Ta mahere ā rohe o Hibiscus and Bays 2023

# Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Plan 2023





## Mihi



E toko ake rā e te iti, whakatata mai rā e te rahi, kia mihi koutou

ki ngā kupu whakarei a te hunga kua tīpokotia e te ringa o te wāhi ngaro,

ēngari e kaikini tonu nei i ngā mahara i te ao, i te pō.

Nga ōha i mahue mai i tērā whakatupuranga kia āpitihia e tatou ki nga tūmanako o tēnei reanga,

hei mounga waihotanga iho ki te ira whaimuri i a tātou.

Koina te tangi a ngākau māhaki, a te wairua hihiri me te hinengaro tau.

Oho mai rā tātou ki te whakatairanga i ngā mahi e ekeina ai

te pae tawhiti ka tō mai ai ki te pae tata.

Tēnei au te noho atu nei i mātārae te titiro ki runga o Ōrewa,

ki te one e rere atu ana ki Te Whangaparāoa ki te Kūiti o te Puarangi.

Kei waho ko Tiritiri Mātangi, tomokanga ki te moana o te Waitematā.

Ki uta ko te Whanga o Oho Mairangi, ūnga mai o Te Arawa waka,

ka rere whakarunga ngā kamo ki Takapuna kāinga, Takapuna tupuna. Kia taka ki tua ko Maungaūika

te tū hēteri mai rā i te pūwaha o Tāmaki Makaurau, Tāmaki herehere waka.

Ka ruruku atu tātou mā te waitai kia puta ake ki te Awataha ki nga mihi a te Kaipātiki

me te Te Raki Paewhenua ki te uru,

i reira ka whakatau te haere.

E koutou mā ka ea, kua ea, kia ora huihui mai koutou katoa.

Welcome to you all let me greet you with the eloquent words of those who have long since been taken by the unseen hand of the unknown.

but for whom we still mourn. Let us enjoin the legacy they left to the hopes of this generation as our gift to those who will follow us.

That is the pledge of the humble heart, the willing spirit and the inspired mind.

Let us rise together and seek to do what is necessary

to draw distant aspirations closer to realisation. Here I sit on the headland overlooking Ōrewa to the stretch of sand that runs to Whangaparāoa along the Hibiscus Coast.

Off land lies Tiritiri Mātangi gateway to the Waitematā.

On land is Mairangi Bay, landing of Te Arawa waka,

gazing southward lies Takapuna community, Takapuna the progenitor.

Beyond stands Maungaūika

sentinel of Tāmaki Makaurau, anchorage of many canoes.

Taking to the tidal waters we emerge at Awataha to the greetings of Kaipātiki and West Harbour and there our journey ends. It is done, greetings to you all..

# Ngā upoko kōrero

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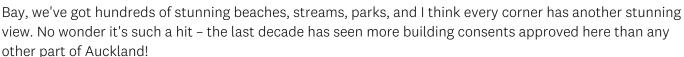
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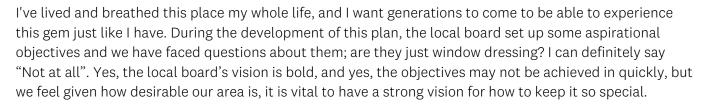


## He kōrero mai i te Heamana

# From the Chairperson

I know that every corner of Auckland claims this, but our area really has got it all. From the village and hills of Waiwera down to suburban Campbells





There are three ways the local board can achieve these aspirational objectives. First, we continue to fund, renew and upgrade local facilities such as parks, libraries, leisure centres and the pool or hire venues, along with the services that are run from them by the many wonderful staff. Secondly, we prioritise initiatives which are designed to achieve our goals – such as community led resilience groups or coordinating pest trapping programmes. Lastly, we are your voice or advocate on topics important to you to other decision makers, such as the Mayor or to central government. Advocacy does achieve results; for example, it was due to the longstanding lobbying of this local board that O Mahurangi Penlink is being built now and being funded by central government.

I know that over the next three years, the financial forecasts aren't good, and the local board is going to be very careful with our budgets. But our local board has an ace up our sleeve: the community groups and volunteers of the Hibiscus and Bays. It is astonishing, how many hours are put in by dedicated people in our community. Much of the work we do as a local board is supported by this effort – whether it is sports teams, youth networks, ecological restoration, arts and theatre. This goodwill, more than anything else, makes the Hibiscus and Bays a great place to live.

