



# Ōrākei Local Board Grants Programme 2025/2026



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# Ōrākei Local Board Grants Programme 2025/2026

The Local Grants Programme aims to provide contestable and discretionary community grants to local communities.

## Outcomes sought from the local grant programme

Applicants will need to read the Ōrākei Local Board Plan before submitting an application. This can be viewed online here: [Ōrākei Local Board Plan 2023](#), picked up from an Auckland Council service centre, or ordered from the call centre on 09 301 0101.

Our grants programme will be targeted towards supporting the following outcomes and priorities as outlined in our local board plan 2023:

### **All groups in the community feel informed and included**

- Support youth from the area and the Youth of Ōrākei to have a voice in local decision making and to contribute to their communities

### **Safe, resilient communities**

- Catalyse community action, and support local community patrols, residents and business associations

### **Arts, local heritage and culture are reflected in our public facilities and places**

- Continue to protect, restore and maintain existing art and heritage items and sites

### **Our forest, bush and wetland habitats continue to be enhanced for future generations**

### **Our beaches and waterways are clean, and water quality is improved**

### **More sustainable waste management options and support for community climate action**

### **Sports parks are maintained and upgraded to provide for more use as the local population changes and residential areas intensify**

### **Connect communities through arts, sports, events, and community activities**

### **All our town centres are attractive and bustling**

- Work with our business associations to enhance and develop the individual identities and character of our villages

### **Local and overseas visitors are attracted to our area**

- Encourage local businesses and community groups to hold events and activations to showcase our unique area

## Higher Priorities

The Ōrākei Local Board will prioritise grants from groups who can demonstrate a “match funding” approach i.e., where groups can demonstrate significant community contribution in time, cash and/or in-kind services.

- Events or activities that are held in the local board area and can demonstrate the benefit to the local community
- Have considered other funding sources or there is a contribution from the application to the event or activity (financial or volunteer time).

## Lower Priorities

The Ōrākei Local Board will also consider applications for other services, projects, events and activities. However, in addition to the **eligibility criteria** outlined in the [Community Grants Policy 2014](#), the following may be considered a lower priority:

- Commercial entities and promotion of commercial entities
- Ticketed programmes and events that generate significant revenue
- Catering
- Operational costs, including wages and salaries except where professional services is required beyond the expertise of the applicant, i.e., planning, engineering fees.
- Activities or events that primarily benefit communities outside the Ōrākei area
- Projects and activities in schools that do not demonstrate wider community benefits

## What we won't fund

Please refer to the [Community Grants Policy 2014](#) 'scope and eligibility' for general eligibility criteria:

- Ineligible applicants – Paragraph 78
- What we won't fund – Paragraphs 84-86
- Lower priorities – Paragraphs 87-88

In addition to the eligibility criteria outlined the Community Grants Policy, the Ōrākei Local Board will not fund:

- Applicants who have failed to complete or provide a satisfactory Accountability Report from previous grants from any Local Board
- Applications for Liquor Licenses
- Private entertainment
- The purchase of vehicles (other significant asset purchases may also be declined)
- Travel expenses

**Note:** Applicants can only apply to the Ōrākei Local Board for the same project or activity, and be successful, once in a financial year.

# Investment Approach

The Ōrākei Local Board has allocated budgets to support the local grants programme as follows:

Quick Response Grant	Local Grants
Minimum amount per grant: \$1,000.00	Minimum amount per grant: \$3,000.00
Maximum amount per grant: \$4,000.00	Maximum amount per grant: \$10,000.00

  

Tree Protection Grant
Maximum amount per grant: \$2,000.00

# Application Dates

Table 1 – Local Grants

2023/2024	Opens	Closes	Decision Made	Project to Occur After
Local Grant Round One	7 July 2025	15 August 2025	21 November 2025	1 December 2025
Local Grant Round Two	12 January 2026	20 February 2026	16 April 2026	1 May 2026

Table 2 – Quick Response Grants

2023/2024	Opens	Closes	Decision Made	Project to Occur After
Quick Response & Tree Protection Round One	8 September 2025	3 October 2025	11 December 2025	31 December 2025
Quick Response & Tree Protection Round Two	30 March 2026	24 April 2026	18 June 2026	1 July 2026

# Accountability Measures

The Ōrākei Local Board requires recipients of community grants to satisfactorily fulfil the accountability requirements set by Council.

# Tree Protection Grants

## Specific eligibility criteria for Tree Protection Grants

The Ōrākei Local Board recognises trees, whether identified for protection or not, are significant contributors to the amenity and character of local neighbourhoods and town centres.

The Ōrākei Local Board provides owners of notable trees, within the local board area, access to the quick response grants, for tree works that support the long-term health of notable trees and their retention within the community.

To be eligible to apply for a tree protection grant:

- You must be the property owner
- No more than one application per annum per tree can be submitted

A grant is open to owners of all notable trees that are either:

- scheduled in the Auckland Unitary Plan, Schedule 10: Notable Trees Schedule or
- significant notable non-scheduled landscape trees able to score 15 or greater when assessed against criteria for tree scheduling

**Note:** Applications for trees, granted funding for maintenance work in the preceding year, will not be eligible.

## Work Supported by Tree Protection Grants

The Ōrākei Local Board Tree Protection Grant is focused on ensuring tree retention and maintenance and accepted tree work is limited to that which will ensure the long-term health of the tree.

### 1. Pruning for safety

- Reduction / thinning of extended branches with heavy end weight, poor taper and/or exhibiting weak attachments
- Crown lifting / pruning of branches obstructing lines of sight on streets and driveways
- Pruning to maintain clearances from dwellings and overhead private service lines

### 2. Pruning for form

- Removal of dead and diseased branches
- Removal or pruning of crossing and rubbing secondary branches
- Removal or pruning of broken and storm damaged branches
- Removal of stumps and stubs to encourage wound closure
- Thinning of the crown to increase sunlight

### 3. Soil environment

- Measures designed to improve the tree's soil environment, such as mulching with compost, in ground vertical mulching and soil aeration where this will be of benefit to the longevity.

## Tree Protection Exclusions

- Tree work solely to improve outlook from the property or enhance property values.
- Tree work solely for the protection of built structures.

# Ōrākei

**Applicants can apply for 50% of the cost of tree work up to a maximum of \$2,000.00.**

Tree work is required to be carried out by a qualified arborist and applications must be supported by quotes.

All grants for the maintenance and protection of notable trees can be applied for under the quick response rounds as outlined in table 2.

