

Te Poari ā-Rohe o Aotea / Great Barrier
Te Rīpoata ā-Tau 2019/2020

Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board

Annual Report 2019/2020



Volume
2.4

Mihi

Ko Aotea te moutere rongonui

Ko Hirakimata te maunga tapu

Ko te moana nui a Toi
te moana

Ko te Tuatara, te Mauri, rātou ko te Tukaiaia ngā
kaitiaki

Ko Motairehe rāua ko Kawa nga marae

Ko Aotea te kāinga o ngā uri o Ngati Rehua Ngati
Wai ki Aotea

Anei te whenua e manaakitia tātou. E whakapiritia
tātou. E whakaoratia tātou.

Te waahi o ngā taonga maha, ngā taonga tapu,
ngā taonga matahiapo.

Na ngā whetū e kanapu ki te rangi ki ngā aitenga a
punga e kōhimuhimu ana ki ngā ngahere.

Ko Aotea te taonga motuhake
o te moana nui a Toi.

Ko Aotea toku tūrangawaewae.

Aotea is the renowned island.

Hirakimata is the sacred mountain.

The Moana of Toi is the ocean that embraces
our island.

The Tuatara, Mauri, and the Tukaiaia are the
guardians.

Motairehe and Kawa are our marae.

Aotea is the home for the descendants of Ngati
Rehua Ngati Wai ki Aotea.

Here is the land that protects us, brings us
together, keeps us alive.

A place of many treasures, sacred treasures,
precious treasures.

From the stars shining bright in the sky to the
insects that whisper in the forest.

Aotea is the prize of the moana of Toi.
Aotea is my standing place.

Ko Te Ringa o te Uira te kaituhi

On the cover:
Two girls at the beach on
Great Barrier Island.

He kōrero mō tēnei rīpoata About this report

This annual report tells the story of how Auckland Council has performed in delivering services in the Aotea/Great Barrier Local Board area from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

You can read about our progress, expenditure, service performance and challenges faced in 2019/2020. It's part of the wider annual reporting package for the Auckland Council Group and meets our Local Government Act 2002 obligations to report on our performance against agreed measures. It also reports against the council's Long-term Plan 2018-2028 (10-year Budget 2018-2028) and the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Agreement 2019/2020.

This report also reflects the local flavour of your area by profiling its population, people and council facilities. It also features a story about a council or community activity that adds special value to the area and demonstrates how **together we're delivering for Auckland.**

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A playground on Great Barrier Island.

He kōrero mai i te heamana

From the chairperson



The last 12 months has been a most extraordinary and turbulent time. It's been a financial year of two halves.

In 2019 we held elections in October and the new Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board was inducted on 31 October. We started work on our three-year local board plan, seeking engagement with our community throughout February and March.

We delivered the Okiwi pump track, Claris playground shade sail and sealed the Kaiaraara Bay Road. The Learning Hub kept going from success to success and the Claris village museum opened. We also received news that the Crown litigation on marine dumping was successful.

Throughout the summer we experienced one of the worst droughts on record for some time and the council installed a temporary emergency potable water station at the Service Centre.

Then the COVID-19 pandemic arrived on New Zealand shores and our nation went into lockdown. Our community Emergency Response Team leapt into action and we closed our airfields and protected our people's welfare.

The council was functioning on essential services only and so a number of our projects and services were placed on hold during Alert Levels 4 and 3.

The council worked fast to secure funding to allow Barrier Air to continue freight service for our island's essential goods, workers, and medicines. Biosecurity contracts resumed in Alert Level 3 and we provided crisis funding for Aotea Family Support Group.

At the time of writing this message we are in Alert Level 1 and things are slowly returning to normal. We are looking at our work programme and re-evaluating some of the projects that were placed on hold during the COVID-19 lockdown.

The economic recovery from COVID-19 may take some time and so some of those projects may stay on hold for a little longer.

Our focus for the coming year will be resilience for the island, supporting our local economy, and protecting our environment from the impacts of climate change.

