

Te Poari ā-Rohe o Waitematā
Te Rīpoata ā-Tau 2022/2023

Waitematā Local Board

Annual Report 2022/2023



Volume
2.20

Mihi

Mai i Te Waitematā ki tai,
 nau mai rā e Te Waitematā ki uta.
 Hei taumarumarū koe mō te pū o te wheke
 kua huaina nei, ko te tāone nui o Tāmaki Makaurau.
 Titiro ki te Pourewa Tūkoi ki te rangi e titi mai rā
 i te manawa tonu o Horotiu,
 tipua o te ao kōhatu kua memeha kē,
 kua taupokihia e te ao kua kōhatu.
 Ko Te Wai o Taikehu kei te rāwhiti ōu,
 ko Tuki-tuki-muka te kaihere i tō hope i te uru.
 E rere ki tuawhenua, ka ū atu koe ki Te Wai-orea,
 kei kō tata mai ko te Rae o Kāwharu
 e eke ai koe ki Te Uru Karaka.
 Heke whakatemaui ko Ngā Kauae Whati,
 e piki ake ai koe ki Te Rimu-tahi.
 Titiro whakaiho koe, ko Waiatarau,
 ko te Waikōkota.
 E tahuri tō haere mā te ara Kārangaranga o Hape
 kia tū anō koe i te kokotinga o te Ara Kuīni.
 E whakamau ō kamo ki te āhuru mōwai
 e hora ake nā i mua i a koe.
 E mīharo ki tā te ringa tangata i hanga ai
 hei kākahu i tā te ringa atua.
 E takahi rā koe mā runga i ngā tapuwae o te tini –
 pō te ao, ao te pō,
 kia tau rawa atu koe ki te huinga mai
 a te mano ki Te Rerenga-ora-iti.
 Kī reira koe whakatau ai i te iwi,
 nau mai e taku iti, nau mai e taku rahi ki ahau,
 ki Te Waitematā i uta, ki Te Waitematā i tai.

From Waitematā at sea
 to Waitematā on shore, welcome.
 May you be a safe haven at the centre
 of this metropolis called Tāmaki Makaurau.
 Gaze up to the Sky Tower
 that rises out of the heart of Horotiu,
 relic of the age of stone,
 now covered over by a world of stone.
 Te Wai o Taikehu marks your eastern bounds,
 while Tuki-tuki-muka binds your western boundary.
 Flowing inland, you reach Wai-orea
 though close-by is Te Rae o Kāwharu,
 en-route to present-day Newton.
 Glancing to your left lies Grey Lynn,
 and up a rise you come to Ponsonby.
 Looking below, there is Freemans Bay,
 there too, is Waikōkota.
 Your journey takes you now to Karangahape Road
 across to where it intersects with the Queen’s byway.
 Cast your eyes over the sheltered haven
 that lies before you.
 Marvel at what the human hand has created
 to embellish what was created by the hand of god.
 Follow in the footprints of the many now passed –
 dawn till dusk and dusk till dawn,
 until you too arrive amongst the hustle and bustle
 of the throngs at Britomart.
 There you can bid the people,
 welcome one and all unto me,
 Waitematā on shore, Waitematā at sea.

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 Waitematā Local Board area from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

You can read about our progress, expenditure, service performance and challenges faced in 2022/2023. 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 reports against the council’s Long-term Plan 2021-2031 (10-year Budget 2021-2031) and the Waitematā Local Board Agreement 2022/2023.

This report also reflects the local flavour of your area by profiling its population, people and council facilities. It 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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▲ Parnell Festival of Roses

He kōrero mai i te heamana

From the chairperson

On behalf of the Waitematā Local Board, I am very pleased to present our annual report for the financial year 2022/2023.

What we achieved:

During the past year we have completed noteworthy projects such as the Victoria Park pavilion roof, this addressed health and safety concerns, while heritage restoration of the Myers Park Caretakers cottage and shed has also been completed. We have renewed open-space lighting across the Waitematā Local Board area, including Grey Lynn Park, Arch Hill Scenic Reserve, Seddon Fields and several other parks and reserves.

We have provided several leases to community service providers to support their efforts in our communities so they are more connected, inclusive, accessible and equitable for all.

