

Te mahere ā rohe o Waiheke 2023

Waiheke

Local Board Plan 2023



Draft - June 2023





Mihi

Titiro ki te Pane o Horoiwi,
ka whakapukepuke, ka wha atiketike ki waho rā.
He kawau,
he kawau, he kawau!
He kawau tikitiki ka eke ki te tāhuna tōrea.
He kawau tikitiki ka eke ki te tāhuna ki
Waitematā.
Ko koutou ēna e ngā mātāwaka i rite ai te kōrero,
*Ngā waka o Taikehu me he kāhui kātaha kapi-
tai, ka eke!*
Kua eke, hui e, tāiki e!
Te noho nei au i te kūrae i Takaparawhā, ka titiro
whakawaho ki
a koe Aotea
e tū hihwa mai rā i te pae o te moana o Hauraki.
Ka hoki whakaroto
ake aku mihi ki a Waiheke,
ki a Rangitoto te pueanga mutunga a te moana.
Kia ū mai anō au
ki te one i Ōkahu,
kia takahia e au te rārangi maunga i uta. Ki te
tonga ko Maungarei,
kei raro ko te Kōpua Kai a Hiku. Ka rere mā roto
ki Puketāpapa,
kia piki au ki Maungakiekie, Tūpo-o-te-tini.
Ka whakamau taku haere mā
te Ahikāroa a Rakataura kia taka atu au ki te Ara
Whakapekapeka
o Ruarangi.
I konā, ka aro tika atu au ki a koe e Maungawhau
te tū whakahira
tonu mai nā i te pū o te wheke,
kua werohia nei e te Tūkoi o te Rangī, kia
pokanoa au ki te pepeha a
Tītahi, “*Koia te pou whakairo ka tū ki Waitematā
i ōku wairangitanga*”,
*kia whakaotihia noa ai ki te kōrero rā, Te pai me
te whai rawa
o Tāmaki.*”

Look to the sandbanks at Achilles Point, rising
majestically out there.
It is the visiting cormorant!
It has alighted onto the beach of the oystercatcher.
A distinguished
visitor has come to the Waitematā.
It is you the descendants of the ancient voyagers,
those who embody
the axiom,
*The canoes of Taikehu, like shoals of herrings on the
tide, you have
arrived!*
The connections are made!
So here I sit on the headland at Bastion Point, and I
look out to
Great Barrier Island shimmering on the Hauraki
Harbour.
Returning my gaze to Waiheke and then to
Rangitoto, the last gift
from the sea. Once more I stand on the shore at
Ōkahu,
from where I can traverse the ancient peaks.
To the south is Maungarei,
below which lies the Panmure Basin. Flying inland I
come to
Puketāpapa from where I scale Maungakiekie,
resting place of those
who have gone before us.
I follow then the pathway to Mount Albert and down
into Point
Chevalier.
From there I return to Mt Eden, shining gem at the
heart of the great
city, lanced by the sky tower
so that I might appropriate the prophecy of Tītahi
who said,
“A tower that will stand in the Waitematā – that is
what I saw in
my feverish dream”,
and to end it with the maxim,
“*So flows the goodness and riches of Tāmaki*”.

Ngā upoko kōrero

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He kōrero mai i te Heamana

From the Chair

This draft Waiheke Local Board Plan 2023 has similar themes to our previous three-year plan and focuses on delivery of recommendations within our publicly consulted strategic plans. The draft brings together community contributions from early engagement, as well as those of board members.



Climate change is front of mind following the recent devastating weather events and we are proposing a number of initiatives that will help lower our carbon emissions. We will be supporting our community in your efforts to becoming more resilient, connected and prepared, and we will be advocating for development of plans that help us understand and to mitigate stormwater effects on the island and how best to protect our coastal assets.

We have continued with the central vision of **Waiheke as an island sanctuary in the Gulf** which was overwhelmingly supported in the last plan. This plan recognises how important it is that the essential character of Waiheke is protected, and the ways we work together, especially with tangata whenua so the indigenous ecology of land to sea can be restored.

This is a place that embraces a slower more reflective pace, where respect for our rich cultural heritage is paramount, and where outdoor recreation is embraced. Waiheke is a place that will be pest free, where our dark skies will be protected, where arts and innovation flourish, and where the pathways to a fossil-fuel free and zero waste future are shared goals within our community. Solid actions are already underway to make these goals a reality; where visitors stay longer to recharge, exploring and enjoying the diversity of local experiences.

We envisage our island itself being at the very centre of that identity; one where both our remarkable natural environment and our community thrives, and one that also celebrates our pristine beaches, world-class wineries, olive industry and restaurants.

You have told us you want fair prices and reliable transport routes, and that Mātiatia should be a welcoming gateway to Waiheke, as well as being a well-organised exit point for locals, and we will continue to advocate for these. Roads that are well maintained, water-sensitive and safe for our pedestrians and cyclists are an absolute priority, as is a review of our public transport bus network.

Many of the initiatives in this draft plan are dependent on finance and resources. The council budgets continue to be dramatically reduced, mainly due to the impacts of COVID-19 and severe weather events, and finance and resources may be more difficult to secure over the period of this local board plan. However, once we have this plan in place we'll know where to use whatever resources we do have.

We're really keen to receive your feedback, so we can weave your contributions into the final plan. Nga mihi nui,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Cath Handley'.

Cath Handley,
Chair - Waiheke Local Board

He aronga poto i tā mātou mahere

Our plan at a glance



Kapa haka performance

Our People

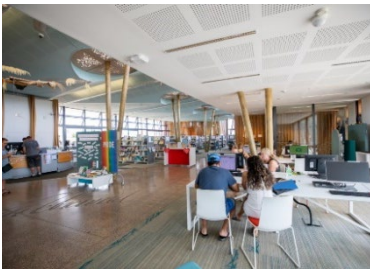
Waiheke residents have a strong sense of identity, connectedness and wellbeing which is enhanced through active community participation.