I mentioned in the beginning that we need to work hard to keep the Hibiscus and Bays so special, and for that we are prioritising initiatives in several areas:

- resilience planning for the future including for emergencies and climate change,
- supporting youth to thrive and supporting the clubs and groups that help them,
- making it easier to get around by making it safer to walk, and advocating for it to be quicker to drive and more convenient to take public transport

But most importantly the local board wants to ensure that you can connect with others in our area – whether that be in a sports group or a community organisation, as a volunteer, or with family at a park or down at the beach.

Someone challenged about what is so special about the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Plan? That is, what makes it different to all the other local board plans? Well, it's this: through we are prioritising your wellbeing, as well as the environment of our area, in all the projects we do. This is so that you can take time

to enjoy the most special thing about our area. In the words of the great Otis Redding, we all need to be able to enjoy "just sitting on the dock of the bay."

Gary Brown, Chairperson.



## He aronga poto ki tā mātou mahere

# Our plan at a glance



Browns Bay Chinese Society

#### Our people

The voices of our community are heard, our youth thrive, and everyone feels welcome. Our resilience networks enable us to be prepared for emergencies.



Volunteer planting day

#### **Our environment**

Native birds, plants and animals thrive in an environment where pests are controlled. We have planned and designed our coastlines to be resilient to storms and the effects of climate change, our waterways and coastal areas are clean, and we minimise waste as we move to a circular economy.



Lucas, Isaac and Noah Nelme riding scooters at the Western Reserve skatepark, Ōrewa.

#### **Our community**

In a word, vibrant. Our past is remembered, and our facilities cater for future needs. Our open spaces can be used by all, and we have an abundance of recreation facilities.



Hibiscus Coast Highway - Shared path, Ōrewa.

### **Our places and Our economy**

Our town centres are lively and dynamic, with a network of paths and cycleways that are as equally connected as our current roading network, all serving to create a safe, busy, and pleasant neighbourhoods.

## He kōrero mō ngā poari ā-rohe

## **About local boards**

Auckland Council has a unique model of local government in New Zealand, made up of the Governing Body (the mayor and 20 Governing Body members) and 21 local boards. The Governing Body focuses on Auckland-wide issues while local boards are responsible for decision-making on local matters, activities and services, and for providing input into regional strategies, policies and plans.

We make decisions on local matters such as:

- supporting local arts, culture, events and sport and recreation
- supporting local organisations to deliver community services
- maintaining and upgrading town centres and facilities including parks, libraries and halls
- caring for the environment and preserving heritage.

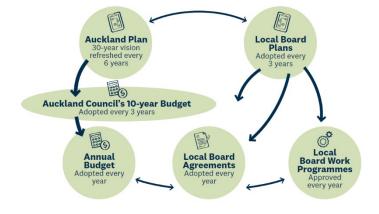
Local boards also have a role in representing the view of their communities on issues of local importance.

Higher inflation and the cost of borrowing money has pushed up the cost of providing these services. We will need to address these challenges in the local board plan, which means doing things differently and prioritising where we spend.

#### About local board plans

Local board plans are strategic three-year plans developed in consultation with the community. They set out the direction for the local area reflecting community aspirations and priorities, and guide:

- decisions on local activities, projects, and facilities
- local board input into the council's regional strategies and plans, including the Auckland



- how local boards will work with other agencies, including community groups, central government agencies and council-controlled organisations that play key roles in the area
- funding and investment decisions.

#### Measuring and delivering on local board plans

Each local board adopts an agreement that sets local budgets, levels of service, performance measures and targets for each financial year. Details of projects, budgets and timelines are outlined in annual work programmes. Progress is reported quarterly and communicated to our communities.

Local board plans are inclusive and connected; they don't operate in isolation. They support:

- the Auckland Plan 2050 the 30-year vision for Auckland
- the council's 10-year budget planned spending and future investment priorities over the longer term
- the council's annual budget funding for the coming financial year of the 10-year budget.





One of the legal responsibilities local boards are to communicate the views of the people within the local board area, in "strategies, policies, plans, and bylaws of the Auckland Council" Throughout the development of this plan, the local board has listened to the concerns of the local community, and where the decisions for these concerns lie with another agency, the are listed as advocacy.

## Te whakawhanake i tā mātou mahere

# **Developing our plan**

Our draft plan was developed with careful consideration of previous community feedback on the 2020 local board plan, feedback through annual budget consultations and other pieces of feedback such as results from the Peoples Panel Surveys.

During July and August 2023, we consulted on the draft plan to hear your thoughts on how the plan reflected your needs and aspirations over the next three years, seek your feedback on which objectives were most important to you and to find out how we could better meet our Māori Outcome and climate action aspirations.