Seddon Fields renewal works were completed in time for the FIFA Women’s World Cup. Urgent works to address previously unidentified stormwater pipe issues and ensure they are connected into the existing drainage system were completed in Grey Lynn Park. We have also been able to continue our support to the Grey Lynn Business Association to help them build capacity around the plan of moving towards Business Improvement District (BID) establishment. The delivery of our wonderful signature event the Play Festival at Western Park deserves a mention, as well as our continued support of ANZAC services.



Challenges for 2022/2023

A key role of the board is advocacy for initiatives where we do not have decision making responsibilities. Community safety is our top priority for the year ahead. We advocate to the Governing Body to maintain funding to regional safety initiatives and programmes that promote, deliver, and enhance community safety and wellbeing, particularly in the city centre.

Through collaboration, empowerment and dedication, we will continue to strive to foster growth and resilience to ensure we have strong, inclusive and vibrant communities.

Genevieve Sage
Chairperson, Waitematā Local Board

Te Poari ā-Rohe o Waitematā

Waitematā Local Board



Your local board

(L to R): Richard Northey, Anahera Rawiri, Genevieve Sage (Chairperson), Allan Matson, Greg Moyle (Deputy Chairperson), Sarah Trotman, Alexandra Bonham.



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Ngā kaupapa me ngā whakapaipai ake

Waitematā projects and improvements

KEY TO CURRENT AND PLANNED PROJECTS

-  **Delivered projects**
-  **Current projects**
-  **Current playspace renewals**
-  **Current track renewals**

LEGEND

-  Local board office
-  Public open space (Unitary Plan)
-  Railway station
-  Railway
-  Motorway
-  Major road
-  Arterial road
-  Medium road



Data sources: Council Growth model i11v6 (August 2020). Statistics New Zealand 2018 Census.

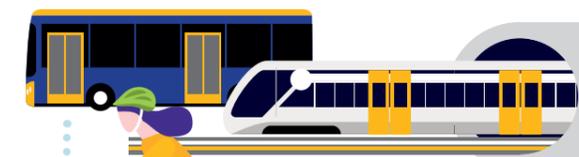


Waitematā has **104** parks, **8** community places, **4** libraries and **5** pools



A population of **94,316** ranking it 6th in population size in Auckland's 21 local board areas

100,000 people commute to the city centre
53% of commuters use public transport, cycling or walking



 **Central Library - renewal of air handling units**

 **Albert Park - reinstate zig zag pathway**

 **Auckland Domain Pathway Connections - shared path - Parnell Train Station to Lovers Lane**

 **Parnell Baths - general renewals**

 **Olympic Pools - general renewals**

 **Myers Park Caretakers Cottage and shed - renew and restore**

 **Victoria Park - pavilion roof, changing rooms and toilet renewals**

 **Western Springs Lakeside Te Wai Orea Park - installation of pedestrian loop track**

 **Seddon Fields - renew sports fields and lights for FIFA WWC**

 **Cox's Bay to Wharf Rd greenway - renew pedestrian bridges and pathways**

 **Ponsonby Park - develop civic park space**

 **Pt Erin Pool - comprehensive renewals**

Tā mātou pūrongo whakahaere mahi

Our performance report

Local Community Services

Highlights included the renewal of sports fields and lighting at Seddon Fields to provide training facilities for the FIFA Women’s World Cup, as well as the provision of placemaking initiatives such as community gardens, food and sustainability initiatives, and addressing homelessness in Waitematā. We allocated \$150,000 to local community groups through our local grants programme and allocated \$125,000 for accommodation assistance grants. The local board also provided discretionary funding to lift levels of service with agrichemical-free parks, urban forest restoration and extended library hours at the Central and Grey Lynn libraries.

- **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

For more information on our service performance judgements and assumptions please refer to page 171 of Volume 1 of the annual report.