Rangihoua Wetlands

Our Environment

We want to protect, maintain and enhance our unique islands' land, coastline, bush, wetland and marine environments for future generations.



Waiheke Library

Our Facilities and Open Spaces

Our parks, reserves and beaches are enjoyed and respected by residents and visitors. Our community, arts and cultural facilities are well used and accessible.



Island Bay walkway

Our Places

The special character and values of Waiheke and inner gulf islands are protected and enhanced in line with the draft Waiheke Area Plan and principles of Essentially Waiheke.



Oneroa Village

Our Economy

Our Waiheke community has a strong, independent, entrepreneurial spirit and our natural assets provide many economic and lifestyle opportunities.



He kōrero mō ngā poari ā-rohe

About local boards

Auckland Council has a unique model of local government in New Zealand, made up of the Governing Body (the mayor and 20 Governing Body members) and 21 local boards. The Governing Body focuses on Auckland-wide issues while local boards are responsible for decision-making on local matters, activities and services and for providing input into regional strategies, policies and plans.

We make decisions on local matters such as:

- supporting local arts, culture, events and sport and recreation
- supporting local organisations to deliver community services
- maintaining and upgrading town centres and facilities including parks, libraries and halls
- caring for the environment and preserving heritage.

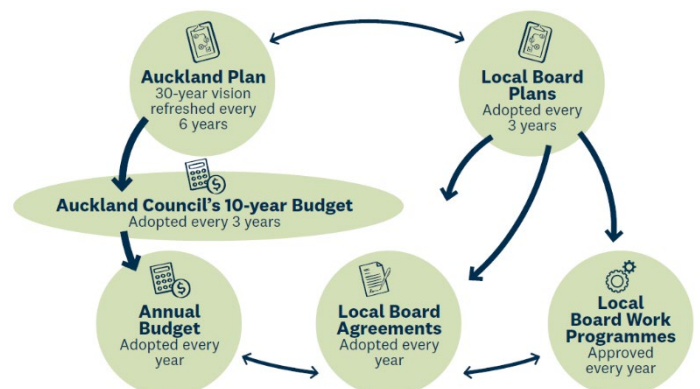
Local boards also have a role in representing the view of their communities on issues of local importance.

Higher inflation and the cost of borrowing money has pushed up the cost of providing these services. We will need to address these challenges in the local board plan, which means doing things differently and prioritising where we spend.

About local board plans

Local board plans are strategic three-year plans developed in consultation with the community. They set out the direction for the local area reflecting community aspirations and priorities, and guide:

- decisions on local activities, projects, and facilities
- local board input into the council's regional strategies and plans, including the Auckland Plan
- how local boards will work with other agencies, including community groups, central government agencies and council-controlled organisations that play key roles in the area
- funding and investment decisions.



Local board plans are inclusive and connected; they don't operate in isolation. They support:

- the Auckland Plan 2050 – the 30-year vision for Auckland
- the council's 10-year budget – planned spending and future investment priorities over the longer term
- the council's annual budget – funding for the coming financial year of the 10-year budget.

Each local board adopts an agreement that sets local budgets, levels of service, performance measures and targets for each financial year. Details of projects, budgets and timelines are outlined in annual work programmes. Progress is reported quarterly and communicated to our communities.

Te whakawhanake i tā mātou mahere

Developing our plan

When developing our draft plan, we ensured it reflected the aspirations of our community. We took the time to reflect on what you have already told us since our last local board plan was adopted and what has changed since then.

This draft plan takes account of the financial challenges facing our city along with the specific challenges and opportunities facing our area. Despite these challenges, our draft plan comprises of a number of aspirational objectives and some of the key initiatives we will carry out to achieve them.



Te whakatutuki i tā mātou mahere

Carrying out our plan

Turning plans into reality takes many people working together – the community, the local board and the wider council family such as Auckland Transport. To deliver on the local board plans, we will:

- prioritise budgets to focus on the initiatives in the plans
- make the best use of local assets such as community centres, libraries and parks
- set direction for the council staff who deliver the projects and services
- work with various community groups and partners, to deliver projects and services.
- make decisions that are in line with Auckland's commitment to climate action and emissions reduction and support Waiheke residents to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build climate resilience.

Where important projects in local areas are beyond available funding or decision making, our role is to advocate to other decision-makers to ensure they are aware of community views and the board's support for them.



Te Rohe ā-Poari o Waiheke

Waiheke Local Board area



The Waiheke Local Board area includes Waiheke Island along with Rangitoto, Motutapu, Motokorea, Motuihe, Ponui, Rākino and smaller islands, some of which are uninhabited reserves. Waiheke is the largest island. The Waiheke Local Board area (including Rākino and Ponui islands) is home to an estimated 9,790 people. More than 500,000 people visit Waiheke each year. Waiheke Island has around 40km of beaches and the eastern part is mostly farmland, vineyards and a regional park.



Te Rerenga Wai ō Tīkapa Moana - The Flowing Waters of Tīkapa Moana by Chris Bailey 2016

Ngā huanga Māori

Māori Outcomes

Māori identity and culture are Auckland's unique point of difference in the world. Whānau, hapū, iwi and Māori communities aspire to have healthy and prosperous lives and have defined the outcomes that are most important to Māori. Māori outcomes are the way Auckland Council supports Māori aspirations.

Māori outcomes respond to Council's legislative obligations and to extensive engagement with Auckland's Māori communities.

The Kia Ora Tāmaki Makaurau framework outlines ten priority areas that support and progress these aspirations and has been adopted by Council as the way to deliver outcomes for Māori. These priority areas are:

Kia ora te kāinga – Papakāinga and Māori housing

Kia ora te marae – Marae development

Kia ora te ahurea – Māori identity and culture

Kia ora te rangatahi – Realising rangatahi potential

Kia ora te hononga – Effective Māori participation

Kia ora te whānau – Whānau and tamariki wellbeing

Kia ora te reo – Te reo Māori

Kia ora te umanga – Māori business, tourism and employment

Kia ora te taiao – Kaitiakitanga

Kia hāngai te Kaunihera – An empowered organisation



Local board plans are an important way to deliver for Māori at a local level. This section of the plan outlines the Māori outcomes addressed in this plan.

