inner North West area, including Westgate, Whenuapai and Redhills, as a Priority Growth Area. \$2.5 billion in funding for the inner North West over the next 30 years, including \$856 million is earmarked for transport related spending in Priority Growth Areas over the next 10 years.
- 2.2. The 2025 Annual Plan (being Year 2 of the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034) provides limited update on how these growth areas are progressing and where funding is proposed to be allocated, and to which projects, over the forthcoming year. Page 6-10 of the Consultation Document provides an update on how Council is progressing relative to its Long-Term Plan, however no updates are provided in respect of the Growth Priority Areas.
- 2.3. The following comments are provided in respect of funding for the year ahead in the North West area:
- Cabra supports the allocation of \$51M to delivering transport projects in priority growth areas, a further \$39M associated with the cost of property for growth, and \$31M for delivering access to rapid transit, however it is unclear which projects will be funded and therefore whether this funding is sufficient.
 - Cabra supports the allocation of \$34M to delivering the Whenuapai & Redhills Wastewater Scheme and \$45M for the North Harbour 2 Watermain, however, again it is unclear what scope of works this will deliver, and whether sufficient funding is allocated. If this extent of funding will deliver completed projects on time and in budget, Cabra is supportive accordingly as these projects are required to unlock growth and increase housing supply in Whenuapai and surrounds.
 - Cabra supports the allocation of \$26M to stormwater for “enabling growth”, however the project and scope of works that is to be delivered within this budget is unknown.

- 2.4. Cabra suggests greater priority and certainty is required in respect of funding infrastructure in the North West.
- 2.5. Finally, Cabra supports the Upper-Harbour Local Board undertaking appropriate planning and investment for infrastructure and quality open space in areas impacted by growth and intensification, including in Whenuapai.
- 2.6. Turning to another matter, Cabra considers that greater funding should be allocated to the Policy Planning team within Council in order to facilitate Council-led plan changes, particularly in Future Urban zoned areas, in accordance with the Future Development Strategy. Currently, it is left to private developers to lead urban zone plan changes, resulting in ad hoc delivery of infrastructure upgrades.
- 3. Key concerns**
- 3.1. Cabra supports funding for Priority Growth Areas and specifically the funding specified above, but considers further specification is required to understand the scope of works that will be delivered by this allocated funding, and whether this is sufficient as what or how funding will be allocated to deliver growth in the North West.
- 3.2. Increased funding is required to the Policy Planning team to focus on delivering plan changes that will live-zone residential and business land to increase housing supply and employment opportunities across Auckland, and specifically in the North West.

CABRA DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED**Signature****Cabra Developments Limited**

Attention: [REDACTED] (General Manager)

Address for Service

Forme Planning Limited

C/- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]**Telephone:**

[REDACTED]

Email:

[REDACTED]



#10109



Annual Plan 2025-2026

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Local Board: Regional Organisation

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- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Support most

Tell us why

See attached

Summary of Attachment:

Backs the proposed Annual Plan, contingent on key recommendations.

Inclusion of Te Tiriti o Waitangi: Strengthen alignment with its articles in all council documents.

Equity for Māori: Explicit commitment to equity across all council domains.

Language Accessibility: More information in te reo Māori.

Cultural Recognition: Highlight Māori as the indigenous people in council goals.

Regulate Harmful Commodities: Set density parameters for establishments like alcohol and fast-food outlets.

Oranga Whenua, Oranga Tangata: Promote well-being through environmental health.

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Tell us why

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Whau

Whau Local Board Priorities

The local board has additional funding in 2025/2026, but there are unavoidable increases in the cost of existing services which will need to be considered alongside the additional funding.

4B. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2025/2026?

Tell us why

Our priorities for 2025/2026 are listed below.

How important are these priorities to you?

Restore funding to service levels in some areas that were cut in recent years, e.g additional library hours, programmes and community grants

Increased service levels in our parks and town centres including progression of Te Hono project

Plan for the future Whau aquatic and recreation facility and facilitate public access to school pools in the interim

Work with local Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) to find new ways of delivering vibrant and welcoming town centres through art activation and beautification projects.

Continue to support volunteering, community and business participation, through environmental and ecological initiatives around the Manukau Harbour foreshore, the Whau River and its tributaries, and our urban ngahere

Increase community participation and capability in community hubs, houses and with established community partners, and progress the development of a new community hub in Fruitvale

Foster climate/emergency preparedness and resilience in our community

Investigate a future space for youth and engage a youth coordinator to support and promote for youth by youth activations

Provide appropriate options for healthy, active lifestyles through recreation in parks and open spaces with particular focus on our ethnically diverse communities, women, and girls.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

See attached

Summary of attachment:

Healthy Lifestyles: Extend hauora-focused initiatives to all local boards.

Te Ao Māori: Reflect Māori culture and values across all local boards.

Mana Whenua Leadership: Ensure Māori-led processes in public projects.

Question 5: Other feedback

Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here



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28th March 2025

Hāpai Te Hauora's Submission on the Auckland Council's Annual Plan 2025/2026 Consultation Document

We willingly take the opportunity to provide this submission to represent the voices of the diverse communities, whānau, hapū, and iwi we serve about their health and wellbeing needs and aspirations.



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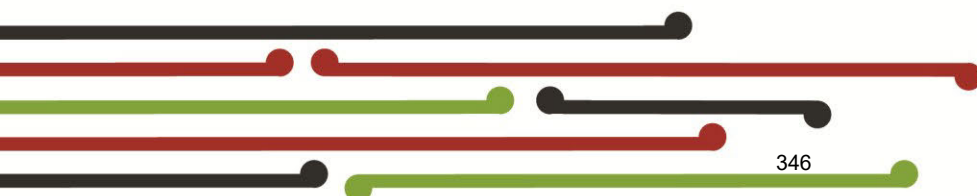
HĀPAI TE HAUORA
— MĀORI PUBLIC HEALTH —

Who is Hāpai Te Hauora?