	Outcome	Year-on-year change	2023 Target	2023 Result	2022	2021	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	●	▼	75%	62%	64%	67%	Comments in the residents survey noted that respondents feel unsafe during the day due to a number of factors, including increased numbers of homeless, antisocial behaviour in the central city, and a lack of police presence. CRL and roadworks were also mentioned as reasons for residents feeling unsafe. The Waterfront area was signalled out as one positive where residents enjoyed the relaxed and vibrant area now that construction is largely complete.
Percentage of Aucklanders that feel their local town centre is safe – night time	●	▼	45%	27%	36%	37%	Comments in the residents survey noted that respondents feel unsafe at night due to a number of factors, including drunk people in the central city, recent incidents of crime, poor lighting in streets and parks, and a lack of police presence. The majority of comments noted that behaviour of homeless was a key driver to people feeling unsafe at night, and that respondents would either make sure they travelled along main roads, or would avoid town centres at night altogether.
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	●	▼	75%	71%	96%*	95%	The percentage of Waitematā Local Board community empowerment activities that were community led did not meet the target. There were a number of projects cancelled or put on hold due to the ongoing impact from COVID-19 and the weather events in early 2023. These projects included the Rose Road event, work at 254 Ponsonby Road, and Nelson Street slip lane.
The percentage of Empowered Communities activities that build capacity and capability to assist local communities to achieve their goals	●	▼	68%	85%	89%*	71%	The percentage of Waitematā Local Board activities that build capacity and capability greatly exceeded their target. This is in part due to a focus on rebuilding community post-COVID and the severe weather events in early 2023. There has been a decrease in comparison to last years percentage and this reflects the disruption caused by these events.
We provide safe and accessible parks, reserves, beaches, recreation programmes, opportunities and facilities to get Aucklanders more active, more often¹							
The percentage of park visitors who are satisfied with the overall quality of sportsfields	●	▼	82%	70%	74%*	70%*	After a particularly wet summer season with flooding and weather events, sports field surfaces have seen postponed or rescheduled maintenance along with renovation delays. Closures and surface quality from these events have impacted on satisfaction with services standards of grounds.
The customers' Net Promoter Score for Pools and Leisure Centres	●	▼	55	57	61	59	Customer satisfaction continued at high levels for Pool and Leisure Centres across the Waitematā local board.
The percentage of users who are satisfied with the overall quality of local parks	●	▼	79%	67%	69%*	71%	Weather events have caused significant damage and closures to parks, walkways, and paths. Tracks at Cox Bay Esplanade and Newmarket Park were damaged with sections closed to the public because of safety concerns. Contractors have worked to make these spaces safe and where required carried out further repairs. Mowing schedules have been disrupted due to weather conditions however contractors have focused on edging around paths, litterbins, and playgrounds to maintain a tidy appearance. Renewals of playscapes at Pt Erin Pool, Arch Hill Road and the Grey Lynn Junior Playground are expected to have a positive impact on overall satisfaction in 2024.
The percentage of residents who visited a local park in the last 12 months	●	—	78%	84%	84%*	79%	Residents in Waitematā made good use of the local park network and this target shows a consistent high result similar to prior years.

