

Franklin Waterway Protection Fund Guidelines



Introduction

The Franklin Waterway Protection Fund is a Franklin Local Board grants programme to support landowner and community initiatives that will help to improve water quality in priority catchments. These initiatives are expected to protect and enhance riparian land around streams, wetlands and waterways, to reduce the potential for soil erosion and water contamination.

Who can apply?

Funding is available to all landowners including farmers and lifestyle block owners, and community or environmental groups located or operating within the priority catchments.

Priority will be given to applications from adjoining landowners or landowners on both sides of a waterway, and those partnering with hapu/ iwi.

Lower priority will be given to projects that are solely weed control initiatives.

Consideration will be given to projects on publicly owned land proposed by community groups, and/ or collectives of local landowners.

What can I apply for?

Funding is available to support the protection, enhancement or restoration of streams, waterways, wetlands and riparian margins in the following catchments:

- Mauku,
- Whangapouri,
- Whangamarie and
- Wairoa

The primary aim of the fund is to support fencing and planting projects that will protect streams, wetlands, seeps and drains through stock exclusion. Funding is also available for installing alternative water supplies for livestock.

Waterway protection and restoration standards:

Riparian Margin
The minimum riparian set back width for fencing is 5 metres from the edge of the stream or drain. For wetlands and seeps the fence should go around the natural margins of the area.
Fencing Standards:
Beef and dairy cattle: Minimum standard is 5 post and wire fencing with wire 1 and 3 electrified.

Sheep, goats and pigs: Permanent 7-8 wires post and batten fencing properly strained, unless an alternative is better suited to local conditions such as flooding risk or land management considerations.

Deer: Specifications as per [Deer farming requirements in the Auckland Region](#)

Riparian Margin and Wetland Restoration Planting

All plants must be eco-sourced and appropriate to the planting area. For the Franklin area this is plants eco-sourced from the *Manukau Ecological District*.

A minimum of five plant species should be included in the planting scheme for all planting areas.

For stream restoration planting information refer to:

[Auckland Council Streamside Planting Guide](#)

For wetland restoration and planting information refer to:

[Wetland Restoration Guide](#)

Eco Sourced Plants

Eco-sourced native plants are plants which have been grown from seed and collected from local, natural populations. The local origin of these plants means that they are well adapted to the local climate and soils and have a greater chance of survival. Local native plant nurseries can usually supply eco-sourced natives on request.

How much of the project will the local board fund?

There will be one annual funding round with \$60,000 to distribute.

Applicants can apply for up to 50 per cent of the entire project cost (i.e. the applicant must supply or source the other half of the project budget). This contribution can be an in-kind contribution (e.g. voluntary labour) or contribution by other donors.

Applicants will have 18 months to complete their projects. Funding is given on a reimbursement basis after site visit has been done to check the waterway protection work and invoices have been submitted. No work can be undertaken prior to having a signed Funding Grant Agreement in place with Auckland Council; **waterway protection work cannot be funded retrospectively.**

There must also be an on-going commitment to maintenance and management

of the waterway protection and restoration by the property owner, this is included in the Grant Agreement.

What will not be funded?

The Franklin Waterway Protection Fund is not able to provide funding where:

- Activities or work has already started or been completed – funding is not retrospective.
- Fencing or planting is a condition of a current or future resource consent such as a subdivision consent or water take consent.

Funding assessment criteria

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria outlined below.

- **Environmental benefits:** The type of environmental benefits including improved water quality and aquatic ecological health, the type and significance of the environment to be protected, the length of riparian margin and total area to be protected.
- **Community benefits:** The extent of community involvement in leading the project or participation in the project. Also, the potential for the applicant to connect with other landowners to form partnerships and share knowledge will be assessed.
- **Feasibility and likelihood of success:** Projects should be practical and feasible. The project should be likely to be successfully completed based on the activities and time frames listed in the application.
- **Iwi:** The project includes working in partnership with local hapu/ iwi affording cultural and social benefits.

GST

Grants reimbursements from Auckland Council are made as GST exempt payments as this transaction does not involve the transfer of goods or services. Grant recipients will receive payment/s up to the value of the grant approved by fund decision makers. Grant recipients can submit grant reimbursement requests based on GST inclusive costs provided these are under the total value of the grant approved.

To help us understand your full project costs and set an appropriate value for grant allocation please include all project costs, not just those you are requesting funding from Council to support. Project costs should be provided inclusive of GST regardless of whether or not your organisation is GST registered.

Who will assess applications?

An initial assessment of applications will be undertaken by staff which may include a visit to the relevant property. Decisions on the allocation of grants will

be made by the Franklin Local Board.

How to apply

All applications are accepted online via the SmartyGrants portal, <https://aucklandcouncil.smartygrants.com.au/FWPF2021>. If you have any questions in regard to completing the SmartyGrants application form online please contact: communityfunding@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

If you have any questions with regards to your project please contact Wendy D'Arcy on 027263379 or via email wendy.darcy@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Applications must be accompanied by sufficient supporting information,

- Cost schedule
- Quotes for fencing, plants, alternate water supply
- Bank Account details
- Map showing area to be fenced/planted protected.
- Proposed maintenance of planting (if planting is a part of the application)

Applications should be made for total costs including the costs of materials and labour.

Successful applicants

Successful applicants will be notified via SmartyGrants and will be required to enter into a Funding Grant Agreement with Auckland Council. This will include certain terms and conditions. No work can be undertaken prior to having a signed Funding Grant Agreement in place. Grants are paid as reimbursements once the required goods and services have been purchased and copies of full receipts sent to the Environmental Funding staff.

Find out more: **phone 09 301 0101**
or visit **aucklandcouncil.govt.nz**