1. Hāpai Te Hauora's (Hāpai) foundation reflects the vision and leadership of mana whenua elders who recognised the need for a strong Māori presence in public health during the 1990s. Established in 1996, it emerged as a collaborative effort between Te Whānau o Waipareira, Raukura Hauora o Tainui, and Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua to address health inequities for Māori in the greater Auckland region.
2. Today, Hāpai operates nationally, building on its foundational legacy to advance Māori collective aspirations, collaboration, and a commitment to the wellbeing of Māori across Aotearoa. Hāpai's vision is to foster Māori public health and lasting, transformative change for future generations. Through national and regional contracts aligned with Oranga Whenua and Oranga Tangata, Hāpai are committed to supporting whānau and communities in achieving improved health outcomes.
3. Hāpai leads initiatives to reduce the harm caused by gambling, alcohol, tobacco, vaping, mental health challenges, and drugs on whānau. They also promote preventative care and awareness through programs addressing immunisations, chronic illnesses, cancer screening, Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), and Sudden Unexpected Death in Infancy (SUDI).

Position Statements

4. Hāpai Te Hauora **supports** the proposed Auckland Council's Annual Plan 2025/2026, contingent on the inclusion of our key recommendations.
5. Te Tiriti o Waitangi is the foundational document of Aotearoa New Zealand, embodying the constitutional agreement between the two sovereign signatories: tangata whenua and the Crown. As the base of our national identity and governance, Te Tiriti o Waitangi protects us all and should be regarded as the primary consideration in all consultation documents.
6. Health and wellbeing are intrinsically linked to the environments and systems within which we live. This is particularly true for Tāmaki Makaurau, where our physical and social environments have the potential to foster positive hauora outcomes and flourishing communities. It is imperative that healthy, active spaces are integrated across all local boards to support the wellbeing of all communities.





7. In the context of Tāmaki Makaurau, current environments are not optimal or conducive to thriving for Māori communities. An over-saturation of harmful commodities and barriers to active spaces, particularly in underserved communities, are inequitably harming our people and contributing to health disparities.
8. Aotearoa New Zealand has considerable work ahead in achieving true equity, as Māori continue to experience disproportionately negative health outcomes. Urgent and decisive action is required to address the systemic inequities that perpetuate these inequities and to ensure a more just and equitable society for tangata whenua.
9. Local boards and council must cultivate genuine and meaningful relationships with the iwi of Tāmaki Makaurau and commit fully to the articles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in all aspects of [REDACTED] commitment ensures culturally responsive decision-making and [REDACTED] the creation of a more inclusive and equitable Aotearoa New Zealand.
10. As Māori Public Health, we assert that te reo Māori must be honoured, sustained, and [REDACTED] with pride in all facets of life. We call for the active promotion and visibility of te reo Māori across all council policies and documents, recognising its integral role in the cultural and social fabric of Māori communities.

Key Recommendations

11. Hāpai Te Hauora recommends the inclusion of Te Tiriti o Waitangi within this, and all, Auckland Council documents. We believe it is imperative to strengthen Auckland Council's alignment with articles of Te Tiriti across all decision-making, policy implementation, and service delivery, ensuring tino rangatiratanga for Māori and partnership at all levels.
12. Further, we advocate for written, explicit commitment to equity for Māori across all domains of the council in accordance with the articles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
13. We appreciate the inclusion of consultation summaries in multiple languages, but more information must be provided in te reo Māori. Language is a fundamental contributor to accessibility, and for whānau Māori as tangata whenua, it is essential that they have full and clear access to consultation information in their own language.
14. This consultation document's goal of a "diverse and dynamic city, which honours the place of Māori and includes a rich array of cultural and sporting events, museums, galleries and built heritage," should go further to outline the place of Māori as the indigenous people of Aotearoa, as tangata whenua.





15. We recommend setting clear density parameters in communities that are over-saturated with harmful commodities e.g., alcohol, fast-food, tobacco etc. By regulating the concentration of such establishments, particularly in Māori communities, councils can mitigate inequitable, negative health impacts.
16. We recommend approaches grounded in the philosophy of **Oranga Whenua, Oranga Tangata**, which recognises that the well-being of people is intrinsically linked to the health of their environment. Local governments are uniquely positioned to bring this philosophy to life by enacting change through bylaws and other legislative tools.
17. Additionally, expanding access to green spaces and developing a more walkable urban ld foster greater physical activity and well-being. Creating inclusive, easily  for movement is essential in addressing health disparities, offering  environments to engage in healthy behaviours.

Local Boards

18. Reflecting on the Whau local board key project, “provide appropriate options for healthy, active lifestyles through recreation in parks and open spaces with particular focus on our ethnically diverse communities, women, and girls.” We recommend the extension of hauora-focused initiatives to every local board to promote active lifestyles, mental well-being, and equitable access to health services, particularly for Māori and underserved communities.
19. The Henderson-Massey Local Board has identified the importance of “engaging mana whenua, Māori, and in collaboration with Te Kete Rukuruku, creating Te Ao Māori activations for whānau that incorporate te reo, tikanga, and supporting the area's Pūrākau” as a key project. Hāpai recommends that this recognition of Te Ao Māori be reflected across all local boards.
20. The Ōtara-Papatoetoe local board presents, “ensuring Māori culture and the values of mātauranga Māori are visible in public spaces,” as a key project. While visible depictions of Māori culture and mātauranga Māori are so important in public spaces, the process must be led by Māori. We assert that mana whenua leadership must be embedded across all levels, including design, production, installation, and decision-making in projects that represent Māori identity and heritage.
21. The Kaipātiki local board focus of, “Māori outcomes, through investment in engagement, events, and fostering authentic relationships with Māori” should be the standard across all local boards and wider Auckland Council initiatives. Authentic, relationships with Māori are the necessary building blocks to thriving communities across Tāmaki Makaurau.





