



Waitematā Local Board Grants Programme 2025/2026



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Waitematā 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 grants programme

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

The Waitematā Local Board Grants Programme will be targeted towards supporting the following outcomes and priorities as outlined in the Waitematā Local Board Plan 2023:

1. Support local composting and grow a local low-carbon, resilient food production system through community gardens and food sovereignty initiatives
2. Celebrate Māori identity and taonga including Reo at our libraries and arts spaces
3. Reflect Māori heritage and whakapapa in our public spaces and facilities incorporating Māori design principles and artwork
4. Develop local emergency response plans to improve community resilience to extreme weather events, ongoing climate change hazards, and other emergencies
5. Support local and regional initiatives intended to improve public safety and perceptions of safety in the city centre and fringe town centres
6. Improve resilience against the impacts of climate change and natural hazards
7. Preserve, protect, and enhance biodiversity across Waitematā
8. Improve our water quality and air quality, and clean our waterways
9. Our parks and open spaces are well-used and safe
10. Connect our communities, through community activities, creative arts, sports and events
11. The character and heritage of our neighbourhoods is valued and conserved within our urban landscapes
12. Our open space networks meet the needs of our changing and growing communities
13. Identify and protect heritage in Waitematā
14. Regenerate town centres to attract visitor and economic growth

Higher Priorities

The Waitematā Local Board will prioritise applications which address:

- Inequality and lack of opportunity
- Community action for climate change
- Community action on environmental and biodiversity issues
- Empowering women and girls
- Programmes and events that bring different communities together
- Sustainable solutions for homelessness
- Waste minimisation
- Heritage recognition and storytelling
- Building community resilience
- Smoke free programmes and events

Lower Priorities

The Waitematā Local Board will also consider applications for other services, projects, events and activities which may be considered a lower priority on a case by case basis.

The Waitematā Local Board has identified the following as lower priorities:

- Activities that have limited benefit to communities inside the Waitematā Local Board area
- Commercial entities and promotion of commercial entities
- Ongoing operation costs including, wages and salaries, with the exception of fees for and specialised services delivering specialised programmes.
- Prizes
- Travel expenses, including vehicle expenses
- Ticketed events

Exclusions and Ineligibility

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

- Applicants requesting more than the maximum grant amount
- Liquor Licenses
- Private entertainment
- Purchase of vehicles (other significant asset purchases may also be declined)
- Applicants who have failed to complete or provide a satisfactory Accountability Report from previous grants from any Local Board.

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

What we won't fund

The following activities will not be funded:

- Debt servicing or repayments
- Legal or medical expenses
- Activities that promote religious ministry or political purposes
- Public services that are the responsibility of central government, e.g., core education, primary health care
- Physical works, e.g., improvements to community buildings – that require consents or permits, prior to the necessary consents or permits being obtained (grants may be awarded in principle, but funds will not be released until all conditions are satisfied)
- Purchase of alcohol.

For more information, please refer to the [Community Grants Policy 2014](#) 'scope and eligibility' for general eligibility criteria:

- Ineligible applicants – Page 22, Paragraph 78
- What we won't fund – Page 24, Paragraphs 84-86

Accountability Measures

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

The Waitematā Local Board requests that all successful applicants:

- Extend an invitation to the activity to local board members
- Recognise the local board's support, including through the placement of the local board logo
- Display the local board branding/banners on advertising or at events (evidence to be included in the accountability report).

Investment Approach

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

Quick Response Grant
Minimum amount per grant: \$500.00
Maximum amount per grant: \$4,000.00

Local Grant
Minimum amount per grant: \$3,000.00
Maximum amount per grant: \$10,000.00

Accommodation Grant
Minimum amount per grant: \$2,500.00
Maximum amount per grant: \$20,000.00

Note: The Local Board may grant less than the amount the applicant applied for in a Local and Quick Response grant round.

Accommodation Grants

Community organisations can apply for accommodation grants to cover rental and/or lease payments, Auckland Council rates and regular, ongoing venue hire costs.

Accommodation Grant Criteria

- Applicants are a community organisation, as outlined in the Community Grants Policy.
- Accommodation costs applied for are for the following financial year starting 1 July.
- Evidence of the accommodation costs is provided.
- The organisation has been operating for a full financial year prior to the application date and must provide its last full year financial statements and/or audited accounts.
- The accommodation is located in and primarily benefits the Waitematā Local Board area.
- If the applicant is requesting a grant for a venue that has an Auckland Council community lease or community occupancy agreement, the council's approval for the sub-lease or hireage needs to be verified by the applicant.

Accommodation Grant Exclusions

- Organisations that are the leaseholder of an Auckland Council community lease or Auckland Council community occupancy agreement.
- Hireage costs of a council managed venue or externally managed council facility.

Application Dates

Table 1 – Local Grants

2025/2026	Opens	Closes	Decision Made	Project to Occur After
Local Grant Round one	16 June 2025	25 July 2025	16 September 2025	1 October 2025
Local Grant Round two	19 January 2026	27 February 2026	21 April 2026	1 May 2026

Table 2 – Quick Response Grants

2025/2026	Opens	Closes	Decision Made	Project to Occur After
Quick Response Round one	29 September 2025	24 October 2025	9 December 2025	31 December 2025
Quick Response Round two	6 April 2026	1 May 2026	16 June 2026	1 July 2026

Table 3 – Accommodation Grant

2025/2026	Opens	Closes	Decision Made	Project to Occur After
Accommodation Grant Round one	19 January 2026	14 March 2026	19 May 2026	30 June 2026