Waiheke means trickling or descending (heke) water (wai). It refers to the pure water being slowly filtered through the forests and flowing into waterways. The original name was Te Motu Arai Roa meaning ‘the long sheltering island’ – it was a refuge for canoes to shelter from bad weather coming in from the north.

The Waiheke Local Board will work with and support mana whenua and mātāwaka to increase the wellbeing of all residents, with respect to te ao Māori and recognise the role of mana whenua as kaitiaki of land and water resources.

We will continue to seek to understand priorities for the following iwi and hapū whakapapa to the area: Ngāti Paoa, Ngaati Whanaunga, Ngāti Maru, Ngāti Tamaterā, Te Patukirikiri, Ngai Tai Ki Tāmaki, Ngāti Te Ata Waiohū.

Waiheke Island has a rich Māori history, and we have significant archaeological and cultural features, including pā and tapu sites. We will work with mana whenua, mātāwaka, the council and government agencies to ensure these sites are protected.

We acknowledge the importance of our natural environment to Māori and will work with mana whenua and mātāwaka to achieve our combined environmental aspirations. We also recognise the four cornerstones of Māori health (Te Whare Tapa Wha) – taha tinana (physical health), taha wairua (spiritual health), taha whānau (family health), and taha hinengaro (mental health) and have acknowledged these within our plan.

Waiheke’s community marae is Piritahi Marae located on Te Huruhi Reserve. It is the focal point for many Waiheke residents, including mana whenua and mātāwaka. The marae is a ngā hau e wha in that it welcomes people from all the four winds and is not a tribal marae. It provides a range of social and health services and caters to cultural needs and aspirations as a place for hui and tangihanga. Piritahi Hau Ora Trust provides primary health care services and Piritahi Childcare Centre, both based across from the marae. The marae also runs Piritahi Māra Kai, a community garden established for growing healthy kai.

The Waiheke Local Board supports the marae through its community grants programme and Māori Responsiveness budget. Projects have included funding the role of Kaiwhakahaere Marae (Marae Operations Manager), support for whare kai and Whāriki Aroha projects, land and stream restoration works, Matariki and Waitangi event funding and purchase of a marquee.

Regional Marae Development Funding has supported marae improvements such as roof repair and wastewater improvements.

In addition to initiatives that align with Māori aspirations (such as environmental programmes and water quality), budget is provided for within the local board work programme to support working with mana whenua and mātāwaka to identify and respond to the needs and aspirations for local Māori with Māori-led initiatives that support social and economic outcomes.



Ella Singh, Sophia Hitzbleck, Jared Howell, Josie Manson
[Waiheke High School Students and Teachers]

Te Tāruke ā-Tāwhiri

Climate Action

In 2019 Auckland Council declared a climate emergency and in 2020 adopted Auckland's climate plan, Te Tāruke ā-Tāwhiri. Meeting the goals set out in this plan means taking ambitious action to reduce emissions and to adapt to a changing climate.

Local Boards have an important role to play in leading and supporting Auckland's response to the climate emergency, including supporting regional climate plan initiatives, integrating climate awareness into all decisions, including community investment.

Te Tāruke ā-Tāwhiri sets out detailed targets and actions to show how Waiheke Local Board area can support achieving Auckland's goal of halving greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and achieving net zero emissions by 2050.

Together with our Council Controlled Organisations we will develop and undertake measures to reduce our carbon emission footprint. For example, Auckland Transport is committed to taking bold steps to reduce the impacts the transport system has on our environment. Through plans such as the Climate Change Adaptation Policy and setting emission targets, and the Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP), they will prioritise a more sustainable and resilient transport system and individual transport projects that promote a shift to more sustainable modes of transport with better options to keep Auckland moving.



Waiheke Local Board has chosen to adopt even bolder climate goals through its [Waiheke Local Climate Action Plan](#) which includes the aim of achieving a net positive carbon footprint by 2040.

Our vision is to create a resilient, self-sustaining, independent, and net carbon positive community where the mauri of people (tangata), the atmosphere (kōhauhau) and the natural environment (taiao) on land (whenua) and sea (moana) thrives.

The Local Board Plan identifies actions that can be taken to deliver the [Waiheke Local Climate Action Plan](#) in line with the overarching objectives:

- To reduce and eventually eliminate our use of fossil fuels (petrol, oil diesel, gas, coal).
- To educate, encourage and incentivise changes to our lifestyles, businesses, infrastructure. buildings, consumption patterns, behaviour and environment that reduce or eliminate greenhouse gas emissions (mitigation).
- To restore the natural environment (taiao on land (whenua) and sea (moana)).
- To increase our ability to respond to the climate changes already locked in by helping tāngata (people) prepare, adapt, and become more resilient.

We will work with our community and networks to progressively deliver actions from the [Waiheke Local Climate Action Plan](#) and integrate actions within the Local Board Plan.



Kapa Haka performance (Waiheke High School and Te Huruhi School)

Ō Tātou Tāngata

Our People

Waiheke residents have a strong sense of identity, connectedness and wellbeing which is enhanced through active community participation.

We will work with mana whenua and mātāwaka on all aspects of planning for our communities. We are a diverse, close-knit community and we value our differences. Our diversity is a strength that we aim to encourage and to protect.

We are creative, innovative and aware of the important role arts and culture plays in our sense of identity and cohesion. Events play an important part in growing community spirit, and we will support locally run events that are consistent with our community's values.

