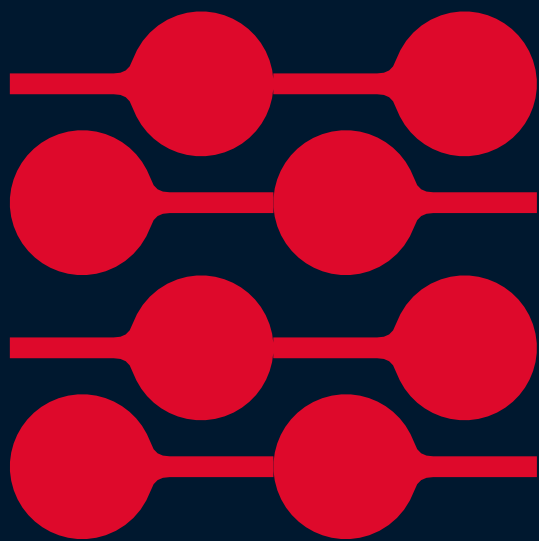


Whau Local Board



# Whau Local Board Grants Programme 2025/2026



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# Whau Local Board Grants Programme 2025/2026

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

## Outcomes sought from the local grants programme

Our grants programme will be targeted towards achieving the following outcomes, as outlined in our local board plan:

- Our diverse communities are supported, represented, respected, empowered, and able to thrive. Everyone can engage with local democracy to influence what happens in their neighbourhood and contribute to a collective west Auckland identity and voice
- Our natural environment is protected by proactively working with our communities to achieve sustainability goals and build resilience. Individuals understand the need to adapt to a changing climate and take action to include sustainable practices in their daily lives.
- Accessible, inclusive facilities and services are provided in collaboration with our communities to enrich people's lives at all stages and foster a sense of belonging. Individuals are aware of what is available to them, face fewer barriers to participation, and feel connected and supported
- Our communities are physically and socially connected. People feel safe, have a sense of ownership and pride, and enjoy spending time in our town centres, neighbourhood centres, parks, and open spaces
- Our local economy is strengthened through partnership and by collaborating on initiatives that encourage our communities to shop and work locally. We bolster economic prosperity through connecting with key local industry sectors

## Our priorities for grants

The Whau Local Board welcomes grant applications that align with one or more of the following priorities and deliver initiatives and activities to achieve the Whau Local Board plan:

**Our diverse communities are supported, represented, respected, empowered, and able to thrive. Everyone can engage with local democracy to influence what happens in their neighbourhood and contribute to a collective west Auckland identity and voice**

- Greater whanaungatanga in our communities to promote belonging and wellbeing

## Whau Kaupapa

- Strengthen partnerships and encourage engagement with mana whenua and mataawaka groups and organisations
- Ensure the voices of multi-cultural groups, community-led groups, and organisations representing people with disabilities are heard
- Greater civic engagement and participation

**Our natural environment is protected by proactively working with our communities to achieve sustainability goals and build resilience.**

**Individuals understand the need to adapt to a changing climate and take action to include sustainable practices in their daily lives**

- Partnerships are implemented to build climate mitigation and the resilience of our environment, while individuals are encouraged to reduce waste and minimise their carbon footprint
- Our streams, waterways and harbours are protected, enhanced, and their mauri restored
- More trees are planted, and existing significant trees are protected
- Our communities are supported to exercise the principle of kaitiakitanga/guardianship in their local areas

**Accessible, inclusive facilities and services are provided in collaboration with our communities to enrich people's lives at all stages and foster a sense of belonging. Individuals are aware of what is available to them, face fewer barriers to participation, and feel connected and supported**

- Accessible community facilities and services that provide opportunities for connection and recreation for our diverse populations
- Plans and development that consider current and future community needs as well as climate change and accommodate for future growth
- Strong and effective partnerships with community groups

**Our communities are physically and socially connected. People feel safe, have a sense of ownership and pride, and enjoy spending time in our town centres, neighbourhood centres, parks, and open spaces**

- Safe and welcoming parks and urban spaces that support community interaction
- Safe and easy travel options to get in and around Whau
- Our Māori history and cultural diversity are reflected and celebrated throughout Whau

**Our local economy is strengthened through partnership and by collaborating on initiatives that encourage our communities to shop and work locally. We bolster economic prosperity through connecting with key local industry sectors**

## Whau Kaupapa

- Effective partnerships that leverage work to support economic development and sustainable local business

## Higher Priority

- Community-led projects that strengthen and connect neighbourhoods and town centres
- Activities that improve Māori and Pasifika outcomes
- New initiatives that support climate resilience in communities
- Activities that are inclusive of different abilities

## Lower Priorities

Applications for services, projects, and events outside the current priorities will still be considered for funding unless specifically mentioned as being ineligible in the Auckland Council Community Grants Policy or listed as an exclusion. However, they will generally be considered as lower priorities:

- Operational costs including wages, salaries, utilities, and rent, with the exception of fees for specialised services
- Groups and/or activities taking place outside the local board area, unless the applicant can clearly demonstrate the benefit to local board community members
- Events which charge an admission fee
- Applicants who have not considered other sources of funding for their project, such as:
  - Grants from other funding organisations
  - Sponsorships
- Applicants who have received one successful Whau local board grant during the current financial year
- Where the applicant has a considerable cash surplus (relative to annual turnover)

## Exclusions

In addition to the eligibility criteria outlined in Auckland Council's overarching Community Grants Policy, the Whau Local Board will not fund:

- Applicants are excluded when they have received two successful Whau grants within the current financial year
- Groups requesting funding below the minimum or above the maximum amounts detailed under the Investment Approach section

## Applicants with no formal legal structure

Applicants with no formal legal structure may apply for grants of up to \$1,000 through the local board grants programme; however, the board expects to see evidence from the group indicating community support for the activity and its objectives

## Investment approach

The Whau Local Board has allocated budgets to support the grants programme as follows. Please ensure requests are within the following amounts to remain eligible:

- Quick Response Grants: \$500 to \$2,000
- Local Grants: \$2,000 to \$8,000

## Application Dates

Table1- Quick Response

2025/2026	Opens	Closes	Decision Made	Project to Occur After
Round one	6 October 2025	31 October 2025	3 December 2025	4 December 2025
Round two	20 April 2026	15 May 2026	24 June 2026	1 July 2026

Table2 - Local Grants

2025/2026	Opens	Closes	Decision Made	Project to Occur After
Round one	30 June 2025	8 August 2025	24 September 2025	1 October 2025
Round two	26 January 2026	6 March 2026	22 April 2026	1 May 2026

## Accountability measures

In addition to the measures in the community grants policy the Whau Local Board requests that all successful applicants as far as possible provide photographs of the activity funded

