

Te Poari ā-Rohe o Aotea / Great Barrier  
Te Rīpoata ā-Tau 2020/2021

# Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board

Annual Report 2020/2021



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 Ngāti Rehua Ngāti  
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 matahīapo.

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 Ngāti  
Rehua Ngāti 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.

## 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 2020 to 30 June 2021.

You can read about our progress, expenditure, service performance and challenges faced in 2020/2021. 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 2020/2021.

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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Motairehe Marae

# He kōrero mai i te heamana

## From the chairperson

It's been another intense year as we move through this new world with COVID-19. Council engaged and approved its Recovery Budget, the Long-term Plan 2021-2031. There were over 160 hours spent in workshops and meetings.

This work has resulted in rates increases which support water quality programmes to improve the health of the gulf waters, and septic tank and onsite wastewater systems education. Further support will be given for biosecurity programmes to reduce the transfer of marine and terrestrial pests across the Hauraki Gulf, and increased support into community-led environmental programmes.



A special mention goes out to the Te Reo course delivered by Kawa marae and Aotea Education Trust which has been hugely successful instilling enthusiasm for mātauranga Māori.

Over this past year, we have seen a surge in domestic tourism which is great for the local economy but can put pressure on our local services, freight, and infrastructure. We are working with Destination Great Barrier Island and Auckland Unlimited on a Destination Management Plan and advocating on the community's behalf to ease

pressures where needed.

Thanks go out to our Emergency Response Team who once again handled COVID-19 lockdowns and tsunami alerts with professionalism. Our vaccine rollout has been incredibly smooth and efficient led by our community health service.

Our focus for this new financial year will be on water security, food resilience, marine protection and continued support for community and environmental groups.

Stay safe and well.  
Ngā mihi nui / Kind regards

**Izzy Fordham**  
Chairperson, Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board

Our focus for the last financial year was primarily on supporting climate change projects, community resilience, and local environmental groups. We supported the delivery of the Off the Grid event by AoteaOra Trust which showcased a diverse array of off-grid and resilient living, completed the installation of new solar lighting at Whangaparapara shed, and completed the design work for the new electric bike chargers set to be installed at Claris.

Outstanding community-led environmental programmes and projects were delivered across the island including the Ōkiwi ecology programme which continued to support restoration activities and the student-delivered Asian paddle crab trapping project in the Whangapoua estuary. Plus, the Ecology Vision programme which supported the inaugural Aotea festival event and supports the community environmental groups in Oruawharo / Medlands, Okupu and Schooner Bay.