Waiheke and Rakino communities need to be resilient and well-prepared due to their isolation and coastal environment. Having well-connected and sufficiently resourced neighbourhoods and local communities is important. We will continue to develop how best to respond to and recover from emergencies, drawing on our experience of the COVID-19 pandemic and recent severe weather events.

Waiheke has a higher-than-average number of residents aged over 65 years within the Auckland region. We need to understand their needs and those of the vulnerable people in our community. We should ensure our island is safe and accessible and promote opportunities for community engagement and appropriate care services.



We will refresh the board's [Housing Strategy](#) and advocate for projects and policies that enable worker accommodation, affordable and social housing, and provide healthy, energy efficient housing that supports the goals of the [Waiheke Local Climate Action Plan](#).

We encourage members of our community to be involved and active in local issues. We will consult with diverse community groups, for example youth and our older population, when planning for the future.

Challenges

- Lack of affordable and/or healthy homes for our community
- Access to social, health and wellbeing services
- Affordability and reliability of ferry services

Opportunities

- Learning from our experience during the COVID-19 pandemic and severe weather events to build future climate and economic resilience
- Support the Waiheke community to build on their identity and connectedness

Our Plan

| What we want to achieve (Objectives) | What we will deliver in the next 3 years (Key initiatives) |
|--|--|
| A resilient and connected community | Support local initiatives that enhance connection and diversity, reduce isolation, and promote community development |
| | Periodically review Waiheke and Rakino's Emergency Response Plan in association with Auckland Emergency Management, the community, and emergency response networks |
| | Collaborate with resident's associations and hall lease holders to resource civil defence community shelters |
| | Support development of community hubs and residents association networks |
| | Support community-led activities, volunteer groups and projects that build community wellbeing and participation |
| | Complete a feasibility study into the equity of year-round access to adequate potable water supply for Waiheke Island residents |
| A supportive society, where people feel there is care, respect and all people are valued | Support Waiheke health and social service providers to advocate for Waiheke based services |
| | Support community access to a broad health range of services and advocate for collaboration of health resources |
| | Support actions and policies aimed at reducing harm caused by alcohol, smoking, drugs, and gambling, including development of a local alcohol policy |



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| | Support and empower our diverse communities by providing them with opportunities to engage with the board and apply for funding via the community grants programme |
| Strengthen collaboration and partnership with Māori | Develop mana whenua relationships to advance partnership and support mana whenua aspirations |
| | Continue to partner with Ngāti Paoa to support their aspirations, including involvement in the development of Mātiatia and reconvening the Rangihoua and Tawaipareira Reserve Management Subcommittee |
| | Create opportunities for effective Māori participation and influence in decision making |
| | Promote the use of te reo Māori |
| Enhance Māori wellbeing and potential | Increase opportunities for rangatahi skill development and leadership |
| | Work with mātāwaka and Piritahi Marae to achieve their aspirations |
| A flourishing arts sector that celebrates our unique island identity | Support the arts community to generate, maintain and grow the arts on Waiheke |
| Youth are valued and have opportunities to thrive | Create avenues for youth to influence decision-making, including through the Tuia programme |
| | Support community-led youth initiatives and deliver actions identified within the Youth Needs Assessment |

Advocacy

We will advocate to the Governing Body and central Government for:

- affordable ferry services and service elements such as accessibility, reliability, connectivity, and fare structures.
- the introduction of Māori Wards for Tāmaki Makarau.



Running event at Onetangi Sports Park



Rangihoua wetland

Tō Tātou Taiao

Our Environment

We want to protect, maintain, and enhance our unique islands' land, coastline, bush, wetland, and marine environments for future generations.

We acknowledge the importance of our natural environment to Māori and will work with mana whenua and mātāwaka to achieve our combined environmental aspirations.

We must ensure that our streams, beaches, bays, and surrounding Gulf are protected and enhanced, and that biodiversity is protected and restored. Community education and volunteer programmes have a crucial role to play. We will foster partnerships and collaborative relationships with volunteer groups committed to protecting, restoring, and enhancing our natural environments such as wetlands, native bush, coastlines and marine environments).

We will promote best practice for environmental management including stormwater, wastewater, wetlands, weed, and animal pest control. Use of agrichemicals on Waiheke council land will continue to be restricted unless the board approves dispensation.

We will actively promote the development of marine protection strategies within the Gulf, including reducing sedimentation.



Wetlands cover 1.3 per cent of our land with some being nationally significant because they are relatively intact. Their function supports the health of the Hauraki Gulf, including flood control, water filtration, coastal erosion and sea level rise protection.

We want to protect and regenerate our animal and plant biodiversity by encouraging coordination of the agencies working to protect and restore the environment. Waiheke is free of Kauri Dieback Disease and the board will continue working proactively with the Department of Conservation, relevant council departments and community organisations to keep it that way.

With the new Resource Recovery Park now in place we will support initiatives to move the Waiheke Local Board area towards a zero-waste future. This includes a refresh of the [2018 Tikapa Moana Hauraki Gulf Islands Waste Plan](#). We support community-driven initiatives to reduce waste through education, the use of renewable resources, re-use of construction material and increased upcycling.

Climate change is central to all local board plans and initiatives, both in terms of climate change mitigation and adapting to climate change effects. We will work with our community to prepare for the future in line with [TeTāruke-a-Tāwhiri - Auckland's Climate Plan](#) and the [Waiheke Local Climate Action Plan](#).

Challenges

- managing invasive species and pests
- controlling sedimentation into the Hauraki Gulf
- ensuring septic systems are maintained and monitored
- protecting tree and vegetation coverage.

Opportunities

- to re-establish healthy marine environments around Waiheke and in the Hauraki Gulf
- upholding the ongoing partnership with mana whenua in responding to climate change
- working with our communities to leverage skills, knowledge and capacity, to reduce emissions and adapt to the effects of climate change
- making a significant reduction in waste going to landfill and accelerate the construction waste diversion programme
- Waiheke becoming a predator free island.