We engaged with our communities across the local board area. The issues and priorities you raised with us through these interactions have helped us finalise this plan.

## Te whakatutuki i tā mātou mahere

# Carrying out our plan

Turning plans into reality takes many people working together – the community, the local board and the wider council family such as Auckland Transport. To deliver on the local board plan, we will:

- prioritise budgets to focus on the initiatives in the plan
- make the best use of local assets such as community centres, libraries and parks
- set direction for the council staff who deliver the projects and services
- work with various community groups and partners, to deliver projects and services
- make decisions that are in line with Auckland's commitment to climate action and emissions reduction.

Where important projects in local areas are beyond available funding or outside of local decision-making, our role is to advocate to other decision-makers to ensure they are aware of community views and the local board's support for them.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>Local Government (Auckland Council) Act 2009 No 32 (as at 01 October 2023), Public Act 16 Decision-making responsibilities of local boards – New Zealand Legislation</u>

# Te Rohe ā-Poari o Hibiscus and Bays

# **Hibiscus and Bays Local Board area**







Hibiscus Coast Waka, Wikuki Kingi (Ngai Tai, Tainui, Waikato) & Vern Rosieur (Ngāti Manuhiri, Ngāti Rehua)

# Ngā huanga Māori

## **Māori outcomes**

Māori identity and culture are Auckland's unique point of difference in the world. Whānau, hapū, iwi and Māori communities aspire to have healthy and prosperous lives and have defined the outcomes that are most important to Māori. Māori outcomes are the way Auckland Council supports Māori aspirations.

Local board plans are an important way to deliver for Māori at a local level. This section of the plan outlines the Māori outcomes addressed in this plan.

#### Māori and the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board area

In the Hibiscus and Bays, the following iwi and hapū whakapapa (have ancestral ties) to this area:

Ngāti Wai - Ngāti Wai, Ngāti Manuhiri

Ngāti Whātua - Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua, Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei

Waiohua-Tāmaki - Te Kawerau ā Maki, Ngāi Tai Ki Tāmaki, Ngāti Te Ata Waiohua

Marutūahu - Ngāti Paoa, Ngaati Whanaunga, Ngāti Maru, Ngāti Tamaterā, Te Patukirikiri.

Both oral history and archaeology tells us that Long Bay Beach / Te Oneroa a Kahu is the location of some of the earliest known human occupation in the whole of the Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland area, from

around the mid-1400s<sup>2</sup>. Since then, there has been a near continuous human occupation in the area, all the way from Te Haruhi Bay, Whangaparāoa, down to the beaches of the East Coast Bays. It is obvious to see why, given the beauty and abundance that this coastline still offers today.

Today, there are many markers of that long presence, and the local board is keen to acknowledge these. As well, more recent changes of urbanisation have seen many mataawaka in our area (Māori who live in Auckland but are not in a mana whenua group from Auckland). The local board has been a strong supporter of Te Herenga Waka o Orewa, a mataawaka marae in Silverdale since its inception. This is a local hub for all in the Hibiscus and Bays to learn te reo, and to experience te ao Māori. Te Herenga Waka o Orewa has close links to the community, and the local board continues to strongly support their aspirations.



#### How this plan links to Māori outcomes

During previous meetings with mana whenua and the local board, the significance of maintaining a harmonious relationship between the people, the land, and the sea has been emphasised. As a result, the local board has committed to aligning its objectives with the goal of achieving this balance, and here are some examples of this that are detailed in the local board plan:

Local board plan section	Initiatives that are planned that meet Māori outcomes	How this initiative is relevant
Our people	Acknowledging the mana whenua the local board works closest with, Ngāti Manuhiri and Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara by initiating conversations intended to lead to the development of relationship agreements	There are no relationship agreements between iwi and the Hibiscus and Bays local board, unlike many other local boards. The local board strongly wishes to have a closer working relationship with mana whenua
	Support the youth networks in our area to help our young people thrive and to have a voice in local board decision-making	Supporting rangitahi (youth) is a priority for the local board, and a key start is to hear their voice as part of our decision-making process
	Support the development of community led resilience networks in our area, so our community and organisations will know who does what, where to get information and how to help, including in emergencies	Our communities need to be more prepared in emergencies, and so the local board is funding networks for the community to support each other in times of trouble

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> (PDF) The Long Bay Restaurant site (R10/1374), Auckland, New Zealand, and the archaeology of the mid-15th century in the upper North Island (researchgate.net)