# 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

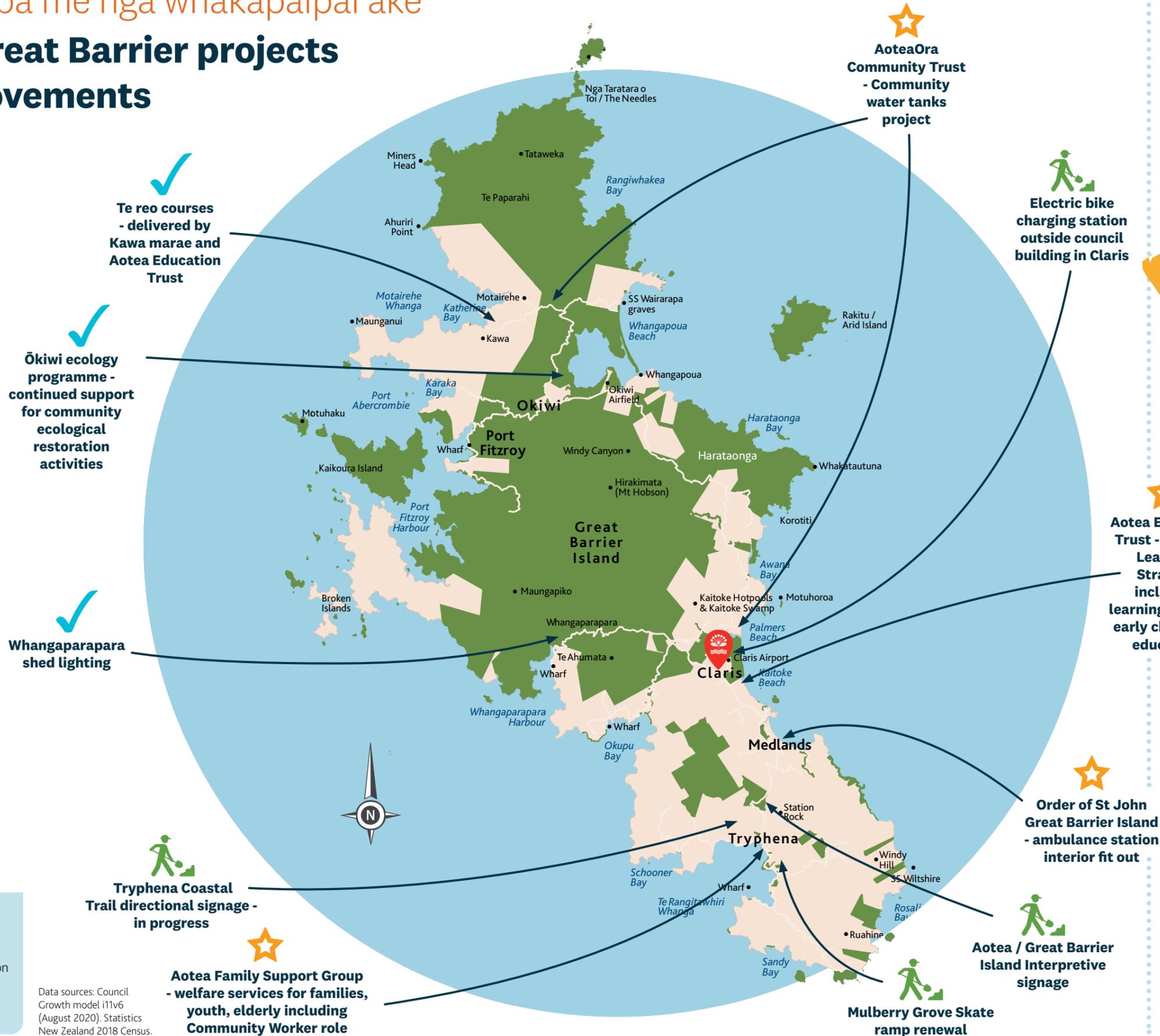
### KEY TO CURRENT AND PLANNED PROJECTS

-  **Delivered projects**
-  **Current projects**
-  **Significant local grants funded projects**

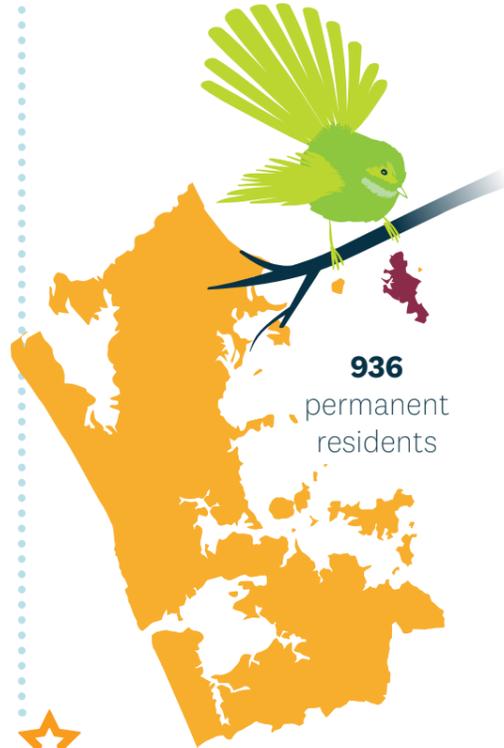
### LEGEND

-  Local board office
-  Dept. of Conservation (DOC) Land
-  Road

Data sources: Council Growth model i11v6 (August 2020). Statistics New Zealand 2018 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 Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board funded Aotea Education Trust to deliver Te Reo courses. These were delivered in collaboration with Kawa marae. They were open to all, free of charge, with the aim of widening access to and instilling enthusiasm for mātauranga Māori. They have been a huge success with a consistently large number of students attending from a cross-section of the community. Next financial year the course has been expanded due to demand.

Regular hui were held with council and representatives from Kawa and Motairehe marae. Relationships strengthened and projects have progressed with site visits to parks across the island. A nomination for the iwi liaison position was received from the Ngāti Rehua Ngātiwai ki Aotea Interim Trust board.

AoteaOra Trust delivered the island's Off-the-Grid Festival which was funded by the local board. The festival showcased a diverse array of off-grid and resilient living across food, community, transport, renewable energy, waste, water, and housing.

Aotea Family Support Group and the Community Worker strengthened community resilience with their manaakitanga and programmes such as the perinatal hui for parents with Perinatal Anxiety and Depression Aotearoa (PADA), weekly Mother's Care Group, Manawa workshops, youth mentoring programme, home maintenance to enable older people to stay in their homes longer and the implementation of the Warmer Homes project.