Local Community Services measures cont'd over

Local Community Services cont'd

	Outcome	Year-on-year change	2023 Target	2023 Result	2022	2021	How did we perform
We showcase Auckland's Māori identity and vibrant Māori culture							
The percentage of local programmes, grants and activities that respond to Māori aspirations	●	∨	39%	16%	22%	25%	The percentage of local programmes, grants and activities that respond to Māori aspirations was under target, with the main contributor to this result being the under-performance of the Arts & Culture sub-measure. This was a result of our arts and culture activities not having a primary focus on enhancing Māori aspirations. Overall performance is under target and in decline with the local board not meeting target in the past 3 financial years.
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 life¹							
The number of internet sessions at libraries (unique sessions over public computing or public WIFI networks)	●	∧	737,000	763,522	348,180*	747,787*	Library internet sessions were expected to recover after the pandemic, but didn't until March 2023. However, when internet sessions in Waitemata did increase again in March, use was higher than expected and exceeded the target.
The percentage of local community services, programmes and facilities that are community led	●		Set baseline ¹	Baseline not set	Not measured	New measure	
The percentage of arts, and culture programmes, grants and activities that are community led	●	∨	80%	83%	91%	93%	
The percentage of art facilities, community centres and hire venues network that is community led	●	—	40%	36%	36%	46%	Four of the eleven facilities in our venue hire network are community-led - Parnell Community Centre, Grey Lynn Community Centre, Ponsonby Community Centre and TAPAC. During the 2022/2023 year, Albert Park Caretaker's Cottage has come into the network as a Council-led facility, which has caused the target be missed.
The number of participants for local community services, programmes, and facilities	●		Set baseline ¹	Baseline not set	Not measured	New measure	
The number of attendees at council-led community events ²	●	∧	12,000	9,000	0*	7,000	Two events were planned and delivered for the year. This included the new Play Festival which was well attended, especially for the first occasion. Attendance at the Parnell Festival of Roses saw a significant reduction which may be attributed to a combination of poor weather, nearby protest activity, and a restricted site area this year.
The number of participants in activities at art facilities, community centres and hire venues	●	∧	455,000	614,525	365,594*	579,051	The total number of participants for financial year 2022/2023 is the highest compared to the totals from the last three financial years. Facilities were able to operate without COVID-19 disruptions, which likely helped increase participant numbers. TAPAC was the top contributor, making up 30 per cent of total participants and doubling this year, which returned its numbers to pre-COVID-19 levels.
The number of visits to library facilities	●	∧	710,000	696,913	362,089*	706,201*	Library visits were expected to recover after the pandemic, but didn't until March 2023. In addition, Auckland Libraries moved to an improved system of counting visitor numbers in this financial year, leading to more accurate but lower results. If Waitemata performed throughout the year as it did after March, it would've reached the target.
The percentage of customers satisfied with quality of local community services, programmes, and facilities	●		Set baseline ¹	Baseline not set	Not measured	New measure	
The percentage of attendees satisfied with a nominated local community event	●		80%	96%	Not measured*	Not measured*	The Play Festival was held at Western Reserve, Freemans Bay in April. It was attended by approximately 5,000 people, who enjoyed a fun family day of traditional games, music, performance and food. A great start for a new event celebrating the diverse communities of Waitemata.
Percentage of customers satisfied with the quality of library service delivery	●	∧	90%	96%	95%	96%	Waitemata local board libraries continue to exceed the customer satisfaction target. This shows the dedication and commitment of our frontline library staff to ensuring our customers receive the best experience at all times, as shown by the high level of customer satisfaction.

1. Better measures on overall participation, satisfaction and enabling more community-led community services were the original intent when these measures were included in the 2021-2031 Long-term Plan, signalling a shift in our approach and scope in delivering community services. We explored different methodologies but data gaps in some services mean a consolidated measure across community services is difficult to measure, while the scope of council-led community services are expected to change. Further work will be on hold until future options for community services are considered as part of the 2024-2034 Long-term Plan.

2. Attendance numbers are an estimate. They are informed by previous event numbers, considered scale of the event, area measurement of the core site and attendee turnover.

Local Planning and Development

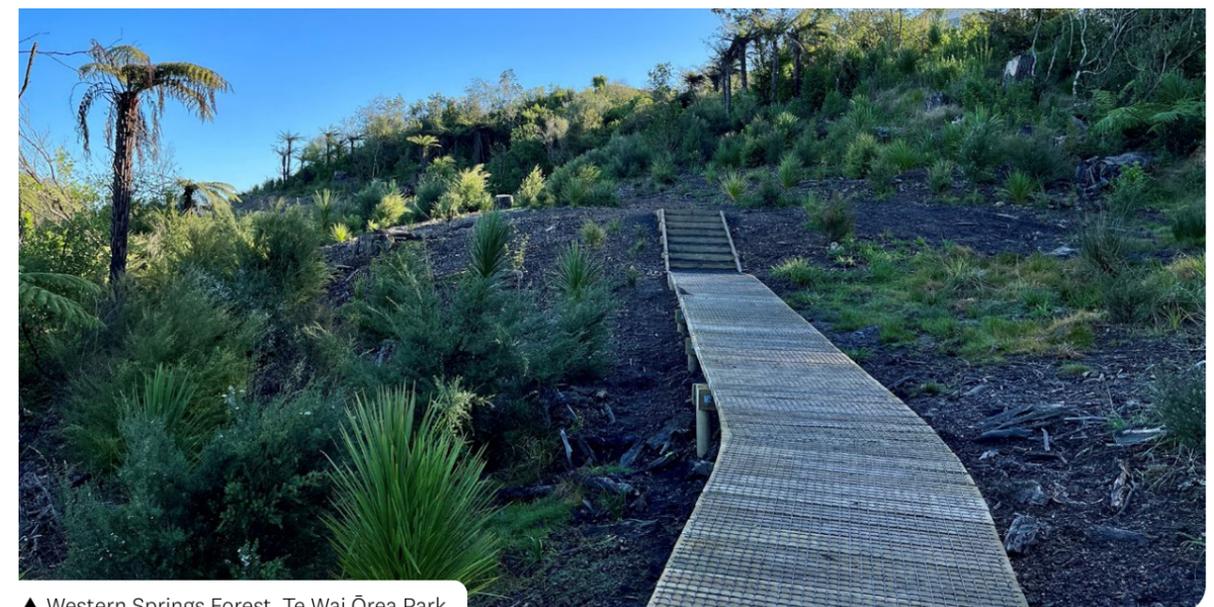
We supported projects such as the Young Enterprise Scheme, local small-business mentors programme, business resilience programmes, and ongoing grant support of the Grey Lynn Business Association. We also continued our support and engagement with all six business associations within the board area.