#### Our environment

Supporting Ngāti Manuhiri, other mana whenua and mataawaka to draw on mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) to enrich the work of those groups working to restore the land and the sea

By combining our strengths in working together, projects like this sharing of knowledge have a big impact on our people and our environment

Engage with our communities during the planning and process of adapting our coastal reserves to prepare for and mitigate damage from storms, flooding, and erosion, with projects such as the shoreline adaptation plans

Mana whenua are the key partners for us in adaption planning. The Whangaparāoa Shoreline Adaptation Plan was adopted in 2022, and we wish to work on similar plans in other parts of the area

Support and advocate for further protection The local board recognise the lead of our sea, soil and fresh water from contamination and sedimentation through methods such as re-naturalisation, or daylighting

Ngāti Manuhiri are taking in restoring parts of Tīkapa Moana o Hauraki / Hauraki Gulf. The local board has been inspired by this, and wishes to support this mahi (work)

#### **Our communities**

Continue to support the telling of our local heritage stories, resulting in the adoption of te reo Māori names to add to the English names of parks and places of our area, as well as making the historical stories from all peoples from this area more accessible

Guided by the positive example from the cultural identity programme, Te Kete Rukuruku, we would like to do more to honour the past

Engage with our community, and in particular mana whenua, on the future recreational uses of our undeveloped reserves, and older established ones, and investigate cost effective options for other informal recreation and play in these areas Key reserves such as Ōrewa Domain Reserve, and others such as 36 Hibiscus Coast Highway are projects that we wish to engage with you about our shared aspirations

#### Our places and economy

Continue to support activities that promote vibrancy, diversity and showcases creativity in our area, such as events, festivals, and other shared experiences in our public spaces for all

This is a broad topic, spanning many projects such as fitness classes, event funding and grants to arts groups. The key unifying theme is that we wish to see our public spaces alive and representative of those residents past and present. Our public places would be enriched by the presence of murals, carvings, or events.



Planting day, Wade Landing Reserve.

## Te Tāruke ā-Tāwhiri

## **Climate action**

In 2019 Auckland Council declared a climate emergency and in 2020 adopted Auckland's Climate Plan, Te Tāruke ā-Tāwhiri. Meeting the goals set out in this plan means taking ambitious action to reduce emissions and to adapt to a changing climate.

Local boards have an important role to play in leading and supporting Auckland's response to the climate emergency, including supporting regional climate plan initiatives and integrating climate awareness into all decisions, including community investment.

# How the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Plan 2023 links to Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan

The Hibiscus and Bays Local Board has four environmental objectives that we believe are realistic, affordable, and yet aspirational. During our development of this plan, we talked with most of the environmental groups the local board supports as well as experts within council. While these aspirational visions have been deemed to be achievable, some are able to be achieved quicker than others. The crucial thing is that in all cases there is a path to success, building on previous experience. The table below demonstrates how the local board aspirations align with Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan goals:



	Local board aspirations	<u>Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan priorities</u> (and associated action numbers)
	Hibiscus and Bays: where native birds and plants flourish, and the water is pure and clean through education, advocacy and restoration work	B8: Ensure public spaces support a low carbon, climate resilient Auckland and optimise multi-functional benefits
		N1: Build the resilience of Auckland's indigenous biodiversity, habitats and ecosystems to the impacts of climate change
		N2: Grow and protect our rural and urban ngahere (forest) to maximise carbon capture and build resilience to climate change
		N3: Integrate connected, nature-based solutions in development planning
		N5: Advocate for land use practices that deliver healthy, resilient soils, waterways and ecosystems
	Our local economy is centred around being resilient, and circular or re-generative	B7: Develop and support initiatives to minimise construction and demolition waste
		E1. Accelerate Auckland's transformation to a resilient, regenerative, and distributive economy
		E4. Ensure Aucklanders are prepared for the transition to a zero-carbon economy
		E6. Manage our resources to deliver a zero waste, circular economy
		F2. Protect our productive soils and move toward regenerative practices to increase food security and carbon sequestration
		F3. Prevent and reduce waste and maximise the value of surplus food
		F4. Increase supply and demand for local, seasonal and low carbon food
		N4: Maximise potential of terrestrial and marine ecosystems to capture carbon
	Advocating and supporting travel by active transport to be as easy as travel by car, with a transport network and infrastructure that enables and connects us	C4. Remove barriers and support community initiatives that reduce emissions and build resilience in a fair way
		T1. Changing the way we all travel
w r ii e u F li r r		T2. Make travelling by public transport more appealing than using personal vehicles
		T3. Increase access to bicycles, micro-mobility devices and the safe, connected and dedicated infrastructure that supports their use
		T4. Improve safety, connectivity and amenity of walking infrastructure
	Planning and engaging locally on how to mitigate and manage risks from climate change upon council owned land and the assets located upon it	B2. Ensure new infrastructure is planned and designed to minimise climate risks and lifecycle emissions
		B3: Ensure the management of existing infrastructure increases climate resilience and reduces emissions
		C1. Work together to strengthen the resilience of our communities, people and places
		C2. Address the effects of climate change on our coastline
		N3: Integrate connected, nature-based solutions in development planning
-		

