



**29 March
2023**



Community Newsletter

Muriwai Beach cyclone recovery

Over the last week, I've had the chance to connect with many of you on the ground in Muriwai.

One of my priorities is working with the community to ensure we are sense-checking our decision-making. It's been great to connect with community leaders and members as part of a reference group that has been acting as a helpful sounding board for key milestones and information.

It's clear that we still have a long way to go, and I hope you feel assured that the council is with you, to support and provide information as we transition to recovery.

We'll be focusing our attention on a weekly update and move towards sending out these updates once a week. I encourage you to keep reaching out via muriwai@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or in person around Muriwai or at the ranger station.

Ngā mihi,
Scott De Silva

Regional park and cordon update

Conversations regarding the ongoing management of cordons in and around Muriwai are underway. For now, we want to reassure you that we will be extending the cordons until after Easter at the earliest. This decision will be reviewed again at that time.

We have heard the concerns of the community around the lifting of cordons, including considerations around water, security and the integrity of the roads. We are committed to a collaborative approach and the concerns and suggestions that have been raised will be considered as part of our ongoing review.

We will continue to engage with you about any upcoming changes ahead of time and no decisions will be made before this has happened.

We have been informed that there is some concern that a number of non-residents are accessing Muriwai without approval. In some instances, this has been agreed to support local businesses. A security presence remains in place and we continue to review applications on a case-by-case basis.

Supporting local businesses

On that note, we are working with the Muriwai Campground and Muriwai Surf Club to operate with managed access to campers to take advantage of the end of summer and Easter weekend. Security is paramount to this, and we will be asking that camper details, numbers and vehicle registrations be provided to the council and the cordon checkpoints.

Muriwai Regional Park

Due to ongoing water supply issues, Muriwai Regional Park including vehicle access on to the beach via Coast Rd will remain closed until after Easter, after which the closure will be reviewed.

Updated vehicle pass process

We are moving from a manual paper-based process for issuing vehicle passes, to an online form.

If you require a pass to gain access through the cordons for personal or business reasons, you can apply online [here](#).

You will be asked to provide supporting documentation and we aim to complete all requests within three business days.

It is important to note, access to Muriwai remains extremely restricted and all applications will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Water update

Muriwai customers who have recently returned home after their red placard was lifted will have water running through their taps again from Monday 27 March.

Over the weekend, Watercare completed condition assessments, pipe disinfection and water quality testing.

Watercare's Muriwai Water Treatment Plant remains red-placarded, so customers are being supplied with a temporary solution – a water tanker that stores water much like a reservoir.

Watercare is pumping water directly back into the existing network using a mobile pump station. It is also increasing the number of top-ups to the tanker to service the extra people. Those that are using tanked-in water should try and use the minimum they can.

There is always a chance there may be minor disruptions to supply and Watercare asks you to please be mindful of your water use.

Waimauku water tanker

Due to reduced demand, a water tanker will no longer be situated at Waimauku School, from Friday 31 March.

Auckland Transport update on Motutara Road slip

Auckland Transport is currently working with landowners and council to begin the process for the clearing of the Motutara Road slip. This involves a consenting process with all private properties and their insurance companies before any works can take place. We expect this to take approximately two weeks.

Once we have permissions from all parties, work will begin to clear debris on the road reserve, including overland flow paths, stormwater system and removing all the current over slips from site and cleaning the roads. AT will work alongside Auckland Council and our contractors throughout the process.

Building assessments update

Auckland Council is working on an initiative to assign a 'case manager' to red and yellow placarded property owners. Starting this week, we have begun by contacting red placarded property owners to advise them of this, and yellow placarded properties will shortly follow.

Property owners can request information on their Rapid Building Assessment by contacting rbacomms@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz.

Yellow-placarded properties in the exclusion zone

**** This information is different what was included in Friday's newsletter and applies to yellow placarded houses near the Muriwai cliffs in the exclusion zones. We've clarified the information for these property owners. ****

Houses with yellow placards have an unacceptable risk which means there needs to be some restrictions on their use. As the risk is lower than some of the red placarded properties, the house can be used for short periods, or part of the house can be used.

The work being undertaken by Auckland Council to assess the risk will apply to your house. The information collection will take three to six months, and decisions will then be needed beyond that. You should be prepared to be out of your home for at least that amount of time. We will complete this work as quickly as we can, and keep you informed of progress as we go.

There may be a few homes currently with yellow placards that can be downgraded based on early interim findings of the next studies. However, these are expected to be in the minority and until the work is done, we can't know which properties they will be. We don't anticipate even these few changing for a month at least.

High-level plan (roadmap) for properties in the current exclusion zone

- Apply initial F-angle analysis of slip hazard to properties in the exclusion zone
Status: *complete*
- Perform geo-technical review of each property in the exclusion zones and identify any other risk factors
Status: *complete*
- Reassess placard status based on analysis of slip hazard and site observation
Status: *complete*
- Determine if the site is still considered dangerous
Status: *complete*
- Contact property owners (in the exclusion zone only) on updated placard status
Status: *complete*
- Apply updated placard status to building and update council records
Status: *complete*
- Communicate managed temporary access to affected property owners
Status: *complete*
- Communicate with individuals about their property placard status and assign a case manager to each property
Status: *in progress / ongoing*
- Review closure of Muriwai Regional Park and cordons
Status: *underway*
- Additional geotechnical investigation, analysis and modelling of the slopes at Muriwai
Status: *over the next three to six months, due to complexity of the land stability*
- Review status of remaining red-placarded homes
Status: *once additional geotechnical work to assess risk has been completed, unless new geotechnical information becomes available in the meantime.*

Welfare update

The Ministry of Social Development [Civil Defence payments](#) finish this week. If you need financial support, contact [Work and Income](#) for information on benefits and payments.

If you have queries about EQC or insurance, please contact your insurance provider directly. Remember, the Ministry of Business, Employment and Innovation (MBIE) continue its Temporary Accommodation Services (TAS). You can [register online](#) or by phoning 0508 754 163.

Wellbeing support

If you're feeling stressed or overwhelmed, please consider talking with a 1737 counsellor for support, advice and ideas that can help. Call or text 1737 anytime.

For less critical non-emergency care, please connect with your GP in the first instance, or if you don't have a GP and are unsure where you need to go to seek help, call Healthline [0800 611 116](#).

We understand there are also some local counsellors who have offered their time, please visit the [Muriwai Emergency Network Facebook page](#) for details.

You can also contact one of the West Auckland organisations below:

- Family Action <https://www.familyaction.org.nz/>
- Vision West [Counselling, Wellbeing, Clinical Supervision | West Auckland | Book Online \(visionwest.org.nz\)](#)
- Care Waitakere [Counselling | CARE Waitakere](#)
- Kindred [Counselling – Kindred Family Services \(kindredservices.org.nz\)](#)
- Navigation website for how to access counselling: [Accessing Mental Health Services | Mental Health Foundation](#)

Have we got your details?

If you've received this newsletter via email, then we're all good – we have your correct contact details.

If it has been passed on to you by someone else or you're reading it via a website or social media channel, we'd like you to share your contact details with us. Please email us at muriwai@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz.

There are lots of reasons we might not have your details – you might be a tenant (and we've been dealing directly with the property owner); you might not have provided an email address (just a phone number) to our inspections team; or sometimes, despite our best efforts, handwritten forms lead to mistakes.

Need help?



Visit: [aucklandemergencymanagement.org.nz/muriwai](https://www.aucklandemergencymanagement.org.nz/muriwai)
Enquire: muriwai@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or rbacomms@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



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