Ngā mihi

Izzy Fordham

Chairperson, Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board

Te Poari ā-Rohe o Aotea / Great Barrier

Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board



Your board

(L to R) Sue Daly, Luke Coles (Deputy Chairperson), Izzy Fordham (Chairperson), Patrick O'Shea, Valmaine Toki.



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Closed Saturday, Sunday and public holidays



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Ngā kaupapa me ngā whakapaipai ake

Aotea / Great Barrier projects and improvements

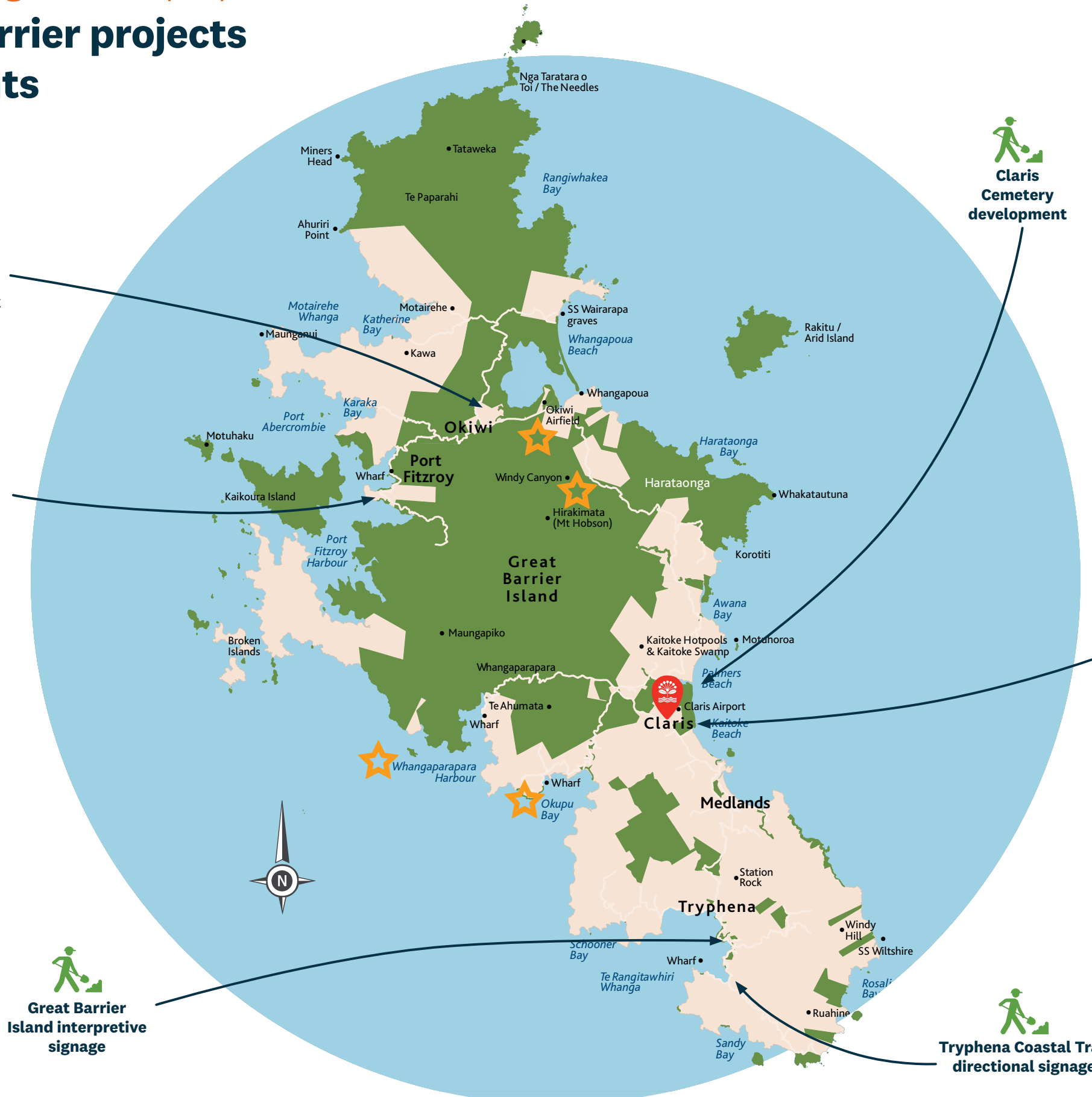
KEY TO CURRENT AND PLANNED PROJECTS

-  **Delivered projects**
-  **Current projects**
-  **Current playground renewals**
-  **Place of significance**