Background and Context

Māori Public Health

22. Māori Public Health is necessary in the context of Aotearoa, where Māori communities continue to experience inequities. Key priorities within this space must align with public health aspirations, particularly the creation of health-conducive spaces and environments. Māori health outcomes are deeply influenced by the systems and environments in which individuals live, work, and socialise. It is essential to address these underlying factors, as they significantly contribute to overall health. Research consistently supports the hypothesis that the environment can play a pivotal role in promoting positive health behaviours (Marek

2005). However, current systems in Auckland and beyond are not designed to support the well-being of its people, necessitating targeted intervention in both individual and systemic changes to support better health outcomes.

23. Māori continue to experience widespread inequities across various health and socio-economic indicators. Significant gaps persist in several areas, particularly concerning Māori, and Pacific peoples. These include life expectancy, smoking rates, obesity, suicide rates, workplace injury, earnings, and welfare dependency. While some indicators show narrowing gaps, improvement remains slow and stagnant (Marriott & Alinaghi, 2021). This highlights the ongoing need for systemic change and focused interventions that address these enduring inequities.

24. Māori communities also face unique barriers in accessing healthcare, often compounded by colonisation and systemic racism embedded within healthcare systems. This is a global issue, affecting many Indigenous communities. In Aotearoa New Zealand, Māori patients and their whānau often encounter significant obstacles when trying to access the healthcare they need and are entitled to under the law. While individual and organisational efforts to address these issues are underway, long-term, sustained commitment is required to dismantle the colonial structures that continue to affect Māori health outcomes. Such efforts should be driven by Māori, for Māori, ensuring that health research and interventions are culturally appropriate and focused on the unique aspirations of Māori (Graham & Masters-Awatere, 2020).

25. Addressing Māori health inequities is a complex and ongoing challenge that requires both immediate and long-term action. By prioritising Māori-led health initiatives and addressing the systems and environments that shape health behaviours, there is potential for meaningful improvements in the well-being of Māori communities.





Local Council & Public Health

26. Local governments play a critical role in promoting public health within their communities, acting as the first line of defence through municipal services and health programmes. They have the unique ability to influence health outcomes by implementing tailored policies, initiatives, and programmes that address the specific needs of their populations. By maintaining infrastructure and fostering healthy behaviours through lived environments, outreach and education, local authorities can significantly contribute to the well-being of their communities (Figliola, n.d.).
27. Local governments are responsible for more than just healthcare; they also promote healthy lifestyles, prevent disease, and ensure environmental health. This includes managing public health crises for health crises such as pandemics or environmental disasters. They play a critical role in engaging the community, ensuring residents are informed about available resources. By embedding public health into all planning, policies, and programmes, local governments can better position their communities for future challenges and opportunities (Sanford & Franzel, 2016). Prioritising health education, collaborating with local partners, and supporting policies that promote well-being can help create healthier, more resilient communities. Through these actions, they foster environments where public health thrives, contributing to the overall prosperity of the community (Figliola, n.d.).

Te Tiriti o Waitangi

28. Te Tiriti o Waitangi is a living document, capable of guiding Māori health and wellbeing. It provides a framework for policy-making that promotes equity without creating division. The Treaty embodies a commitment to equity, ensuring Māori have equal access to health services and outcomes. A Treaty-based approach is not deficit-driven, but focuses on Māori development, offering a positive, solution-oriented pathway to address the persistent health disparities experienced by Māori today; far from a privilege-granting mechanism (Kingi, 2006).
29. In addition to this, Te Tiriti o Waitangi is fundamental to addressing health disparities and improving Māori health outcomes. Te Tiriti plays a critical role in advancing Māori self-determination in healthcare, empowering Māori communities to make decisions about their own healthcare needs and services (Whitinui, 2011). This autonomy is essential for fostering better health.
30. To engage effectively with Māori communities, healthcare systems and policy must adopt culturally responsive and inclusive approaches. By incorporating Māori socio-cultural perspectives and upholding the articles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, environments can better





serve Māori, leading to improved health outcomes and stronger, more collaborative relationships between Māori, the Crown, and the healthcare system (Whitinui, 2011).

Concluding Comments

31. As a Māori public health organisation, we are deeply cognisant of the influence local council has not only on health but many other dimensions across Tāmaki Makaurau. We recognise the importance of public consultation for policies, projects and activities that reflect the aspirations of the community and commend the opportunity to respond to this Annual Plan.

Nāku noa, nā



Chief Executive Officer/Mana Amorangi

Hāpai Te Hauora Tāpui Limited

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[REDACTED]



HĀPAI TE HAUORA
— MĀORI PUBLIC HEALTH —

Annual Plan 2025-2026

Note: this simplified 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): Stop Auckland Sewage Overflows Coalition

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

Our proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026 builds on our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP).

The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Tell us why

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund

cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Tell us why

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

Question 4:

Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Question 5: Other feedback

Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

The information available for the 2025/26 Annual Plan (AP) has no draft budgets attached. Enquiries with the Auckland Council Healthy Waters department confirms that it has no draft budgets available.

It is difficult to comment on the AP without some idea of the budgeted items. We suggest that future AP's do include draft budgets which would promote informed public commentary.

The imminent separation of Watercare loans from those of the Council will provide greater flexibility for Council's borrowing program. The concept of borrowing to fund long term assets has merit.

What are we asking the Council to do

1. Ensure all provisions and arrangements from the 2024 LTP are included in the proposed 2025/26 plan for Healthy Waters.
2. Ensure the Healthy Waters 2025/26 finalised AP includes the \$52M expenditure for isthmus infrastructure upgrades as envisaged in the LTP via the WQTR process.
3. Ensure the concept of funding future isthmus infrastructure via the targeted rate methodology by borrowing for the infrastructure upgrades and incorporating only the interest payable on those borrowings as the WQTR is applied.
4. Ensure that any interest charged via the WQTR is from expenditure envisaged and incurred as per the 2024 LTP.