#### What climate change challenges do our people face?

There are three major challenges that our area faces; both heightened by the location and geography of the Hibiscus and Bays area:

- High transport emissions from our area relative to the rest of Auckland. These are due mostly to the major economic activity hubs where our people go for employment, shopping, and education, being some distance away.
- Flooding and inundation of low lying areas. We have one of the longest stretches of coastline of any local board area, and many waterways, most of which are highly modified. We have flat coastal areas that are significantly at risk from flooding, sea level rise and coastal inundation especially during king tides3.
- The Okura, Weiti and Orewa river discharge into fragile estuaries, and in the case of Okura, have been noted to has consistently failed the national bottom line for visual clarity, because of sedimentation4

These challenges are being addressed through local board initiatives including:

- Continued adaptation planning, started by the Whangaparāoa Shoreline Adaptation Plan 2022
- Investigating greater use of open spaces (parks and reserves) to manage flood risks and enable improved active transport connections.
- Advocating and supporting work to address multiple water related issues; the causes of excess sedimentation, greater provision of advice to property owners with land that is erosion prone along the coast or waterways, and advocating for improved mitigation of excess stormwater flows through water sensitive design.
- Reduce commuter emissions by continuing to advocate for a mix of better public transport that is integrated with a completely connected active transport network.
- Lastly, supporting initiatives that make town centres more attractive and thereby encourage living working and playing locally.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> An assessment of vulnerability to climate change in Auckland (knowledgeauckland.org.nz)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> River water quality in Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland 2022 annual reporting and National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management current state assessment (knowledgeauckland.org.nz)



Emma Li and Jenny Wong reading books at East Coast Bays Library

# Ō Tātou Tāngata

## Our people

While our coastline and beaches are magnificent, it is the people of our community who truly shine as our greatest treasure. Our residents, with their diverse backgrounds bring vitality, creativity, and a sense of community spirit that makes our region vibrant and special.

The local board seeks to harness this energy, to provide input into its decisions. We continue to hold workshops that are open to the public, and monthly engagement sessions with invites to various sectors of our community.

People are empowered to contribute their views when they feel welcome. To achieve this sense of 'welcome', we fund and support events, placemaking activities and programming in our council-run or council-supported facilities. This is an important tool as our communities grow, we need to ensure our facilities are welcoming spaces for all.

Our area is fortunate to have community groups to support almost every conceivable interest. Some of these groups can afford staff, but volunteers are vital to keep them going. The local board supports many organisations to build good governance, increase collaboration and seeking diverse sources of funding. This is to ensure these organisations are strong and resilient and able to adapt to change. By helping existing groups to create greater financial self-sustainability, this also frees up our budget and ability to support new groups, collectives and community organising.

Throughout the development of this local board plan, we heard your feedback to prioritise spending on wellbeing (especially for young people, and the isolated), resilience networks to be able to provide response, care, and communication in times of need, and to ensure that everyone regardless of ability is catered for when public facilities, spaces or money is spent. This last point is reflected in the words "access for all" used throughout this plan.

## **Challenges**

- Not all voices are being heard in our decision-making. The local board recognises a significant gap in representation when it comes to face-to-face engagements, where the diversity in age, gender, and ethnicity found within our local board area is not adequately reflected. This disparity is particularly noticeable during deputations or public forums held as part of local board meetings.
- There are no formal relationship agreements between the mana whenua of our area and the local board. These agreements would formalise the intent for continued engagement between both parties.
- Pressure is growing on existing infrastructure and facilities as the Hibiscus and Bays has developed faster over the last ten years than any other local board area (as measured by dwellings consented)<sup>5</sup>. The face of our suburbs is changing with significant residential development. Building consents were up 35 per cent between 2020 and 2021, and 44 per cent of these consents involved upgrading to higher density housing on the same site.
- Population projections show largely increased ethnic and age diversity within 20 years, possibly impacting upon social cohesion of what has traditionally been predominately an older and more European demographic.
- Like much of Auckland, our population is mobile: 41 per cent of residents were born overseas and 20 per cent lived in their house for less than one year (2018 census). This can hinder an ability to create roots and community connection.

