



**24 May  
2023**



# Community Newsletter

## **Muriwai Beach cyclone recovery**

### **Nationwide test of Emergency Mobile Alert test**

The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) will be conducting a nationwide test of the Emergency Mobile Alert system on Sunday 28 May, between 6pm and 7pm. An alert will be broadcast to all capable phones.

The test allows NEMA to evaluate the system, cell towers, and the ability for mobile phones to receive the alert. It also helps familiarise the public with what an Emergency Mobile Alert looks like and how their phone presents the message. Visit [NEMA](#) for more information, including how you can get ready for an emergency.

### **Reminder: Additional managed temporary access slots available**

If you would like to temporarily access your red placarded property in the exclusion zone, please let us know, as we are keen to understand interest.

At this stage, we are looking to offer managed temporary access for the week commencing Tuesday 6 June (unfortunately, due to limited resources we cannot offer weekends). Also, following feedback from last month's temporary access bookings, we are looking to make these slots two hours long, instead of four.

To register your interest, email [rbaregulatory@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:rbaregulatory@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz). If you are a tenant, please speak to your landlord.

## Security considerations

We are aware of the concerns from residents relating to the security of their properties.

It's important that property owners, residents, community groups, the council and police work together on this matter.

There are a number of things that everyone can do to secure and protect properties, particularly in preparation for the future lifting of cordons.

- **Private property owners** – we appreciate that many properties are currently vacant, and security is a concern. We suggest the following:
  - Request a managed temporary access slot (which start from 6 June, story above) to remove high value and/or personal items during this access slot.
  - If you have a security system, including security lighting and cameras, activate prior to leaving.
  - Ensure your home is secure with windows and doors locked.
  - If you have gates and fences, please ensure they are secured and locked when you leave.
- **Community groups** – we encourage residents to group together to keep an eye out for suspicious or unusual behaviour. Neighbourhood Watch groups can be a particularly effective way of organising the observation and communication that naturally occur within a community. Work to establish a neighbourhood watch is being discussed with the NZ Police and residents, which we encourage property owners to get involved in. Keep a look out in next week's newsletter for further information and details. Local Community Patrols New Zealand (CPNZ) are already active and operating in the area and will continue to patrol impacted areas.
- **New Zealand Police** are responsible for preventing crime, maintaining public safety, law enforcement, and community support and reassurance. Responding to 111 calls is a primary means, though support can be provided in different ways, such as patrols, gathering intelligence and supporting CPNZ and Neighbourhood Watch.
- **Auckland Council / Tāmaki Makaurau Recovery Coordination Office** will continue to employ First Security to patrol the restricted areas to act as a deterrent and report any breaches or security concerns to the police.

## Disputes between neighbours

Where a neighbouring property causes damage or disruption to you or your property – e.g. a slip, fallen tree, or broken fence – this is a matter to discuss with your neighbour. We understand these situations can be stressful and frustrating, however Auckland Council has no role in situations of a purely civil issue between property owners and no general obligation to compensate for damage caused by severe weather events.

Where damage has been caused by a tree from a neighbouring property, insurance will usually cover the cost of the damage. If a person knows that a tree on their land poses a potential hazard

but doesn't take steps to mitigate, they may be liable for any damage caused to a neighbouring property.

Landslides can be more complex to resolve. With naturally caused landslides, landowners are usually responsible for the damage on their own land. However, owners should also consider what could be reasonably done to warn neighbours or mitigate the effects of foreseeable landslide hazards coming from their land.

Fences are dealt with under the Fencing Act 1979, and generally neighbours are equally responsible for the cost of and repairs to a boundary fence.

We encourage you to discuss what can reasonably be done to reduce or remediate damage. We recommend speaking to a lawyer if you cannot resolve your concerns.

## Resource consent requirements

Please note that work to repair your property will need to comply with the Resource Management Act. We recommend you check if a resource consent is required.

A resource consent may be required if:

- The works are not replacement like for like (existing use rights).
- The works are not permitted activities under the [Auckland Unitary Plan](#), e.g. Significant Ecological Areas Overlay, coastal hazard areas and works in flood plains.