	Outcome	Year-on-year change	2023 Target	2023 Result	2022	2021	How did we perform
We help attract investment, businesses and a skilled workforce to Auckland							
The percentage of Business Associations meeting their Business Improvement District (BID) Partnership Programme obligations	●	—	100%	100%	100%	100%	All six business improvement districts complied with their BID Policy obligations.

Local Environmental Management

Highlights during the year included progress on the Waste Away Programme, Waititiko/Meola Creek restoration, From the Deck – Newmarket Stream Community Restoration Project, Waipapa Stream Restoration Programme, Waipāruru Stream restoration, and the Te Wai Ōrea lake and wetland restoration. We continued supporting our low carbon programme, including Low Carbon Lifestyles, Low Carbon Network, Low Carbon Activator and Low Carbon Multi-Unit Dwellings. We also funded an Urban Ark Community Conservation Coordinator, Kia rite kia mau – climate preparedness and resilience for school communities, and provided support to the new Bike Hub down at Queens Wharf.

	Outcome	Year-on-year change	2023 Target	2023 Result	2022	2021	How did we perform
We work with Aucklanders to manage the natural environment and enable low carbon lifestyles to build resilience to the effects of climate change							
The percentage of local low carbon or sustainability projects that have successfully contributed towards local board plan outcomes	●	^	75%	75%	60%	New measure	We successfully delivered six of eight projects this year. Two sustainable schools projects (Schools treasuring Waiōrea and Kia rite kia mau - Climate preparedness and resilience for school communities) had delays in delivery and will be completed in quarter one 2023/2024.
The percentage of local water quality or natural environment improvement projects that have successfully contributed towards local board plan outcomes	●	—	85%	100%	100%	New measure	We successfully delivered six natural environment and water quality projects this year.
The percentage of local waste minimisation projects that have successfully contributed towards local board plan outcomes	●	—	75%	100%	100%	New measure	We successfully delivered one waste minimisation project this year. The project had some delivery issues and is expected to be complete in quarter one 2023/2024.



▲ Western Springs Forest, Te Wai Ōrea Park

He whakamārama mō ā mātou mahi whakahaere

Our performance explained

Waitematā Local Board allocated \$72,000 in discretionary funding towards delivering agrichemical-free services in Albert Park, Myers Park, Victoria Park (garden beds and amenity areas only) and Western Park. The contractor is carrying out weed control by hand and using mechanical methods to maintain edging. The results are positive, and the contractor is managing the areas well without agrichemicals. The local board is investigating options to extend agrichemical-free maintenance to other parks and reserves in the future.

The local board allocated \$57,000 of its discretionary funding to restoring our urban forest and increasing native tree canopy cover in the local board area. Sites selected in 2022/2023 were St Stephens Cemetery, Point Erin Park, Point Resolution, Rose Road Gully, Seddon Fields, Westmere Park (Weona Place Access) and Westmere Lamington Esplanade. Weed control, site preparation and the full planting programme progressed well throughout the year. Weed control and planting are also progressing at Costley Reserve, Francis Reserve, Grey Lynn Park, Salisbury Reserve, St Marys Bay Walkway, Tole Reserve and Vermont Reserve.

The local board contributed \$110,000 to extending library opening hours by 0.5 hours per week at Grey Lynn Library and two hours per week at Central Library. Grey Lynn Library’s additional opening time allows customers to pop in on a Friday afternoon to pick up their holds as they head into the weekend. The Little Leys Classic Film Club has started up again for another season on Fridays in the Grey Lynn Library Hall. This has seen a large increase in people coming in to browse the library between 5pm and 5.30pm on Fridays.