## **Opportunities**

- 92 per cent of people in our local board area report this being a great place to live, a much higher result than normal. As the median across Auckland is 75 per cent This combined lifestyle and wellness indicator is evidence of a community more personally resilient to shocks caused by external events than other parts of Auckland.<sup>6</sup>
- High levels of owner occupiers in the local board area at 73 per cent compared to the Auckland average of 59 per cent<sup>7</sup>, a statistic that correlates to better overall wellbeing<sup>8</sup>
- There is a strong culture of volunteering in our area, combined with the relatively higher education and skill-base of our community, this can result in residents using their experience and connections to assist our many community groups.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <u>Auckland monthly housing update. Datasheet - Knowledge Auckland</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Auckland QOL report 2022 (sharepoint.com)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> <u>Microsoft Word - 2020 April Auckland Council Housing and Affordability Phase 1 Final</u> (knowledgeauckland.org.nz)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Wellbeing among Auckland homeowners and renters: results from the Quality of Life survey (knowledgeauckland.org.nz)



• The geography of our area means that travel times between services and facilities are long, and data shows that our residents increasingly compensate by going online for services more than other areas. Services delivered by local council facilities will need to continue being flexible to accommodate this trend.

### Our Plan

# What we want to achieve (Objectives)

Hibiscus and Bays: a community of thousands that feels like a village, with strong connections and roots, with easy opportunities for participation

# What we will deliver in the next 3 years (Key initiatives)

Support, fund and build the capacity of the community to continue to take a lead in making everyone feel welcome, building connections, and celebrating the growing diversity of our area, through placemaking, events, and other initiatives

Support the development of community led resilience networks in our area, so our community and organisations will know who does what, where to get information and how to help, including in emergencies.

Support the youth networks in our area to help our young people thrive, and to have a voice in local board decision making

Take a proactive approach to ensuring that the different voices in our communities are heard to inform our local board decision-making

Acknowledging the mana whenua the local board works closest with, Ngāti Manuhiri and Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara, by initiating conversations intended to lead to the development of relationship agreements

## **Advocacy**

• Advocate and actively broker better connections for all other decision makers and agencies working with our people. We are calling for better collaboration and communication, to build trust and better outcomes for all; especially in key areas where multiple jurisdictions occur such as homelessness, housing, transport, and marine fisheries.





Improving stream and water quality by supporting projects like Inanga (whitebait) spawning

## Tō Tātou Taiao

## **Our environment**

The local board wants our communities to "meet their needs now, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."9 As the local board we are setting high aspirations for what we can achieve, in pest plant and animal control or elimination, erosion and sediment control, water quality, regeneration of native species, supporting all moves to a circular economy -where instead of consuming and throwing out waste is minimised and where possible becomes another resource. These aspirations are bold, and we know that some of them will take longer than the three years of this plan.

We support the goals of the Pest Free Auckland initiative working towards an urban oasis in our area, where pest animals and plants are controlled. Funding, advocacy, and strong support will continue for the environmental groups and volunteers working in our area, to achieve these goals. We have an aspirational objective of having a pure and clean local environment.

What does "pure" mean to us? It means that our green spaces will be full of indigenous birdsong and life, and our unique native plants would be flourishing. Our blue spaces (waterways and coastal areas) will be teeming with aquatic life, and we can fish happily in the knowledge that not only is this resource growing, but it will be safe for our whānau to eat. Our beaches will be clean and safe, and the coastlines and waterways resilient and adaptable to the storms and tides of climate change.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development: Our Common Future, 1987



This will require changes in the way we live, many of our coastlines have playgrounds, and public facilities that are near the mean high tide line or will be soon with rising sea-levels, and increased erosion. We are at risk of losing some of these facilities and assets within the next 30-50 years, without action.

Our priority is to engage with our communities about plans to work with nature, rather than fight it, this may mean in some of our parks and reserves we retreat or move back some assets, we could also form natural buffers, such as dune systems to trap sand and absorb wave energy. These are cheaper and more effective long-term solutions than sea walls. But the flat grassy beachfront spaces we are used too, like at Ōrewa Domain Reserve, will change over time. These discussions on the future of coastal assets will happen when it is time to renew these beachfront playgrounds, reserves, or walkways. Future generations should not be paying to fight the sea because of today's poorly sited structures.