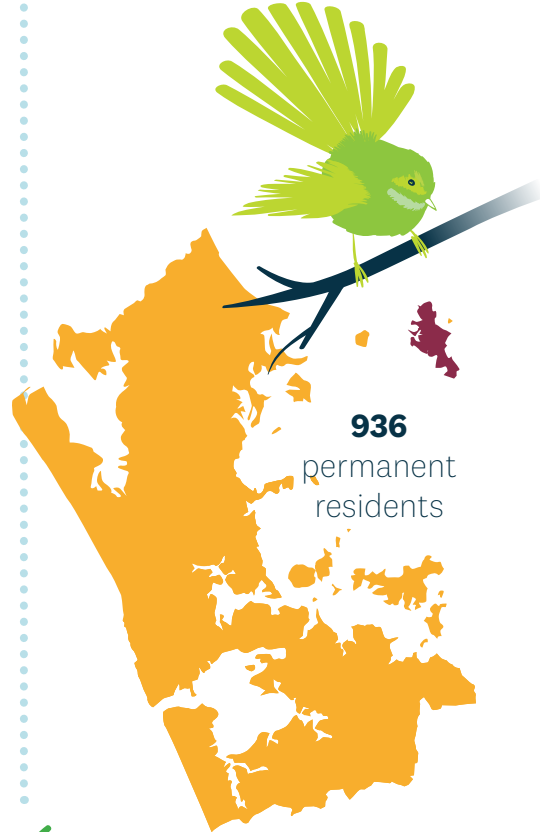
LEGEND

-  Local board office
-  Aotea Conservation Park
-  Road

Data sources: Statistics New Zealand 2013 Census.



Over **60%** of the island is Department of Conservation estate; 43% of which is the Aotea Conservation Park



55% of residents are aged 50 years and older



One of **11** places in the world to be designated a sanctuary by the International Dark-Sky Association

Tā mātou pūrongo whakahaere mahi

Our performance report

Local Community Services

The Okiwi pump track and the Claris playground shade sail were installed and available to the public during the year. The board provides support and funding to the island’s health, welfare, arts, education and tourism organisations. They provided extra crisis response funding to Aotea Family Support Group immediately after the COVID-19 lockdown period. The board is working alongside the Aotea Education Trust on an early childhood education project which has proved challenging, but the board is committed to helping provide this service to the community.

The board funded the Building a Flourishing Community Aotea Trust to investigate viable and sustainable solutions for housing needs on Aotea – work which is now in progress. The board is also continuing to strongly advocate for better connectivity on the island.

Through the council’s parks department the board is working on two spatial plans called spaces and reserves action plan and Accessway and linkages plan. They are also supporting the Aotea Boardriders Club to build the island’s first surf clubhouse at Medlands Beach.

A heritage survey and an Ox Park Historic Heritage evaluation were completed. The board also continues to maintain the status of the island’s Dark Sky Sanctuary.