The additional two hours over the weekend at the Central City Library provides more time for the community to access resources and services, and more time to serve patrons when they need it most. The library held Lunar New Year Celebrations in February and the event was well received and attended, with over 50 performers and around 300 people attending throughout the day. The Central Library also featured a number of Saturday events during World of Cultures, including the Pacific Dance New Zealand Group, which presented the Banana Dance and Costume Workshop in March.



▲ Grey Lynn Park

Te āhuatanga ā-rohe

Local flavour

Māori culture embraced at play festival



▲ Kī o Rahi. Photo credit - Freestyle Event Photography

Tāmaki Makaurau’s inaugural Play Festival, organised in partnership with Waitematā Local Board took place in Tuna Mau / Western Park, Freemans Bay as part of World of Cultures in April 2023.

Fun experiences from a range of cultures were set up for children and adults to enjoy throughout the park during the one-day event.

They included many chances to engage with te ao Māori / the Māori world through traditional games and activities.

Kī-o-Rahi is a traditional Māori game that has been played through the generations to whakawhānau (strengthen relationships), whakapakari tinana (strengthen the body) and whakapakari hinengaro (strengthen the mind).

Danny Maera from Kī o Rahi Tāmaki Makaurau explains the game is based on a legend, and is “fast and can be furious,” involving many skills from games like netball, touch, tag rugby, and even dodgeball.

“Playing Māori games like Kī-o-Rahi gives Māori and non-Māori insight into the ways our ancestors used to live and think, how they interacted with one another, as well as how they interacted with the taiao (environment),” says Danny.

The sessions of Kī o Rahi at Play Festival proved popular and were a favourite on the day.

Tina Talaic organised another play station for people to learn a mixture of reo Māori (language), waiata (songs), Māori and New Zealand sign language, as well as poi, rāranga (flax weaving) and haka.

Tina explains the significance of including this offering in the festival: “We shared practices that have been celebrated on this whenua and these shores for many generations. Waiata and rāranga are for everyone.”

Among the diverse ethnicities represented among the people who attended the Play Festival, approximately 10 per cent were Māori.

Some of the other cultural play experiences available included additional Māori culture offerings, Japanese taiko drumming, Brazilian Capoeira, traditional Korean games, and Chinese lion dancing.

Te tahua pūtea

Funding impact statement

Financial year ending 30 June 2023

\$000s	Notes	Actual 2022/2023	Annual Plan 2022/2023	Annual Plan 2021/2022*
Sources of operating funding:				
General rates, UAGCs, rates penalties		21,026	21,026	21,050
Targeted rates		8,678	9,056	8,806
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes		23	35	34
Fees and charges		2,020	2,564	2,517
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees and other receipts		673	395	353
Total operating funding		32,420	33,076	32,760
Applications of operating funding:				
Payments to staff and suppliers		29,131	28,765	28,022
Finance costs		1,155	1,155	919
Internal charges and overheads applied		2,356	2,356	3,622
Other operating funding applications		0	0	0
Total applications of operating funding		32,642	32,276	32,563
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding		(222)	800	197
Sources of capital funding:				
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure		0	0	0
Development and financial contributions		0	0	0
Increase (decrease) in debt	1	8,519	6,066	12,092
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		8,519	6,066	12,092
Application of capital funding:				
Capital expenditure:	2			
- to meet additional demand		156	119	143
- to improve the level of service		982	159	191
- to replace existing assets		7,159	6,588	11,954
Increase (decrease) in reserves		0	0	0
Increase (decrease) in investments		0	0	0
Total applications of capital funding		8,297	6,866	12,289
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding		222	(800)	(197)
Funding balance		0	0	0

Variance explanation Actual 2022/2023 to Annual Plan 2022/2023

1. Capital expenditure was above plan and fees and charges were below plan. This resulted in a funding deficit which meant that more debt funding was required than planned.
2. Capital expenditure was above plan due to unplanned comprehensive facility and field improvements at Seddon Fields in preparation for the FIFA Women's World Cup.

* Same target as the Year 1 of the Long-term Plan 2021-2031 (10-year Budget 2021-2031).



▲ Karangahape Road cycle path



▲ Parnell Library

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