Sedimentation is a natural process, what is not natural is the speed and volume of it that is happening in our area. This has caused harm to the shellfish beds that sustain life in our estuaries in the inner near parts of Tīkapa Moana o Hauraki / Hauraki Gulf. We support efforts to re-seed these beds by Ngāti Manuhiri, as well as advocating for more to be done to address the issue of erosion and the resulting sedimentation and contamination that pollutes our coastal areas. This requires many groups to work together as water doesn't just flow along land managed by Auckland Council, but we will continue to fund stream restoration, and advocate for stronger education and compliance where necessary.

We have a goal to support local organisations such as City to Farm, to rethink the way we see waste. We want to promote what is called the circular economy, that is, we don't consume and then throw. Rather waste is prevented, avoided, minimised and then re-used. We will continue with advocacy and support for activities such as continuing to increase and enhance the availability of community recycling centres to make it easier for residents to recycle those things that won't fit into your kerbside bins.

## **Challenges**

- Low lying areas along the coast, such as Stanmore Bay and Browns Bay, are susceptible to flooding, sea level rise and inundation
- The cliffs, gullies, and streams along the east coast from Waiwera to Campbells Bay are naturally at high risk of erosion and sedimentation, this is exacerbated by the modification of waterways and loss of tree cover especially in private property
- The cost of adaptation and mitigation from the effects of climate change, has not been budgeted for in the past
- Introduced pests, pathogens, invasive species, and habitat modification, are all contributing to a decline in indigenous species and ecosystems
- Our environmental volunteers are stretched, and local board budget constraints could impact on the delivery of our community-led initiatives
- Our carbon emissions are increasing, and transport is by far the biggest contributor, made worse by the long commutes from the Hibiscus and Bays area to places of most places of work and employment

## **Opportunities**

- The major environmental concerns of people in our area are about erosion, coastal changes, and effects of climate change on our environment, and you have told us that you want to see positive change and improvements on all these issues, so this bolsters our advocacy points, and helps prioritise where we place our environmental funding
- Our committed and skilled environmental groups we support are organised, effective and have been award winners for their professionalism



### **Our Plan**

What we will deliver in the next 3 years (Key initiatives)
Support and advocate for further protection of our sea, soil and fresh water from contamination and sedimentation through methods such as renaturalisation, or daylighting
Support the work and leadership of environmental restoration networks and organisations and their volunteer workers who show us the way to be guardians and caretakers for our blue (waterways and coastal) and green (parks and reserves) spaces, and the indigenous plants and animals that live there
Support and encourage businesses, neighbourhoods, community groups and education facilities to reduce energy use, reduce waste, restore the land and waterways, and live more sustainably and build a circular economy
Supporting Ngāti Manuhiri, other mana whenua and mataawaka to draw on mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) to enrich the work of those groups working to restore the land and the sea
Engage with our communities during the planning and process of adapting our coastal reserves to prepare for and mitigate damage from storms, flooding and erosion, with projects such as the shoreline adaptation plans
Support and fund efforts to mitigate and adapt reserves, parks and public assets from the effects of climate change through initiatives such as the Urban Ngahere (Forest) Strategy

### **Advocacy**

- Continue to advocate to the Governing Body to fund the delivery of the Ōrewa Beach Esplanade Enhancement Project
- Advocate to Central Government to ensure that Tīkapa Moana o Hauraki / Hauraki Gulf is protected from overfishing and degradation, and restoration projects are supported and funded
- Advocate to the Governing Body and Central Government for assistance such as better funding, advice, or legislative change to assist our local economy to become more sustainable by adopting circular economy practices, including product stewardship, and thereby increasing resilience to climate impacts
- Advocate to the Governing Body and Central Government for greater education and practical advice for landowners, or those who own assets on leasehold land, whose assets are at risk from the effects of climate change, including erosion, increased temperatures or inundation
- Advocate to the Governing Body and Central Government for improved monitoring of actions
  causing sedimentation, and improvements to application and impact of penalties imposed on those
  who knowingly cause damaging sedimentation
- Advocate to the Governing Body for continued use of the Natural Environment Targeted Rate to assist in stronger pest control and ecological restoration, in particular assisting with pest plant, animal, pathogen eradication (including kauri dieback and myrtle rust), and the control of invasive pest plant species around high value biodiversity park land sites
- Advocate to the Governing Body for continued use of the Water Quality Targeted Rate to strengthen coastal and marine protection, around sedimentation into receiving environments particularly the Hauraki Gulf
- Advocate to the Governing Body for greater education on responsible pet ownership, particularly in areas where threatened species occur
- Advocate to the Governing Body to fund the planned expansion of community recycling centres, especially those that will benefit the Hibiscus and Bays area.