If you need help with this process, and you are a red or yellow placarded property owner, you can check in with your allocated case manager. Please email [rbacomms@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:rbacomms@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz) if you have not been contacted by your case manager. The team will help to connect you.

Alternatively, email [regionalplanninghelpdesk@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:regionalplanninghelpdesk@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz) to contact our planning team who are supporting the Tāmaki Makaurau Recovery. Please note:

- To prioritise your application, we recommend including in the subject line the words \*flood or cyclone\*, the property address and the colour of the property placard.
- Include any photos and reports from consultants, as available.

Standard fees will apply for any resource consent application, with actual charges depending on the scale of the proposed remedial works and any impacts on ongoing hazards relating to the property.

### What's the difference between a resource consent and a building consent?

A resource consent is written approval from the council under the Resource Management Act, where works to carry out a project that has an impact on the environment, or could affect other people. A building consent is written approval from the council under the Building Act to carry out specific building work on a specific site, which must comply with current building regulations. It ensures that the proposed work is safe, durable and doesn't endanger the health and safety of anyone using the building. Visit the [Auckland Council website for more information](#).

## **Muriwai Village Green development update**

Auckland Council are currently undertaking the planning, investigations and a high-level concept design for the Muriwai Village Green development.

Stage one of the development will include renewal of the basketball court, all-court fencing, and the development of a wheel play area, catering to all age groups. The wheel play facility will include a learn-to-ride area, skate ramp and street-style skate features.

Future stages will include the development of the pump track to improve drainage, surface and trail options, providing variety in levels of complexity.

Weed management and native planting will also be completed along the section of the Muriwai Stream adjacent to the Village Green Skate Park.

Once the current high-level design investigations are completed, Auckland Council will seek feedback and input from the Muriwai community.

Watch this space for further updates and information on how you can get involved.

## **Support for pest control**

Control of rats and other predators has been the mission of Predator Free Muriwai and the Muriwai environmental Action Community Trust (MeACT) for a number of years.

Control of rats is especially important during the cyclone recovery given the increased food and breeding conditions created by the storm. We have a large team of volunteers who are already trapping and baiting around Muriwai. If you would like to get involved, please get in touch with MeACT via email: [muriwairatbait@gmail.com](mailto:muriwairatbait@gmail.com).

If you have a red stickered property and would like to put out a bait station, please apply for managed temporary access.

## **Auckland Transport – clearing Motutara Road update**

This week, Auckland Transport has been visiting Motutara Road to assess security fencing bordering the slip. Not only did windy weather over the weekend bring it down, it is also allowing debris to come onto the road and block drains. They are hoping to have a solution for this shortly. Otherwise, the slip is nearly all cleared.

We are aware of issues with Domain Crescent regarding cleaning and silt control. Auckland Transport is working with contractors to understand the issue and mitigate the silt entering the stormwater system from slips.

## **Government's Budget 2023**

We are working closely with central government to understand the detail around last week's Budget and what it means for funding flooding and cyclone work across the Auckland region. We hope to have clarity for our communities and we will provide updates in future newsletters.

## **GHD: interest in historical property information**

Auckland Council's geotechnical supplier GHD is keen to hear from residents on any historical/anecdotal information regarding their properties in Muriwai, Piha and Karekare. This could include information such as any former slips, surface seepage, springs or leaning trees that may be of interest to the GHD team.