Our Plan

| What we want to achieve (Objectives) | What we will deliver in the next 3 years (Key initiatives) |
|---|---|
| Restore, enhance, and protect our natural environment in partnership with our community | Support initiatives which protect, restore, and enhance the island's indigenous biodiversity including sand dune restoration and planting |
| | Implement the grow stage of the Waiheke Ngahere (Forest) Strategy to increase canopy cover, retain significant trees and improve Waiheke Island's carbon footprint and encourage carbon sequestration |



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| | Continue to support the work and public messaging of predator-free groups, including Te Korowai o Waiheke, and pest eradication programmes |
| | Encourage the creation of wildlife corridors (including new and restored wetlands), kauri sanctuaries and seabird and shorebird breeding colonies across the islands to complement the conservation sanctuaries on Rangitoto, Motutapu, Motuihe, and Rotoroa islands |
| | Support stream restoration projects including reducing pollution, stream clean ups, fish passage barrier identification and remediation, habitat improvement, native riparian planting, and pest control |
| | Support academic and citizen science programmes to help understand and support the health of the aquatic environment |
| | Identify native birdlife habitat along our coastline |
| Respond to the challenge of climate change | Continue to implement ‘Waiheke Local Climate Action Plan: Waiheke ki uta, Waiheke ki tai, Waiheke ki tua’ and maintain support to deliver priority climate actions identified in our local plan and Auckland’s regional climate plan |
| | Continue to endorse Electric Island Waiheke in its goal to support Waiheke to become fossil-fuel free by 2030 including the provision of electric vehicle charging stations and alternative sources of power generation |
| | Adapt to the coastal impacts from climate change (sea level rise, coastal erosion and inundation) taking direction from the Hauraki Gulf Islands Shoreline Adaptation Plan (to be developed 2024/25 June - June) |
| Improve conservation of our marine and coastal environment | Restore freshwater ecosystems to provide flood mitigation, habitats for native biodiversity, and carbon sequestration through riparian planting |
| | Continue to support marine regeneration projects with key community organisations, schools, and other agencies |
| | Improve biosecurity awareness and practice for people, goods, vessels, and plants traveling to Waiheke and elsewhere in the Hauraki Gulf, including advocating for the urgent elimination of the invasive seaweed Caulerpa brachypus |
| Reduce the waste stream | Support regional and community led initiatives that move Waiheke towards a zero-waste future |
| | Accelerate the construction waste management programme and encourage a circular economy and the re-use of materials. |
| | Install public rubbish bins in tourism/visitor areas to provide for landfill, recycling, and organic compostable separation and, as practicable, reduce public litter collection sites at other locations |
| | Support the Waiheke Kai Charter, Piritahi Marae Māra Kai model gardens and other community-led programmes that achieve sustainable and low-carbon behaviour change and self-sufficiency such as composting, vegetable gardens, renewable energy generation and food waste reduction |



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| A water sensitive community | Support education campaigns for residents on managing private wastewater and stormwater systems for the benefit of both public health and the natural environment |
| Stormwater is managed sustainably | Promote initiatives that minimise adverse effects of stormwater run-off and encourage the use of water-sensitive design practices |

Advocacy

We will work with the Hauraki Gulf Forum, community groups and the Governing Body to support the implementation of marine protection strategies within our local board area and the wider Gulf, including advocating for:

- the nineteen protection zones as outlined within Revitalising the Gulf: Government action on the Sea Change Plan
- an end to bottom contact fishing such as dredging, bottom trawling and Danish seining
- initiatives to prevent sedimentation of the Hauraki Gulf
- ecosystem based management of fisheries within Tīkapa Moana
- the Hākaīmangō-Mātiatia (Northwest Waiheke) Marine Reserve.

We will advocate to the Governing Body for:

- development of an Integrated Water Management Plan to strengthen resilience to climate-related hazards and natural disasters
- development of a Waiheke Shoreline Adaptation Plan to help us prepare for the future of our coasts
- development of strategies to clean-up Pūtiki Bay and active monitoring and enforcement of boating activities on the Waiheke shoreline, including abandonment and rubbish dumping
- monitoring of water quality in streams, beaches and bays, and support compliance programmes to improve water quality
- groundwater monitoring sites on Waiheke
- development of Waiheke Catchment Management Plans in consultation with residents and businesses, prioritising areas of repeated flood events
- implementation of effective flood control by use of nature-based solutions, proactive stormwater maintenance and necessary capital investment.

We will advocate to Auckland Transport for:

- a designated Harbourmaster on Waiheke to be sufficiently empowered to address the increasing numbers of abandoned or derelict boats degrading our marine environment
- installation of Waiheke electric ferry charging facilities.

We will advocate to central government for:

- elimination of the invasive seaweed *Caulerpa brachypus* from the Hauraki Gulf.



Kai Conscious Waiheke



Waiheke Library

Ō tātou waihanga me ō tātou pākihi

Our Facilities and Open spaces

Our parks, reserves and beaches are enjoyed and respected by residents and visitors. Our community, arts and cultural facilities are well used and accessible.

Our community facilities and open spaces are important to our community's wellbeing and cohesion. We will ensure our facilities, playgrounds, parks, reserves and track networks are well maintained and provide opportunities for recreation and connection.

The Waiheke Local Parks Management Plan, once adopted, will be our guiding document for the management of our parks and reserves. This omnibus plan aims to provide a holistic and integrated view of our core park management issues and priorities to enable consistency of open space management across the local board area and different park types.

The Rangihoua Reserve and Onetangi Sports Park Reserve Management Plan, once finalised, will be adopted. It aims, among other things, to reconcile recreational use, environmental protection, public access, and cultural values. Once adopted this will guide future management and investment in the reserve.

We will continue to improve recreational facilities at the Onetangi Sports Park. The refreshed Waiheke Sports Strategy once adopted will address the facility needs of our growing number of sports clubs and



players. The community supports the development of a swimming pool, and it is a local board priority to progress planning for a community pool. We want to ensure everyone can learn to swim in a safe environment while providing a valuable therapeutic and recreational facility.