2STOP AUCKLAND SEWAGE OVERFLOWS COALITION (SASOC)

Auckland Council
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akhaveyoursay@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Submission to Auckland Council on the 2025 – 2026 Annual Plan

Introducing SASOC

SASOC is a coalition of community groups spread across the western edge of the Waitemata Harbour and within the central Auckland isthmus. It was formed to represent their general concern about water quality within the Auckland isthmus.

SASOC's specific areas of concern include the Victorian era combined (stormwater/wastewater) sewer system, the role of stormwater in the overflows from that network, and the effects of stormwater run-off from roading and other impermeable surfaces (eg roofs). Although SASOC is focused on the isthmus, it supports a holistic Auckland-wide solution to the city's water quality issues.

Commentary

The information available for the 2025/26 Annual Plan (AP) has no draft budgets attached. Enquiries with the Auckland Council Healthy Waters department confirms that it has no draft budgets available.


It is difficult to comment on the AP without some idea of the budgeted items. We suggest that future AP's do include draft budgets which would promote informed public commentary.

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3. Ensure the concept of funding future isthmus infrastructure via the targeted rate methodology by borrowing for the infrastructure upgrades and incorporating only the interest payable on those borrowings as the WQTR is applied.
4. Ensure that any interest charged via the WQTR is from expenditure envisaged and incurred as per the 2024 LTP.

Yours sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature and name of the person writing the letter.

Annual Plan 2025-2026

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Organisation (if applicable): Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

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The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Other

Tell us why

In the Annual Plan, Council is seeking feedback on a 5.8% rates increase. I want to acknowledge the work done to keep rates as low as they have been in recent years. Looking up and down the country, I am cognizant of the fact that rates here could have actually been much higher. But that said, we're at the position that any rates increase above the level of inflation isn't acceptable.

In fact, when we asked our supporters more than 78% thought that the proposed increase was too high, 21% thought it was about right and just below 1% thought it wasn't enough.

I'm also very conscious of the year-on-year increases and that in 2026, Council will look to increase rates even higher at a proposed 7.9%. Looking closer at some of the feedback and comments we did receive a lot of concern came from those on lower and fixed income families as households struggling enough as it is. And many retirees especially reached out to me personally quite in dismay at the proposed increases.

When it comes to a decision between paying rates and groceries, we know something really is wrong and most would agree that Auckland has become increasingly difficult to live in and the continuous rate hikes are obviously a major contributing factor to this.

On the same note, we asked our supporters how they felt about the way Council was spending ratepayer money. 88% either agreed or strongly agreed that Council was too focused on 'nice-to-haves' and not core business.

Obviously that term 'nice-to-haves' was used last year by the Prime Minister and local government minister, who also expected council to do away with spending and really just get on with it. Until Council can demonstrate to Aucklanders fairly that it can manage to focus on these basics and cut out wasteful spending on non-essentials, we feel any rates increase above the rate of inflation isn't acceptable.

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Other

Tell us why

On bin type and particularly the bed night visitor levy.

I'm conscious some in the room are quite keen on it. But amongst our supporters, there's a deep distrust, particularly in Council, imposing yet another tax. In fact, 70% flat out said no to trusting council on this, and only 15% were in favour, the rest weren't terribly sure.

Quite a few actually thought Auckland shouldn't be distracted by these events or hosting more while increasing rates at the same time, and would be better just to stick to the pipes, rubbish and road

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

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Local board priorities

4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

Question 5: Other feedback

Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

Now at the end of the survey, we did ask our supporters how they would rate the performance of Council, ultimately the answer is 2.1, out of five stars.

More generally, a lot of comments and concerns over the level of staffing at Council and its CCOs. And as you can imagine, a lot of anger towards Auckland Transport, many happy to see its reintegration to Council and put under the control of elected decision makers. Obviously we can't feed everyone, but we would like to see more done to keep rate increases as low as possible, and in an ideal world, as low as the level of inflation itself. Fewer distractions and willingness to commit to doing the basics really well, but overall, just really grateful to councillors for the work they do and taking the time to listen in this process. I'm happy to take any questions and comments.

Question from Cr D**:

How many responses did you get to your e-mail?

S**: 2000 at based

And to clarify, the respond respondents would prefer that we only focused on rubbish and roads? And what else?

S**: Pipe, rubbish, roads, that sort of thing. It is more indicative of those core basics spending

So the nice-to-haves would be anything else that we do?

S**: No, not quite. Of course nice-to-haves are up for debate of what that means. I think there's a feeling of disconnect of what really is important and essential, and there are some examples of ways that a lot of our supporters would like to see less having.

Question from Cr W**:

Do you have any concerns, if you are aware of in the instance of debt in terms of how that's tracking; I think it's heading up towards over 15 billion in the next financial year, interest rates of over 700 million up from below 500 and back couple years back. Does the alliance have a view on that in terms of you know this annual plan and forthcoming annual plans?

S**: The debt does deeply concern us, obviously debt funding is often the way to go about certain infrastructure in large scale. But no we would like to see that it reduced in the way it's tracking, I'd like to see it really minimise.

Question from Cr H**:

I guess on the Nice to have and this is our tricky issue. I know two years ago I think about 70% of the people opposed most of the cuts to maybe what those nice to have are. So arts funding environment, funding library, things like that. And when I asked the sort of national MP's, you know, will they still come to our ANZAC days? Do they still come to all our events? You know, they can't kind of point out what exactly the nice to have are. Do you have, are you doing any work on what that actually means?

S**: That is a really good point in question. You'll never probably define it I'm sure, no I would really like to set their definition of what this nice-to-haves are, of course the likes of libraries in these courses. I think that's what we'd expect council to be providing. There are other projects, I'm sure, and it's not the simple white elephant excuses. But you're right, it's the next question I'd like to set a better definition in the coming months of what these can be define as.

Question on debt funding...