| | Achieved Target has been met or exceeded | Substantially achieved Target has not been met by a slim margin (+/-2%) | Not achieved Target not achieved | Progress made Result improved from prior-year result | No change No change from prior-year result | No improvements Not improved from prior-year result | * Impacted by COVID-19 Measures favourably / unfavourably impacted by COVID-19 | Results against target | Year-on-year change | 2020 Target | 2020 Result | 2019 | 2018 | How did we perform |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|---|--|-------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------|---|
| Provide safe, reliable and accessible social infrastructure for Aucklanders that contributes to placemaking and thriving communities | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Percentage of Aucklanders that feel their local town centre is safe – day time | | | | | | | | | | 92% | 100% | 98% | 96% | |
| Percentage of Aucklanders that feel their local town centre is safe – night time | | | | | | | | | | 90% | 90% | 96% | 85% | |
| Utilising the Empowered Communities Approach, we support Aucklanders to create thriving, connected and inclusive communities | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| The percentage of Empowered Communities activities that are community led | | | | | | | | | | 40% | 58% | 68% | New Measure | Community-led practice is championed on Great Barrier. Activities are initiated and managed by community groups that are largely autonomous, such as Aotea Family Support Group, Destination Great Barrier Island and the Aotea Education Trust. |
| The percentage of Empowered Communities that build capacity and capability to assist local communities to achieve their goal | | | | | | | | | | 35% | 26% | 43% | New Measure | A fairly good rate of capacity building work happens on the island, although it is limited by population, existing skills and travel costs for those bringing skills and capabilities from off island. In 2019-2020 capacity building occurred in the areas of tourism, parenting, strategic plan development, marketing and fundraising. However COVID-19 and associated lockdown significantly impacted the delivery of some activities. An improved method of data collection has also had an impact on the results. |
| We fund, enable and deliver arts and culture experiences that enhance identity and connect people | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| The percentage of arts, and culture programmes, grants and activities that are community led | | | | | | | | | | 85% | 100% | 100% | New Measure | All programmes are community-led. |
| We fund, enable and deliver community events and experiences that enhance identity and connect people | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| The percentage of attendees satisfied with a nominated local community event | | | | | | | | | | 70% | 81% | Not measured | New Measure | New Year's picnic. |

Local Community Services measures cont'd over

Local Community Services cont'd

| We provide library services and programmes that support Aucklanders with reading and literacy, and opportunities to participate in community and civic life | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--------|---------|--------|-------------|--|
| The number of internet sessions at libraries (unique sessions over public computing or public Wi-Fi networks) | ● | ▲ | 6,500 | 5,560* | 5,039 | New Measure | PC and Wi-Fi sessions at Great Barrier Library were on target until library closure in response to COVID-19. |
| The number of visits to library facilities | ● | ▼ | 10,000 | 13,757* | 15,339 | New Measure | Increasing visits to the library prior to COVID-19 ensured we were well above target, despite the COVID-19 related closure. As the library and service centre share the same space, some of this high result can be attributed to service centre visitors. |
| Percentage of customers satisfied with the quality of library service delivery | ● | ▲ | 85% | 100% | 95% | 93% | Great Barrier Local Board showed the highest level of customer satisfaction with overall experience of Auckland Libraries. |
| We provide safe and accessible parks, reserves, and beaches | | | | | | | |
| The percentage of users who are satisfied with the overall quality of local parks | ● | ▲ | 70% | 81% | 57% | New Measure | |
| The percentage of residents who visited a local park in the last 12 months | ● | ▼ | 81% | 74% | 80% | 69% | Results have fluctuated over the past three years for this local board. The board's ongoing investment to improve access and better activation of reserves should help improve results next year. |
| We showcase Auckland's Māori identity and vibrant Māori culture | | | | | | | |
| The percentage of local programmes, grants and activities that respond to Māori aspirations | ● | ▲ | 14.0% | 18.8% | 8.5% | New Measure | |

Local Environmental Management

The board continue to fund and support environment initiatives such as the Ecology Vision co-ordinator, Argentine ant and Plague skink surveillance, rabbit control and weed survey and removal. The board engaged a part-funded Conservation advisor who was partly funded by the board's budget. The Conservation advisor supported biosecurity advisors with project management and delivery and provided technical advice and support to the community on pest control, restoration initiatives, and protection and enhancement of indigenous biodiversity on the island. Alongside this programme the board held a water protection funding round to assist landowners with their riparian fencing projects.

| | Results against target | Year-on-year change | 2020 Target | 2020 Result | 2019 | 2018 | How did we perform |
|--|------------------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------|-------|--|
| We manage Auckland's natural environment | | | | | | | |
| The proportion of local programmes that deliver intended environmental actions and/or outcomes | ● | — | 100.0% | 87.5% | 87.5% | 88.9% | We successfully delivered seven of eight environmental projects for Aotea Great Barrier. The coastal weed survey was not completed due to COVID-19 restrictions. The remaining work will take place as part of the 2020/2021 project, subject to local board approval. |



Te āhuatanga ā-rohe

Local flavour

Coordinating island’s ecological success story

Aotea resident Taryn Wilks is on a mission to protect and enhance the island’s unique environment and ecology and is rallying others to be part of the journey.