<b>Achieved</b> Target has been met or exceeded	<b>Substantially achieved</b> Target has not been met by a slim margin (+/-2%)	<b>Not achieved</b> Target not achieved	<b>* Impacted by COVID-19</b> Measures favourably / unfavourably impacted by COVID-19
<b>Progress made</b> Result improved from prior-year result	<b>No change</b> No change from prior-year result	<b>No improvements</b> Not improved from prior-year result	

	Results against target	Year-on-year change	2021 Target	2021 Result	2020	2019	How did we perform
<b>Provide safe, reliable and accessible social infrastructure for Aucklanders that contributes to placemaking and thriving communities</b>							
Percentage of Aucklanders that feel their local town centre is safe – day time			92%	97%	100%	98%	
Percentage of Aucklanders that feel their local town centre is safe – night time			90%	86%*	90%	96%	Although the target was not met, the result is still the highest in the Auckland region. There has been a general drop in feeling safe across the Auckland region in the past few months mainly due to the impacts of COVID-19.
<b>Utilising the Empowered Communities Approach, we support Aucklanders to create thriving, connected and inclusive communities</b>							
The percentage of Empowered Communities activities that are community led			70%	74%	58%	68%	
The percentage of Empowered Communities that build capacity and capability to assist local communities to achieve their goal			45%	86%	26%	43%	Most activities focused on building capacity and capability such as tourism development, parenting/family support, business skill development and supporting iwi to better represent their interests during council engagement.
<b>We fund, enable and deliver arts and culture experiences that enhance identity and connect people</b>							
The percentage of arts and culture programmes, grants and activities that are community led			52%	100%	100%	100%	All programmes have been been community-led.
<b>We fund, enable and deliver community events and experiences that enhance identity and connect people</b>							
The percentage of attendees satisfied with a nominated local community event			70%	Not measured*	81%	Not measured	Satisfaction survey methods require physical engagement with event attendees. The promotion of physical distancing to minimise risk at community events meant that satisfaction surveys were unable to be carried out this year.
<b>We provide library services and programmes that support Aucklanders with reading and literacy, and opportunities to participate in community and civic life</b>							
The number of internet sessions at libraries (unique sessions over public computing or public Wi-Fi networks)			6,500	5,236*	5,560*	5,039	Reduction was largely due to the two alert levels restrictions during this financial year, customers opting for online services and more users having internet available at home.
The number of visits to library facilities			10,000	13,776*	13,757*	15,339	Bucking the regional downward trend, library visits to the Aotea/Great Barrier library has remained stable. Auckland Council service centre being co-located with the library has also contributed to the results. It is harder to distinguish exclusive library visitors at co-located facilities.
Percentage of customers satisfied with the quality of library service delivery			85%	93%	100%	95%	Although target was achieved, the result was lower than last year's. This could have been mainly due to the multiple alert level restrictions through the year which had an impact on physical library access throughout the year.

## Local Community Services cont'd

	Results against target	Year-on-year change	2021 Target	2021 Result	2020	2019	How did we perform
<b>We provide safe and accessible parks, reserves, and beaches</b>							
The percentage of users who are satisfied with the overall quality of local parks	●	▲	70%	85%	81%	57%	Parks satisfaction has been on an increasing trend on the island. Local parks were well maintained even during COVID-19 and were available for the community during alert level restrictions. These have contributed to better satisfaction with parks.
The percentage of residents who visited a local park in the last 12 months	●	▲	81%	84%	74%	80%	
<b>We showcase Auckland's Māori identity and vibrant Māori culture</b>							
The percentage of local programmes, grants and activities that respond to Māori aspirations	●	▲	25%	25%	18.8%	8.5%	Key areas of focus were engagement with mana whenua, ongoing work with the Aotea Learning Hub and contestable grants from the Local Board via Creative Communities scheme that respond to Māori aspirations. Several activities were postponed or cancelled due to COVID-19.

## Local Environmental Management

The Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board funded eight local environmental projects in the 2020/2021 financial year including projects focussed on pest plant and animal control, waterways protection, and supporting community ecology vision on Aotea.

The local board-funded Ōkiwi ecology programme continued to support restoration activities in Ōkiwi including rat trapping, plantings, biodiversity monitoring and the Ōkiwi school students delivered an Asian paddle crab trapping project in the Whangapoua estuary.

The Ecology Vision programme funded by the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board held the inaugural Aotea festival event, beach clean-up events, supported community environmental groups in Oruawharo / Medlands, Okupu and Schooner Bay,

bird rescue and penguin protection.

The recruitment of a Conservation Advisor to join Council's local environmental team: The role is part-funded by the local board and will support delivery of local and regional environmental projects, community-led environmental projects and support marine conservation activities.