S**: Debt funding is something you can't avoid in the real world, but I would like to see that completely minimise

I want to thank you firstly for taking the time and engaging in the feedback process. Obviously there's a range of ideas submitted. I'm sure we all agree the importance of the consultation process in our local democracy. I'm Sam, spokesman for the Auckland Ratepayers Alliance. We're the largest ratepayer group in New Zealand, representing local Auckland issues. Coming into the process, we actually engaged our supporters with the survey on the issues presented in the annual plan. Much of the feedback, certainly what you'd expect from our people, but certainly worth listening to. In the Annual Plan, Council is seeking feedback on a 5.8% rates increase. I want to acknowledge the work done to keep rates as low as they have been in recent years. Looking up and down the country, I am cognizant of the fact that rates here could have actually been much higher. But that said, we're at the position that any rates increase above the level of inflation isn't acceptable.

In fact, when we asked our supporters more than 78% thought that the proposed increase was too high, 21% thought it was about right and just below 1% thought it wasn't enough.

I'm also very conscious of the year-on-year increases and that in 2026, Council will look to increase rates even higher at a proposed 7.9%. Looking closer at some of the feedback and comments we did receive a lot of concern came from those on lower and fixed income families as households struggling enough as it is. And many retirees especially reached out to me personally quite in dismay at the proposed increases.

When it comes to a decision between paying rates and groceries, we know something really is wrong and most would agree that Auckland has become increasingly difficult to live in and the continuous rate hikes are obviously a major contributing factor to this.

On the same note, we asked our supporters how they felt about the way Council was spending ratepayer money. 88% either agreed or strongly agreed that Council was too focused on 'nice-to-haves' and not core business.

Obviously that term 'nice-to-haves' was used last year by the Prime Minister and local government minister, who also expected council to do away with spending and really just get on with it. Until Council can demonstrate to Aucklanders fairly that it can manage to focus on these basics and cut out wasteful spending on non-essentials, we feel any rates increase above the rate of inflation isn't acceptable.

On bin type and particularly the bed night visitor levy.

Unconscious, some in the room are quite keen on it. But amongst our supporters, there's a deep distrust, particularly in Council, imposing yet another tax. In fact, 70% flat out said no to trusting council on this, and only 15% were in favour, the rest weren't terribly sure.

Quite a few actually thought Auckland shouldn't be distracted by these events or hosting more while increasing rates at the same time, and would be better just to stick to the pipes, rubbish and road.

Now at the end of the survey, we did ask our supporters how they would rate the performance of Council, ultimately the answer is 2.1, out of five stars.

More generally, a lot of comments and concerns over the level of staffing at Council and its CCOs. And as you can imagine, a lot of anger towards Auckland Transport, many happy to see its reintegration to Council and put under the control of elected decision makers. Obviously we can't feed everyone, but we would like to see more done to keep rate increases as low as possible, and in an

ideal world, as low as the level of inflation itself. Fewer distractions and willingness to commit to doing the basics really well, but overall, just really grateful to councillors for the work they do and taking the time to listen in this process. I'm happy to take any questions and comments.

Question from Cr Dalton:

How many responses did you get to your e-mail?

██████: 2000 at based

And to clarify, the respond respondents would prefer that we only focused on rubbish and roads? And what else?

██████: Pipe, rubbish, roads, that sort of thing. It is more indicative of those core basics spending

So the nice-to-haves would be anything else that we do?

██████: No, not quite. Of course nice-to-haves are up for debate of what that means. I think there's a feeling of disconnect of what really is important and essential, and there are some examples of ways that a lot of our supporters would like to see less having.

Question from Cr ████████:

Do you have any concerns, if you are aware of in the instance of debt in terms of how that's tracking; I think it's heading up towards over 15 billion in the next financial year, interest rates of over 700 million up from below 500 and back couple years back. Does the alliance have a view on that in terms of you know this annual plan and forthcoming annual plans?

██████: The debt does deeply concern us, obviously debt funding is often the way to go about certain infrastructure in large scale. But no we would like to see that it reduced in the way it's tracking, I'd like to see it really minimise.

Question from Cr ████████

I guess on the Nice to have and this is our tricky issue. I know two years ago I think about 70% of the people opposed most of the cuts to maybe what those nice to have are. So arts funding environment, funding library, things like that. And when I asked the sort of national MP's, you know, will they still come to our ANZAC days? Do they still come to all our events? You know, they can't kind of point out what exactly the nice to have are. Do you have, are you doing any work on what that actually means?

██████ That is a really good point in question. You'll never probably define it I'm sure, no I would really like to set their definition of what this nice-to-haves are, of course the likes of libraries in these courses. I think that's what we'd expect council to be providing. There are other projects, I'm sure, and it's not the simple white elephant excuses. But you're right, it's the next question I'd like to set a better definition in the coming months of what these can be define as.

Question on debt funding...

██████: Debt funding is something you can't avoid in the real world, but I would like to see that completely minimise

Annual Plan 2025-2026

Note: this simplified 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): Touch Compass

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback

Question 1: Our overall plan

Our proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026 builds on our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP).

The annual plan focuses on getting on with strengthening the financial and physical resilience of Auckland, while investing where it is needed most to manage growth. In 2025/2026, that includes prioritising investment in:

- transport
- water
- and fairer funding for local communities

It sets out the proposed way to pay for services and investments, including the 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property which is in line with the LTP, and additional debt to fund \$4 billion of capital expenditure.

What is your opinion on our proposed annual plan?

Other

Tell us why

See attached:

Where the Plan Falls Short in broad terms

- Uncertainty in cultural funding (if the bed night levy is not approved, many key cultural events may not receive support).
- No direct funding for disabled artists or disability -led arts initiatives .
- No clear strategy to ensure that Auckland’s public events, galleries, museums, and community spaces are fully accessible for ALL Aucklanders.
- Limited references to accessible sport and recreation , despite funding allocated to sports facilities. There is no indication nor guidance that facilities will improve accessibility for disabled participants or users.

