



**3 August
2023**



Community Update

Piha cyclone recovery

We will be sending out this update regularly when new information related to Piha's recovery is available.

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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, please sign up via [this online form](#). (Privacy and spam regulations don't allow us to use our contact details from existing council information for general communications, so if you would like to receive updates, we need you to sign up via [this online form](#).)

We hope that the information in the updates will be relevant for most community members, so please also help us spread the word on this update to your neighbours and friends in Piha.

Drop-in clinics

Simon Fraser, Community Liaison Lead for Piha and Karekare, will be available to discuss any recovery-related issues from Cyclone Gabrielle and Auckland Anniversary weekend floods at the Piha Community Library, 10:30am to 12:30pm, Wednesday 9 August and Wednesday 16 August.

Can't make these times? Feel free to email Simon at piha@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz.

2023/2024 rates relief – how to apply

Last week, Auckland Council's Governing Body approved 100 per cent rates relief to all households that are uninhabitable as a result of extreme weather events in the first half of 2023.

We hope this support helps to ease the financial burden for those most severely impacted.

If your house was **red placarded** as at 30 June 2023, you will receive a 100 per cent rates relief for the full 2023/2024 rating year. A credit will be automatically applied to rates invoices, so you don't need to do anything. Every property has a unique situation and some yellow and white placarded homes are habitable while others are not. If your home is uninhabitable, then please apply for rates relief using this [online form](#). We'll assess each application based on your personal circumstances.

For the full story, please go to [OurAuckland website](#).

Have your say on storm recovery and resilience

Auckland Council is committed to supporting communities to recover and prepare for the future, and is seeking public feedback through several consultations.

There are three consultations where you can have your say on topics relating to the recovery, flood resilience and how we respond to emergencies:

- **Local Board Plans: 13 July to 14 August**
 - Contribute to the strategic, 3-year plans for your local area
 - Guide decision-making and reflect community priorities and preferences.
- **Auckland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Plan: 31 July-31 August**
 - Help shape the 5-year plan that determines how Auckland prepares for, responds to and recovers from disasters.
- **Storm Recovery and Resilience: 3-31 August**
 - Provide input to the Tāmaki Makaurau Recovery Plan addressing Māori partnership, community, economic and environmental recovery

- Tell us your thoughts on Making Space for Water – council’s proposed focus area to manage our stormwater network and the region’s resilience to flooding.

You can submit your feedback on as many of these consultations as you wish.

Visit akhaveyoursay.nz to fill in the online feedback form and find out about webinars and local events. Alternatively, visit your local library or service centre to fill in a hard copy feedback form.

Karekare and Piha ‘Have your Say’ event

On Sunday 6 August, from 12.30pm-2.30pm, the Recovery Office and Healthy Waters will be hosting a roadshow drop-in event at the Karekare Surf Lifesaving Club for the community to provide input into the Tāmaki Makaurau Recovery Plan and Making Space for Water. In attendance will be representatives from the Recovery Office.

AT update

Design work for repairs to Rayner Road have been finalised, and the physical works are expected to start in about four weeks’ time.

The geotechnical works have been completed, and a final option for repairs to Scenic Drive has been agreed, so works on Scenic Drive are expected to take place over the next few months. This includes the Elevation slip site.

AT will be working with private property owners around access before works begin.

Building assessments update

Updated placard status numbers in Piha as of Tuesday 1 August:

- Red 1 10
- Red 2 8
- Yellow 1 15
- Yellow 2 9
- White 0

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.
- A building with multiple units was allocated a single placard when it should have had a placard allocated for each address.

Visit the [Auckland Council website](http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz) to learn more about what the placard colours mean.

Onsite wastewater systems

Onsite wastewater systems require regular maintenance to make sure they operate correctly. Most modern systems require six-monthly servicing and inspections.

Once you regain access to your property, we recommend requesting an inspection and service of the system prior to use. This can be done through your own service provider.

The [council website](#) has information and guidance on managing wastewater on your property, as well as a list of service providers.

While the council's Safe Septic Programme maintains a register and regularly sends out reminder letters to property owners, contact with red and yellow-placarded properties has been put on hold for a 12-month period.

Community group funding available

Community groups providing support to whānau and communities across the Auckland region following the January/February weather events, can now apply for Auckland Together grants funding. This fund was established by the Auckland Foundation to support communities following the 2023 storms.

Organisations working within the Auckland region can apply for this funding if they are providing:

- food, hygiene, clothing and other essential items to Auckland communities, whānau and individuals in need
- social support services to those affected
- outreach care for those now experiencing homelessness.

Requests can be made for grants of \$10,000 to \$50,000.

Applications for the August 2023 funding round have until 5pm, Friday 11th August to apply.

Visit aucklandfoundation.org.nz/aucklandtogetherfund to find out more and apply.

NEMA's Cyclone Gabrielle Welfare Support Grant for community organisations extended

The National Emergency Management Agency's (NEMA) Cyclone Gabrielle Welfare Support Grant has [extended its deadline for applications to 31 August](#).

The grant is available to reimburse costs already incurred by marae, iwi, and recognised community organisations (including rural groups, Pacific organisations, and ethnic service providers) to care for people who were affected, displaced, or isolated during the state of national emergency.

[Visit the NEMA website for information on eligibility and the application form.](#)

Are you needing some extra support?

If you need mental health support, such as help with anxiety, support for young people, financial assistance, or you'd like to know how you can help others, please visit the [Auckland Council website for a list of available services](#).

Rubbish collection for flood-damaged household goods

If your property has been downgraded from a red placard and you now need to get damaged household goods removed, you can call Auckland Council on 09 301 0101 to arrange collection. Two free collections will be available to you to help with the clean-up of your property.

Previous newsletters

If you're new to the Piha Newsletter, please visit our website to read [previous editions](#).



Need help?



Visit: <http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/piha-community-newsletters>
Enquire: piha@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or rbacomms@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



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