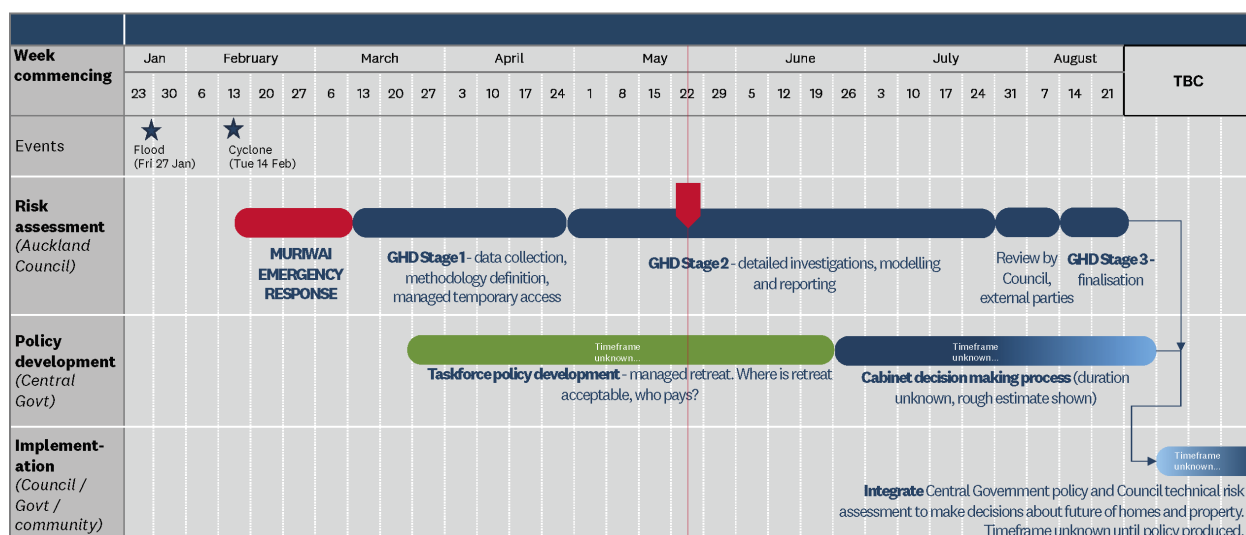
A senior geotechnical professional from GHD will be having a drop-in session at The Surf Club at Muriwai, **this Sunday 28 May** (10am-4pm). Alternatively, email [muriwai@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:muriwai@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz) with your information, including exact location, plus any imagery you may have by 5 June (please use subject line 'Anecdotal evidence'). This information will be passed onto GHD. This anecdotal evidence will be recorded and considered as part of the GHD landslide risk assessment.

## **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 Muriwai cordons  
**Status:** *review is underway and conditional on a security plan for red and yellow stickered properties, and ensuring a reliable water source for residents and the park.*
- Additional geotechnical investigation, analysis and modelling of the slopes at Muriwai (GHD Stage 2)  
**Status:** *ongoing, for further information please refer to Ross's update in the [27 April Muriwai Newsletter](#) and below update.*
- 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). Please refer to Ross's update in the [27 April Muriwai Newsletter](#).*

### Muriwai Geotech programme timeline:



### GHD stage 2 timeline update

Below is a high-level explanation of the GHD stage 2 timeline, more information available in the [27 April Muriwai newsletter](#). We will let you know when drilling starts.

- Reviewing current information – in progress
- Anecdotal data gathering – 28 May (drop in session at The Surf Club at Muriwai see story above) until 5 June
- Additional field mapping – commencing 24 May until 6 June
- Drilling (subsurface ground investigations) – late June
- Risk assessment – late July
- Report back to Auckland Council – late July
- Review by Auckland Council and external parties – July/early August
- Finalisation – late August.

## Building assessments update

Updated placard status numbers in Muriwai as of Tuesday 23 May:

- Red 1 – 99
- Red 2 – 6
- Yellow 1 – 23
- Yellow 2 – 31
- White – 304

There are different reasons why these numbers may differ each week, including:

- If remedial action has been confirmed and approved by the council’s compliance team, then the placard can be noted as closed and removed off the list.
- It is identified as a duplicate and removed.
- If was confirmed as one placard for a building with multiple postal addresses, but sits in our system as one legal property.

Visit the [Auckland Council website](#) to learn more about what the placard colours mean.

## 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, you can [sign-up](#) to receive this newsletter directly to your inbox.

### Previous newsletters

If you’re new to the Muriwai Newsletter, please visit the [Auckland Council website](#) to read previous editions.



### Need help?



Visit: [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/recovery](https://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/recovery)

Enquire: [muriwai@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:muriwai@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)



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