Work funded through the regional Natural Environment Targeted Rate was delivered around Argentine Ant detection and site-led weed control at Medlands dunes and Kaitoke. The 2020/2021 Aotea Pest animal programme has included the strategic control of feral cats across 10,000 hectares using live capture traps. During the year a total of 127 feral cats have been captured within sensitive ecological areas.

	Results against target	Year-on-year change	2021 Target	2021 Result	2020	2019	How did we perform
<b>We manage Auckland's natural environment</b>							
The proportion of local programmes that deliver intended environmental actions and/or outcomes	●	▲	75.0%	100.0%	87.5%	87.5%	We successfully delivered eight environmental projects that contributed to local board's environmental outcomes in its plan. The Waterways Protection Fund programme was cancelled with the agreement of the local board, as no eligible applications were received and affected the result.



## Te āhuatanga ā-rohe

### Local flavour

#### Marine pest trapping trial a community success



Early last year, the Asian paddle crab was found in the Whangapoua estuary at Aotea / Great Barrier Island.

First detected in New Zealand in 2000, the Asian paddle crab is an aggressive predator competing with native crabs for habitat and food, as well as consuming culturally and economically important shellfish species.

The large swimming crabs are native to South East Asia and are normally found in the waters of Japan, Korea, and Malaysia.

Following the discovery of this exotic marine pest, the Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board contributed funding towards a pilot project for trapping the Asian paddle crab and educating the community and visitors about preventing the spread of the crab and other marine pests.

Te Kura O Ōkiwi and Mana Whenua led the trapping initiative, with support from environmental organisation Envirokiwi, which helped to determine

the density and distribution of the crab within Aotea's waters.

"The kura took on a leadership role in the project. Over several months, for one week out of each month, students and teachers set and checked around 20 traps once a day at low tide," says Thomas Daly, Envirokiwi contract manager.

"With the support of a supervisor, they learned all the necessary skills in trapping, handling, identification and data collection. Their findings were compiled and presented to the community at the SEA Trust Marine Hui this year."

Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board chair Izzy Fordham says the initiative worked to highlight the importance of pest pathway management to the community and visitors to the Island.

"Unfortunately, species like the Asian paddle crab are very difficult to completely eradicate, but by keeping our boats clean, we can help to slow the spread."

## Te tahua pūtea

## Funding impact statement

Financial year ending 30 June 2021

\$000s	Notes	Actual 2020/2021	Annual Plan 2020/2021	Annual Plan 2019/2020
<b>Sources of operating funding:</b>				
General rates, UAGCs, rates penalties		3,581	3,581	2,691
Targeted rates		0	0	0
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes		0	0	0
Fees and charges		0	4	0
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees and other receipts		5	2	2
<b>Total operating funding</b>		<b>3,586</b>	<b>3,587</b>	<b>2,693</b>
<b>Applications of operating funding:</b>				
Payments to staff and suppliers		3,082	3,017	2,482
Finance costs		460	460	80
Internal charges and overheads applied		110	110	129
Other operating funding applications		0	0	0
<b>Total applications of operating funding</b>		<b>3,652</b>	<b>3,587</b>	<b>2,691</b>
<b>Surplus (deficit) of operating funding</b>		<b>(66)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Sources of capital funding:</b>				
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure		0	0	0
Development and financial contributions		0	0	0
Increase (decrease) in debt	1	273	351	774
Gross proceeds from sale of assets		0	0	0
Lump sum contributions		0	0	0
Other dedicated capital funding		0	0	0
<b>Total sources of capital funding</b>		<b>273</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>774</b>
<b>Application of capital funding:</b>				
Capital expenditure:				
- to meet additional demand		53	87	0
- to improve the level of service		(2)	66	328
- to replace existing assets		156	198	448
Increase (decrease) in reserves		0	0	0
Increase (decrease) in investments		0	0	0
<b>Total applications of capital funding</b>	2	<b>207</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>776</b>
<b>Surplus (deficit) of capital funding</b>		<b>66</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(2)</b>
<b>Funding balance</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Variance explanation Actual 2020/2021 to Annual Plan 2020/2021**

- Capital expenditure was lower than planned. This resulted in a funding surplus which was partially absorbed by higher than planned payments to staff and suppliers. The overall funding surplus meant that less debt funding was required than was planned.
- Capital expenditure was below plan due to:
  - the design for the electric bike charging hub being delayed, resulting in the project construction starting later than expected. The project design was finalised in June 2021 and construction will commence in 2021/2022.
  - the interpretive signage and directional signage projects being delayed in regard to both design and consultation.

Okiwi pump track ►



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