Question 2: Destination management and major events

Attracting visitors and securing, promoting and delivering major events are vital to Auckland being a dynamic and exciting city. In our Long-term Plan 2024-2034, we said we would continue to fund cultural festivals and other significant community events. However, without a bed night visitor levy, there will be a \$7 million budget shortfall for funding of major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon and Auckland Writers Festival, from the 2025/2026 financial year. We continue to advocate to central government to introduce this levy. A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation, would raise around \$27 million each year to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland.

A bed night visitor levy requires central government legislative change and they have yet to agree to introduce this legislation. We continue to work with central government on this and your views will help inform this work.

Do you support a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events activities?

Tell us why

See attached:

The reliance on uncertain funding mechanisms (e.g., the bed night levy) threatens the sustainability of major cultural and community events

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

3A. What do you think of the waste management proposal?

Apply the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to pay for council’s rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

3B. Would you like to comment on this or the other rates, fees and charges proposals?

(Please be clear which proposal you are talking about)

Question 4:**Local board priorities****4A. Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?****Question 5: Other feedback****Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?**

Do you have any other feedback, including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026 (page 33 of the Consultation document)?

Tell us here

See attached:

To align with international best practices and the UNCRPD, greater investment in accessibility, targeted disability arts funding, and inclusive planning must be prioritised.

By taking these steps, Auckland can become a city of leadership; truly accessible city - access to places, spaces and enriching experiences where all residents, regardless of ability, can participate fully in cultural and public life.

Recommendations:

- Dedicated accessibility budget
 - Allocate specific funding to improve accessibility in public transport, community facilities, and cultural spaces.
- Disability arts and culture funding
 - Establish targeted grants for disabled artists and inclusive arts programmes.
- Accessibility standards for events and venues
 - Require all council-funded cultural events to have sign language interpretation, audio description, and accessible seating.
- Stronger engagement with Disabled communities
 - Put people of lived experience into decision making roles not ad hoc or token advisory - Genuine leadership

positions, not just conducting consultations with disability advocacy groups to inform future arts, culture, and

accessibility planning.

- Public commitment to UNCRPD compliance

- Integrate UNCRPD principles into Auckland's long-term planning and annual budgets.

- Mandate universal design principles for all arts venues and public spaces funded by Auckland Council, with

an immediate increase in accessibility retrofitting.

- Develop a Disability Arts Hub —a dedicated, fully accessible space for disabled artists and cultural

practitioners to create, exhibit, and perform their work

- Increase funding for disability -led arts initiatives to address historic underinvestment.

- Create an Accessibility Fund for the Arts, ensuring every council -supported arts programme includes funding

for NZSL interpreters, audio description, and physically accessible venues.

- Ring -fence a percentage of arts funding (at least 15%) for disabled -led projects to ensure genuine equity in

funding allocation.

- Establish a Disability Arts and Culture Advisory Group within Auckland Council, led by disabled artists and

DPOs, to co -design policies, funding frameworks, and cultural initiatives.

- This should be funded annually to support genuine partnership.



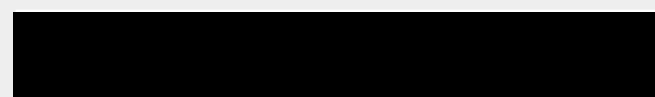
March 2025

Auckland Plan 2025/26

Review and response

A UNCRPD perspective

Presented on behalf by Kaiwhakahaere Matua



Content and Context

Review of the Auckland Annual Plan 2025/2026

- Review conducted from the perspective of Touch Compass, a Disability-Led Arts organisation from Tāmaki Makaurau and its wider community of people and practice.
- Touch Compass has engaged over 9000 artists, cultural practitioners and public participants within its mainstream and disability specialist arts programming 2022-2024 of which 48% identify with a lived experience of disability. In total over 23000 people across Aotearoa have been engaged through Touch Compass programming since 2022.
- 100% of it's artistic and cultural programming is led by persons with lived experience. Disability leadership is at every strata of the org from Board to personnel.
- Touch Compass Dance Trust T/A Touch Compass is a strategic relationship partner of Auckland Council Regional Arts and Culture Funding Programme.



**Touch
Compass**

A Disability-Led Arts and Advocacy Perspective

We evaluate Auckland Council's Annual Plan 2025/2026 through the lens lived experience, and in particular the obligations of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), to which New Zealand and its constituent bodies is a signatory and the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi - self determination, protection, partnership, equity.

About

Touch Compass, founded in 1997 by Catherine Chappell MNZM, was New Zealand's first and leading disability -integrated dance company.

In 2021 the organisation began a year -long transformation into a Disability -Led Arts organisation. In recent years the focus has been to champion the voices of the marginalised, in particular foregrounding Māori, Pasifika and intersectional d/Deaf and Disability professional performing arts, and education programming that champions genuine access.

Accessibility to places and spaces is a priority for this organisation, as is the acknowledgement of identity, culture and the basic human rights of people with a lived experience of disability. Touch Compass are art makers and advocates with and by this community of people and practice.

**Touch
Compass**

A Disability-Led Arts and Advocacy Perspective

Specifically, we identify how the plan fails to uphold its obligations under the UNCRPD, particularly Article 30 in ensuring disabled persons' right to equal participation in arts, culture, and public life.

We call for urgent changes to address systemic exclusion, underinvestment, and a failure to prioritise disability leadership in Auckland's arts and cultural sectors.

General thoughts

The Auckland Council Annual Plan 2025/2026 sets out funding priorities and planned initiatives for the next financial year.

However, from the perspective of accessibility, disability, and cultural participation, there are significant gaps that should be addressed.

Touch Compass are grateful for the opportunity to share the whakaaro of our community of people and practice.

We have identified 3 critical gaps and share those today along with some suggested solutions towards addressing those for consideration.