Appointed as the island’s new Ecology Vision coordinator during this period, she says working on a personal level with people of all ages, sharing experiences, knowledge, skills and inspiration has been very rewarding.

She brings a wealth of knowledge in both freshwater and terrestrial ecology to the role which is funded by the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board for three years, including 2019/2020.

Since her appointment, Taryn has been supporting existing community groups to achieve their ecological restoration goals and helping emerging groups by providing technical advice and resources where needed.

“The main challenge when I started was figuring out how Ecology Vision could be best utilised in a meaningful way for the environment and community.

“Now I’ve got a really good grasp on this thanks to many discussions with the community about their vision for the island’s ecology.”

One of the major achievements has been the development and launch of the Ecology Vision website – a great resource to learn about the island’s ecology as well as community groups and activities.

“Looking forward, I’d like to see continued focus on increasing pest control like rat trapping on private properties and beach clean-ups,” says Taryn.

“Other projects I’m looking at are ‘pull weeds / plant natives’, a community bat monitoring project, environmental training, and I would really like to include a greater focus on working with the youth of Aotea.

“My vision is that our children and future generations are able to enjoy Aotea as we have, to experience a thriving, diverse, and clean environment to live, enjoy and play in.”

Taryn says everyone has a part to play in reducing pressures placed on the environment.

“Being mindful of our environmental footprint, waste, reducing weeds and predatory pests such as rats and cats and letting natural regeneration take place.”

The Ecology Vision project was initiated by the local board in 2015 to establish a community vision for the enhancement and management of the island’s natural environment and to support community-based environmental initiatives.

It is a collaboration with Aotea community members, the local board, Auckland Council, Department of Conservation, iwi, sanctuaries, trusts, and many other organisations, to protect and enhance the island’s biodiversity.



Te tahua pūtea

Funding impact statement

For the year ended 30 June 2020

| \$000s | Notes | Actual 2019/2020 | Annual Plan 2019/2020 | Annual Plan 2018/2019** |
|---|-------|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Sources of operating funding: | | | | |
| General rates, UAGCs, rates penalties | | 2,691 | 2,691 | 2,782 |
| Targeted rates | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Subsidies and grants for operating purposes | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fees and charges | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees and other receipts | | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| Total operating funding | | 2,696 | 2,693 | 2,784 |
| Applications of operating funding: | | | | |
| Payments to staff and suppliers | | 2,879 | 2,482 | 2,477 |
| Finance costs | | 80 | 80 | 81 |
| Internal charges and overheads applied | | 129 | 129 | 223 |
| Other operating funding applications | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total applications of operating funding | | 3,088 | 2,691 | 2,781 |
| Surplus (deficit) of operating funding | | (392) | 2 | 3 |
| Sources of capital funding: | | | | |
| Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Development and financial contributions | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Increase (decrease) in debt | | 557 | 774 | 951 |
| Gross proceeds from sale of assets | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lump sum contributions | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other dedicated capital funding | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total sources of capital funding | | 557 | 774 | 951 |
| Application of capital funding: | | | | |
| Capital expenditure: | | | | |
| - to meet additional demand | | 110 | 0 | 154 |
| - to improve the level of service | | 20 | 328 | 666 |
| - to replace existing assets | | 35 | 448 | 134 |
| Increase (decrease) in reserves | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Increase (decrease) in investments | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total applications of capital funding | 1 | 165 | 776 | 954 |
| Surplus (deficit) of capital funding | | 392 | (2) | (3) |
| Funding balance | | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Variance explanation Actual 2019/2020 to Annual Plan 2019/2020

1. Capital expenditure was below plan due to:

- local renewals that were planned to take place were still being scoped and spend is yet to occur for delivery of these projects;
- local discretionary projects were being investigated and therefore planned spend was deferred to future years; and
- the delivery of the board approved Claris Cemetery project was deferred to 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.

**Year 1 of the Long-term Plan 2018-2028 (10-year Budget 2018-2028).

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