Our community and arts facilities are very important to our community, and we will continue to look at ways to ensure their use is maximised.

The Artworks complex was established in 1991 and serves as an arts and cultural centre. Guided by the Waiheke Community Arts and Culture Needs Assessment, we will support development of Artworks as an arts and cultural precinct, including advocating for an upgrade of the entire complex, as plans and resources develop.

Challenges

- the increasing cost of maintaining and renewing our track network and community facilities
 - impacts of climate change on our community assets
 - limited regional budget to support significant projects such as a community swimming pool
- Understanding the changing needs of our community.

Opportunities

- continue to develop our sports and recreation facilities to keep people healthy and active
- our parks and open space strategies are aligned with Waiheke's identity and the wishes of locals and visitors alike
- work to transition sports and recreation facilities to net zero emission facilities in line with the Waiheke Local Climate Action Plan.

Our Plan

| What we want to achieve (Objectives) | What we will deliver in the next 3 years (Key initiatives) |
|--|---|
| Improve the open space network on the island | Progress recommended actions within the Waiheke Local Parks Management Plan and the Rangihoua Reserve and Onetangi Sports Park Reserve Management Plan once adopted |
| | Implement the Tawaipareira Reserve and Little Oneroa Reserve Concept Plans |
| | Maintain the Waiheke walking track network and investigate retreat or re-routing where ongoing issues are likely |
| | Explore opportunities to develop new pathways, tracks and cycleways in accordance with the Waiheke Pathways Plan and in conjunction with the Waiheke 10-year Transport Plan |
| Improve our community's wellbeing by providing quality arts, recreational and community facilities | Continue to support local organisations with the development of a community swimming pool and consider consulting our community on a targeted rate if required |
| | Replace the Rakino Community Hall following storm damage |



| | |
|--|--|
| Embrace Waiheke's rich Māori identity and cultural history | Develop a strategy to improve recreational boating related infrastructure and facilities |
| | Implement the Waiheke Be Accessible Plan as resources become available to ensure facilities are accessible to all |
| | Invest in and support local place-based initiatives that celebrate Māori identity and culture including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Te Kete Rukuruku (naming and dual naming of Parks), and • Implementation of Te Aranga Design principles in park, playground, and green space upgrades. |
| | Recognise the Māori world view – te ao Māori – in all programmed work |
| | Create connection to place and heritage through the installation of historical and cultural markers in our open spaces |

Advocacy

We will advocate to the Governing Body for:

- boat pump out and boat cleaning facilities
- sand-carpeting and lighting at Rangihoua Reserve / Onetangi Sports Park
- planning for future redevelopment of the Artworks complex.



Waiheke Touch Football Competition at Onetangi Sports park



Island Bay walkway

Ō Tātou Wāhi

Our Places

The special character and values of Waiheke and inner gulf islands are protected and enhanced in line with the draft Waiheke Area Plan and principles of Essentially Waiheke.

Prior Waiheke Local Boards were committed to ensuring that our communities values and principles were central to the Hauraki Gulf Islands District Plan, as well as succeeding planning documents. The current board will advocate for cultural, social, and environmental impacts to be considered in all development and activity planning, in order to retain our distinctive character. We will ensure our community has an active voice in local planning and development. We must ensure that these principles are also reflected in the new Waiheke Area Plan that is under development. This board-led document will help shape planning and decision-making for Waiheke and the other islands in the board area over the next 30 years.

We must ensure Waiheke develops in a sustainable, low carbon, resilient and liveable manner. We also want to ensure that Waiheke remains a water-sensitive community, with sufficient resiliency in terms of drinking water supply, and for stormwater and wastewater management systems.

We will ensure we have safe, fit-for-purpose and low carbon environmentally friendly transport infrastructure, with integrated transport options that encourage shared use of the road corridor.

The Waiheke Local Board has an enduring Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Auckland Transport, and an approved [10-year Transport Plan](#) that was developed in consultation with the



community. The local board will work with Auckland Transport to implement that 10-year plan, with biennial reviews.

In the MOU, Auckland Transport has committed to water sensitive design principles when roads and footpaths are designed in collaboration with Healthy Waters. The implementation of the [10-year Transport Plan](#) and finalisation of a Waiheke Transport Design Manual will support planning.

We will continue to work with Auckland Transport for a reliable and accessible public transport network, and advocate to Waka Kotahi for affordable reliable ferry services. We will continue advocating to Auckland Transport for safe and accessible connections to key regional amenities and services such as hospitals and the airport.

Mātiatia, Kennedy Point and Auckland ferry terminals are the key transport hubs for Waiheke and we will continue advocating for them to be fit for purpose for travel to and from Waiheke.

The Mātiatia Strategic Plan will provide a coordinated approach to improving Mātiatia and its facilities for residents, visitors, transport operators and local businesses. The plan will be fully consulted with the community. It will address traffic and public transport flows to create safe, functional facilities for all users, including pedestrians and cyclists. It will address visitor services, including access to information.

Concept plans for the surrounding open spaces will provide for future needs and aspirations. Cultural, heritage and environmental values will be protected and enhanced.

Challenges

- narrow roads and unsafe access in some areas for pedestrians, cyclists and other users e.g. mobility scooters
- availability of affordable and/or healthy accommodation
- reliability and affordability of ferry services
- ensuring land use and urban development is in appropriate locations.

Opportunities

- aligning our activities with the identity of Waiheke Island as an island sanctuary in the Tikapa Moana Hauraki Gulf
- bringing a Waiheke flavour to transport projects to maintain the character of the island, and keep the roadways safe
- providing transport options that encourage active transport modes to align with our climate change goals
- ensuring downtown waterfront developments align with the needs of Waiheke.