Mis-Alignment | UNCRPD

Article 30 – Participation in Cultural Life, Recreation, Leisure and Sport

Where the Plan Falls Short in broad terms

- **Uncertainty in cultural funding** (if the bed night levy is not approved, many key cultural events may not receive support).
- **No direct funding for disabled artists or disability-led arts initiatives**.
- **No clear strategy** to ensure that Auckland's public events, galleries, museums, and community spaces **are fully accessible for ALL Aucklanders**.
- **Limited references to accessible sport and recreation**, despite funding allocated to sports facilities. There is no indication nor guidance that facilities will improve accessibility for disabled participants or users.

Critical Gaps

1.1 Lack of Meaningful Inclusion of Disabled Persons in Decision -Making

UNCRPD Alignment: Article 4(3) requires close consultation with and actively involve persons with disabilities in decision -making processes affecting them.

- The plan does not mention formal consultation with disability -led arts organisations or Disabled Persons' Organisations (DPOs).
- Decisions regarding public cultural funding, infrastructure, and policy continue to be made without direct leadership from the disability community.

Solution:

- Establish a Disability Arts and Culture Advisory Group within Auckland Council, led by disabled artists and DPOs, to co -design policies, funding frameworks, and cultural initiatives.
- This should be funded annually to support genuine partnership.

Critical Gaps

1.2 Insufficient Investment in Disability -Led Arts and Cultural Infrastructure

UNCRPD Alignment: Article 30(2) obligates states to ensure disabled persons have equal access to cultural activities, including theatres, museums, cinemas, libraries, and tourism services.

- There is no dedicated funding for disability -led arts organisations or events within the plan.
- Accessibility that ensures ALL Aucklanders can access places and spaces, remains an afterthought rather than a foundational principle, with no designated investment in accessible arts infrastructure.
- Disabled artists continue to face systemic barriers to career progression due to inaccessible funding criteria and a lack of dedicated professional development opportunities.

Solution:

- Increase funding for disability -led arts initiatives to address historic underinvestment.
- Create an Accessibility Fund for the Arts, ensuring every council -supported arts programme includes funding for NZSL interpreters, audio description, and physically accessible venues.
- Ring-fence a percentage of arts funding (at least 15%) for disabled -led projects to ensure genuine equity in funding allocation.

Critical Gaps

1.3 Barriers to Public Space and Cultural Participation

UNCRPD Alignment: Article 9 requires that persons with disabilities have equal access to the built environment, transportation, information, and communication.

- Public cultural events continue to be inaccessible due to a lack of investment in accessible venues, transport, and programming. Many council -owned venues, libraries, and community arts spaces remain physically and technologically inaccessible.
- Arts and cultural participation opportunities for disabled Aucklanders remain sporadic rather than embedded in Auckland's cultural life.

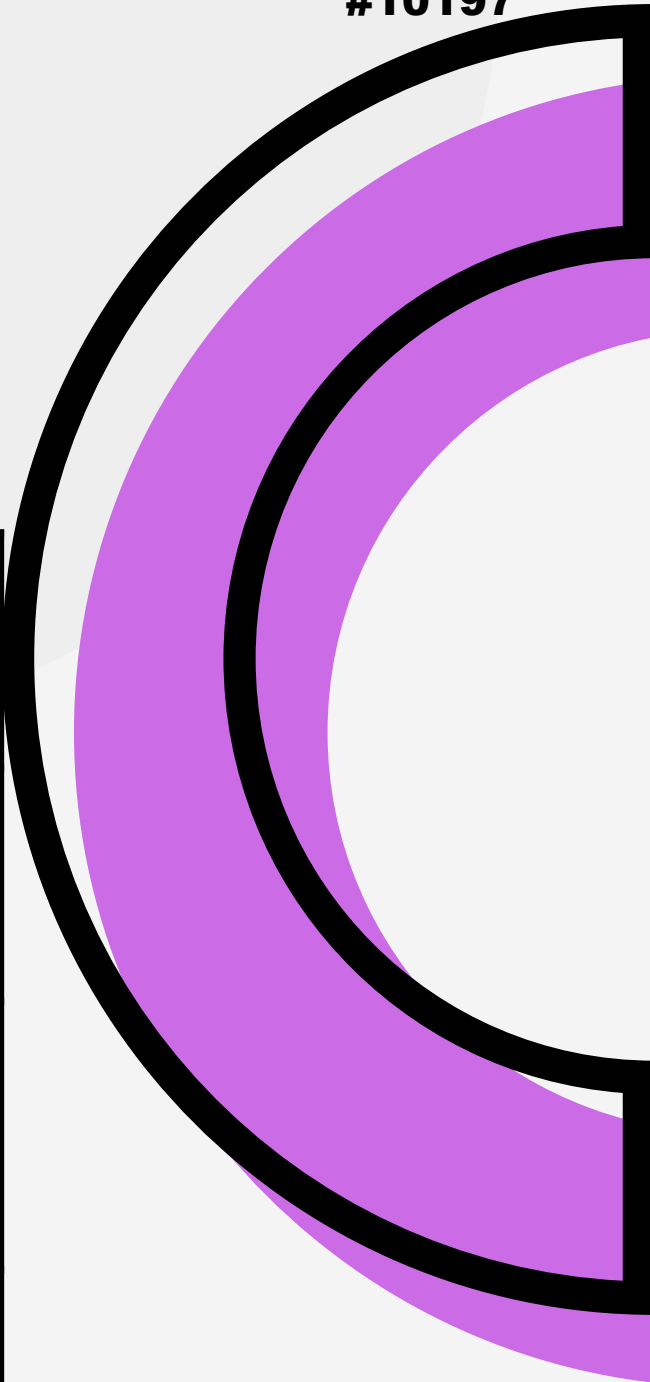
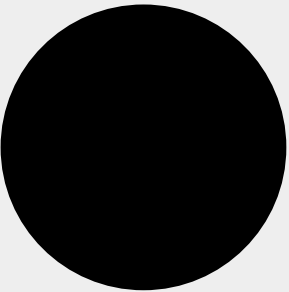
Solution:

- Mandate universal design principles for all arts venues and public spaces funded by Auckland Council, with an immediate increase in accessibility retrofitting.
- Develop a Disability Arts Hub —a dedicated, fully accessible space for disabled artists and cultural practitioners to create, exhibit, and perform their work.