Our Plan



| What we want to achieve (Objectives) | What we will deliver in the next 3 years (Key initiatives) |
|--|---|
| Planning that enables local placemaking | Finalise the Waiheke Area Plan in consultation with our community and begin implementation |
| | Engage with our community during future reviews and iterations of the Hauraki Gulf Islands District Plan. |
| | Initiate a review of the transport layout within Ostend village and surrounds to create a safer environment |
| | Investigate opportunities to revitalise Oneroa village |
| | Implement recommendations within the Onetangi Beach Needs Assessment once adopted |
| Safe, fit-for-purpose and low carbon environmentally friendly transport infrastructure | Utilise our renewals programme to ensure our assets are sustainable and resilient to the impacts of climate change and contribute to the liveability of a community |
| | Support an introduction of low emission passenger ferries and landward infrastructure for a sustainable future and to minimise impact on the Hauraki Gulf |
| Mātiatia is redeveloped in consultation with mana whenua, and subsequently with the community and all other stakeholders | Complete the Mātiatia Strategic Plan after full public consultation |
| | Support the Auckland Transport Mātiatia business case development for Waka Kotahi funding |
| | Proceed with phased work at Mātiatia as Auckland Transport/Waka Kotahi funding is made available |
| Sustainable living and healthy homes | Review the Waiheke Housing Strategy and prioritise advocacy for changes to meet identified community needs including affordable, community and social housing |
| | Support community-led healthy homes projects for low-income residents to create warm, dry, energy efficient homes |
| Sustain and celebrate Māori identity, knowledge and practice | Ensure sites of significance are appropriately identified, marked, and managed |
| | Work with mana whenua to support the designation of appropriate areas for the internment of kōiwi tangata (burial of human remains) |
| Marae are sustainable cultural centres | Support Piritahi Marae in its aspirations to further develop as a local community centre |
| | Support the development of kaupapa Māori-based learning and wānanga facilities |

Advocacy

We will advocate to the Governing Body for:

- integration of the outcomes sought in the draft Waiheke Area Plan within the council's operations, strategies, policies and, to the extent possible, regulatory frameworks
- any available council property being considered for health facilities and affordable housing purposes
- funding support for the implementation of a helicopter activity plan change in the Hauraki Gulf Island District Plan
- adequate funding and resource to ensure the bylaw and consent compliance teams can respond to Waiheke and inner gulf islands' requests and complaints.

We will also advocate to Auckland Transport for:

- funding for the Waiheke [10-year Transport Plan](#) through the Auckland Regional Land Transport Plan process and supporting Auckland Transport to implement prioritised projects
- delivery of prioritised cycleways and footpaths within the [Pathways Plan](#), and in conjunction with the Waiheke [10-year Transport Plan](#)
- safer speeds and roads near schools and in town centres
- minor safety projects in high-risk locations which benefit community and in particular pedestrians and support travel by alternative modes
- progressing the Auckland Transport Mātiatia Landside Improvements project to address access climate change considerations, cultural sites of significance, management of stormwater and active mode infrastructure
- ensuring the Mātiatia hub appropriately accommodates tourism, trade and visitors and appropriately balances and caters for resident's travel needs
- ensuring that all Wharf facilities serving Waiheke are fit for purpose and future-proofed
- development of park-and-ride facilities on Waiheke
- legislative change for Waiheke ferries to be included in the Sustainable Public Transport Operating Model (which replaces the Public Transport Operating Model)
- a review of the Waiheke bus network and a trial of smaller public transport electric vehicles for our feeder roads and routes
- delivery of actions within the Waiheke Be Accessible Plan, including connections with the Downtown area and Wynyard Quarter and hospital connectivity.



Bike Box Waiheke



Oneroa village

Tā Tātou Ōhanga

Our Economy

Our Waiheke community has a strong, independent, entrepreneurial spirit and our natural assets provide many economic and lifestyle opportunities.

Economic activity on Waiheke must balance development with impacts on the environment and infrastructure. This includes ensuring that our community lifestyle is not adversely impacted.

The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated the Waiheke economy's reliance on tourism and visitors. Fortunately, there are other sectors adding value. This includes exports, viticulture and horticulture, farming, commuter income, technology, and the arts, among others.

This plan seeks to address both, the rebuild of the visitor economy, and further economic diversification. The board will advocate for promotion of Waiheke as a desirable relocation destination for compatible small to medium tourism operators.

Waiheke's extraordinary natural landscape, its engaging and artistic community, its vineyards and restaurants, and its proximity to mainland Auckland means it is now viewed as a destination of choice. This has brought with it both opportunities and challenges.

Tātaki Auckland Unlimited, in consultation with the Waiheke community and Local Board, has developed a Waiheke Destination Management Plan with a vision of Waiheke being a leader in destination



sustainability. It seeks to protect and enhance our unique island environment through regenerative tourism and encourage visitors with like-minded values to support our visitor economy to the benefit of all our communities.

Our infrastructure and environment face the significant challenge of supporting not only the needs of our estimated 9600 residents, but also the visitors as tourism returns to previous or higher levels. The board will continue to advocate for a robust infrastructure within the wider council organisation.

Challenges

- Waiheke’s economy lacks diversity making it vulnerable to any downturn in activity in its main employment sector
- Waiheke is heavily reliant on its visitor economy, which is seasonal and at its peak, places great demands on the island’s resources
- at peak times the island’s infrastructure and environment come under pressure, balancing the impact of economic growth with the environmental impact is important to maintaining the lifestyle of residents.

Opportunities

- Waiheke offers significant business opportunities for a potential range of employers/enterprises, particularly those who operate with similar values
- enabling hybrid working options to access skilled employment without the need to travel to and from the island
- diversification of our economy into higher fiscal return industries
- encouraging a low carbon circular economy.