Recommendations

- **Dedicated accessibility budget**
 - Allocate specific funding to improve accessibility in public transport, community facilities, and cultural spaces.
- **Disability arts and culture funding**
 - Establish targeted grants for disabled artists and inclusive arts programmes.
- **Accessibility standards for events and venues**
 - Require all council-funded cultural events to have sign language interpretation, audio description, and accessible seating.
- **Stronger engagement with Disabled communities**
 - Put people of lived experience into decision making roles not ad hoc or token advisory - Genuine leadership positions, not just conducting consultations with disability advocacy groups to inform future arts, culture, and accessibility planning.
- **Public commitment to UNCRPD compliance**
 - Integrate UNCRPD principles into Auckland's long-term planning and annual budgets.

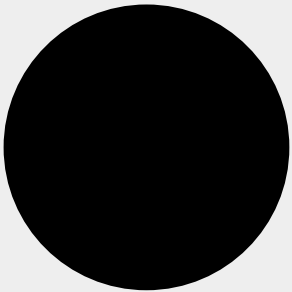
Solutions | UNCRPD



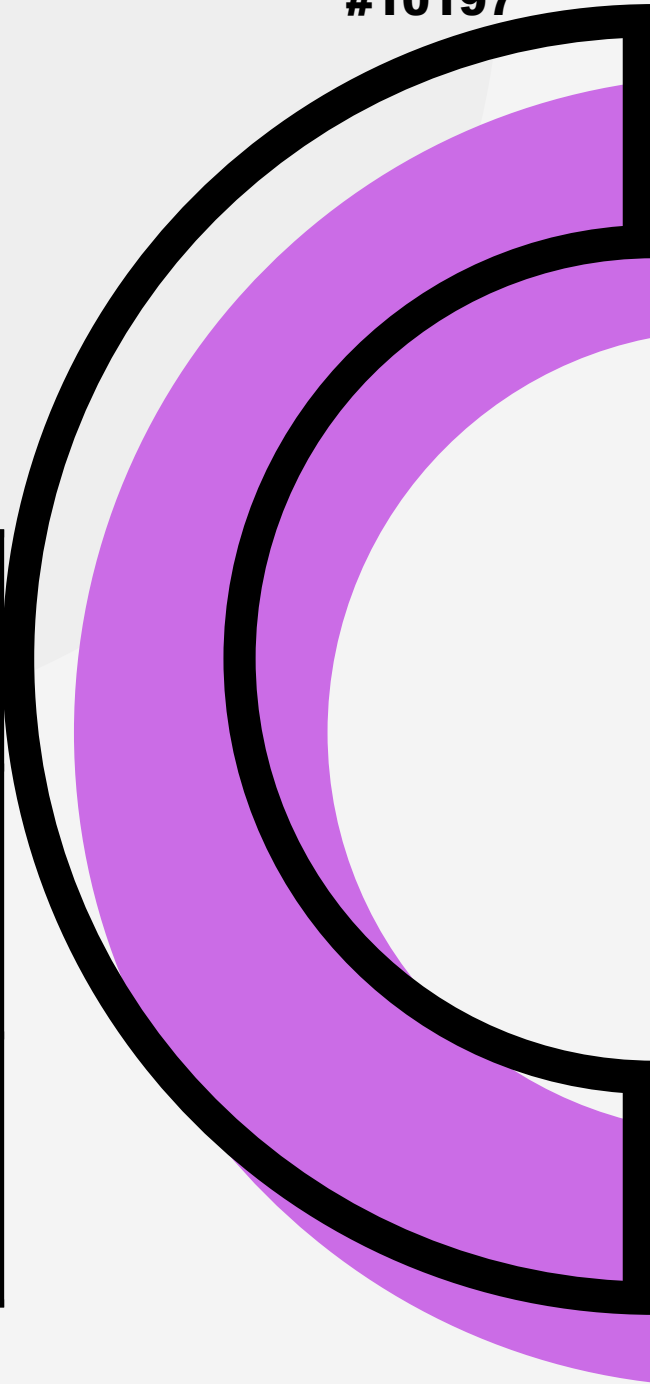
Obligation Under Article 30	Proposed Action for Auckland Council	Recommended Budget Increase
<i>Ensure disabled persons have access to cultural life on an equal basis.</i>	Introduce a Disability Arts and Culture Advisory Group.	\$200,000 per year
<i>Encourage and promote the participation of disabled persons in cultural, recreational and sporting activities.</i>	Increase funding for disability -led arts initiatives.	40% increase in existing arts funding
<i>Ensure cultural materials, television, films, theatre and other cultural activities are available in accessible formats.</i>	Create an Accessibility Fund for the Arts.	\$1 million annual budget



Solutions | UNCRPD



Obligation Under Article 30	Proposed Action for Auckland Council	Recommended Budget Increase
<i>Ensure persons with disabilities have access to cultural sites, museums, cinemas, and libraries.</i>	Universal design retrofitting for all council -funded cultural spaces.	25% increase in retrofitting budget
<i>Recognise and support disability culture and identity.</i>	Develop a Disability Arts Hub for disabled artists and cultural practitioners.	\$5 million capital investment



Conclusion

The Auckland Annual Plan 2025/2026 makes progress in community investment but fails to prioritise accessibility, arts, and cultural access for disabled people.

The reliance on uncertain funding mechanisms (e.g., the bed night levy) threatens the sustainability of major cultural and community events.

To align with international best practices and the UNCRPD, greater investment in accessibility, targeted disability arts funding, and inclusive planning must be prioritised.

By taking these steps, Auckland can become a city of leadership; truly accessible city - access to places, spaces and enriching experiences where all residents, regardless of ability, can participate fully in cultural and public life.

Ngā mihi

Touch Compass

www.touchcompass.org.nz



**Touch
Compass**