Our Plan

| What we want to achieve (Objectives) | What we will deliver in the next 3 years (Key initiatives) |
|---|---|
| Economic development on Waiheke is environmentally, economically and socially sustainable | Finalise the Waiheke Destination Management Plan and progress the resulting actions |
| | Investigate mechanisms to understand visitor data and tourism insights |
| | Support the business sector in transitioning to a more ecologically sustainable model |
| Our visitor industry is managed sustainably | Actively promote Waiheke’s identity as an unspoilt natural destination and an island sanctuary in the Hauraki Gulf, including encouraging visitors to respect Waiheke’s natural environment |
| | Support eco-tourism and eco-adventure opportunities on Waiheke that sustains and supports our environment |
| | Work with our networks to develop a trail or series of trails that combines art, food and cultural experiences |



| | |
|---|---|
| | Support community groups that actively promote conservation volunteerism |
| | Support the development of an education strategy to ensure visitors understand how to care for and respect the island's delicate environment |
| Waiheke is recognised as an arts destination | Support the arts community to promote arts venues and activities collectively, as a Waiheke identity |
| Strengthen our economy in keeping with the island's character and our need to increase our resiliency | Support and advocate for council-delivered projects on Waiheke that create employment |
| | Investigate the development of initiatives to grow local business networks, e.g. a chamber of commerce |
| | Support collaboration between businesses and tertiary providers to create economic and career development opportunities for young people, for example the Young Enterprise Scheme |
| | Support innovative or sustainable business and community initiatives that align with Waiheke's identity as an island sanctuary in the Hauraki Gulf |
| | Recognise and support the role of markets as business incubators |
| | Support initiatives that increase business and community resiliency |
| Enhance Māori wellbeing and potential | Support initiatives that grow the local Māori economy, as well as employment |

Advocacy

We will advocate to the Governing Body for:

- harmonisation of funding for art galleries across the region
- determination and implementation of initiatives in line with the consulted outcomes of the finalised Waiheke Destination Management Plan
- funds for visitor infrastructure.



Waiheke vineyard



He kōrero take pūtea

Funding information

The local board funding policy sets out how local boards are funded to meet the costs of providing local activities and administration support.

Local board funding is approved through the council's budget-setting process. This involves the council's Governing Body adopting a 10-year budget (long-term plan) every three years and an annual budget every year. Local board agreements, in which the local board and the governing body agree the local board budget for each year, make up part of the annual budget.

The council's budget-setting process involves allocating funding gathered through revenue sources such as rates and user charges. It also involves setting levels of service for council activities and corresponding performance targets.

The financial and levels of service statements in this plan are based on the information included in the 10-year Budget 2021-2031 and updated through subsequent annual plans. Updated financial information and levels of service will be adopted as part of the long-term plan which is due to be adopted in June 2024. The 10-year Budget 2024-2034 will be informed by the local board plans and may impact the initiatives in this local board plan.



Kaupapa ā-rohe me ngā paerewa ā-mahi

Local activities and levels of service

The current 10-year Budget 2021-2031 outlines local board responsibilities, provided for directly in legislation or allocated to boards, are summarised into local activities and levels of service statements. These are described in the table below.

More information regarding levels of services, including performance measures and performance targets, can be found in the Waiheke Local Board Agreement 2023/2024 and in the 10-year Budget 2021-2031 (Vol 2 section 2.6). This is available on the council website.

| Local Activities | Level of service statements |
|---|--|
| Local Community Services | |
| We support strong, diverse, and vibrant communities through libraries and literacy, arts and culture, parks, sport and recreation, and events delivered by a mix of council services, community group partnerships and volunteers | <p>Provide safe, reliable, and accessible social infrastructure for Aucklanders that contributes to placemaking and thriving communities</p> <p>Utilising the Empowered Communities Approach, we support Aucklanders to create thriving, connected and inclusive communities</p> <p>We provide safe and accessible parks, reserves, beaches, recreation programmes, opportunities and facilitates to get Aucklanders more active, more often</p> <p>We showcase Auckland's Māori identity and vibrant Māori culture</p> <p>We fund, enable, and deliver services, programmes, and facilities (art facilities, community centres, hire venues, and libraries) that enhance identity, connect people, and support Aucklanders to participate in community and civic life</p> |
| Local Planning and Development | |
| We support local town centres and communities to thrive by developing town centre plans and development, supporting Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), heritage plans and initiatives | We help attract investment, businesses and a skilled workforce to Auckland |
| Local Environmental Management | |
| We support healthy ecosystems and sustainability through local board-funded initiatives such as planting, pest control, stream and water quality enhancements, healthy homes, and waste minimisation projects. | We work with Aucklanders to manage the natural environment and enable low carbon lifestyles to build resilience to the effects of climate change |



Local Governance

Activities in this group support the local board to engage with and represent their communities, and make decisions on local activities. This support includes providing strategic advice, leadership of the preparation of local board plans, support in developing the local board agreements, community engagement including relationships with mana whenua and Māori communities, and democracy and administrative support.

The measures for this group of activities are covered under the Regional Governance group of activities in the Long-term Plan which determine participation with Auckland Council decision making in general. This includes local decision-making

Tirohanga take pūtea whānui

Financial overview

Revenue, expenditure and capital investment by local activities for the Waiheke Local Board for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.



| Annual Plan Financials | | 2023/2024 (\$000s) |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Operating revenue | | |
| Local community services | | 95 |
| Local planning and development | | - |
| Local environment management | | - |
| Total operating revenue | | 95 |
| Operating expenditure | | |
| Local community services | | 5,135 |
| Local planning and development | | - |
| Local environment management | | 164 |
| Local governance | | 862 |
| Total operating expenditure | | 6,161 |
| Net operating expenditure | | 6,066 |
| Capital expenditure | | |
| Local community services | | 2,894 |
| Local planning and development | | - |
| Local environment management | | - |
| Local governance | | - |
| Total capital expenditure | | 2,894 |



Ngā Mema o tō Poari ā-Rohe o Waiheke

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[aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/Waiheke Local Board](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/Waiheke%20Local%20Board)



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