Daylighted/naturalised stormwater infrastructure - Whenua-roa / D'Oyly Reserve



Silverdale War Memorial Park Playground renewal.

# Tō Tātou Hapori

# **Our community**

We walk in the footsteps of those who have come before us. Exploring our streets, parks and reserves one can find names that pay homage to our ancestors (Māori and Pākehā), local figures, or historical events. As a local board, we would like our community, many of whom are recent arrivals, to access these stories and images easier.

We are fortunate to have libraries and leisure facilities that are, deservedly, popular with our community, catering for a range of needs. We have all learned from COVID-19 about being adaptable and innovative in the ways we combine face-to-face delivery with more online delivery. The local board wants to ensure that our services continue to innovate and deliver services in new flexible ways.

It is not only the way we deliver services that we will start to examine, but due to the age of many of our council-owned buildings, the increasing cost of maintaining and delivering services from all these buildings will become unaffordable in the immediate future. To meet the needs of a growing population we need to start a conversation about how our services are delivered, this may not be from standalone library, leisure centres or venue for hire buildings in the future. It may, for example, include future consolidation of facilities into more adaptable multi-use hubs.

Rest assured, when we undertake these major renewals of council-owned facilities and investigations, we will continue to actively seek input from everyone, and especially those whose voices we don't often hear



from but are crucial to the success of a project, such as including children in our engagement when renewing playgrounds or libraries.

We have many open green spaces and beaches. You have told us that being in nature is by far your preferred way to exercise, and so we are committed to ensuring that parks and reserves are available for all. Following the adoption of our Local Parks Management Plan in 2022, we will engage with you on how you wish to make improvements to the recreational access, usage and enhancement to both our undeveloped open spaces, such as 36 Hibiscus Coast Highway in Silverdale, and some of our established reserves.

## **Challenges**

- There is increasing demand for council services to be available online 24/7, while at other times residents are more comfortable with face-to-face service provision. Budget constraints will require careful provision of flexible locally delivered services
- Many of our council owned facilities and assets are aging and require unaffordable future capital investment, some are also situated in areas prone to flooding or sea level rise
- Residents feel that they have little or no influence on council decision-making, compared to the regional Auckland average
- Only three quarters of residents rate their mental health as good or very good, which is the same as the regional average, therefore improving wellbeing is a priority for the local board
- Many residents are not aware of the many vibrant arts facilities, parks, playgrounds and walks in our area

## **Opportunities**

- With greater decision-making powers over local facilities now allocated to local boards, there is an
  opportunity to investigate and review the way local community services are funded and delivered
- We have many council and non-council facilities for leisure, recreation and venues hire in our community, which many people do not know about. There is an opportunity to investigate how to make it easier to discover and use what is around locally
- The Hibiscus and Bays has a distinct character within Tamaki Makaurau Auckland. The sheltered and sandy bays have always encouraged a sense of being a summer/holiday town since the earliest migrants in the 1400's<sup>10</sup>. The strong connection with the sea, is reflected in the number of sailing and boating clubs, surf clubs, and the Sir Peter Blake Marine Education and Recreation Centre (MERC)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> North Shore heritage thematic review — volume 2 (parts 6+) (aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

## Our Plan

What we want to achieve (Objectives)	What we will deliver in the next 3 years (Key initiatives)
Every corner of the Hibiscus and Bays has a past that we remember this through the names given to places and the stories shared	Continue to support the telling of our local heritage stories, resulting in the adoption of te reo Māori names to add to the English names of parks and places of our area, as well as making the historical stories from all peoples from this area more accessible
here is nowhere better nan our local parks and eserves for a picnic, a ports game or meeting	Support participation for sports groups and community organisations to grow membership, improve their financial sustainability and the growth of good governance. Preference will be given to support any new or improved facilities to be multi-user or collaborative
friends	Support the development and increased use of our local parks, reserves, and sports fields by being available for people of all abilities, ages, and socio-economic backgrounds to enjoy in a range of leisure and recreation activities
We have more opportunities to connect for recreation,	Investigate options to increase the awareness and use of all the recreation facilities, public or privately owned, in our community
play and to help others in our community than ever before	Engage with our community, and in particular mana whenua, on the future uses of our undeveloped reserves, and older established ones, including investigation of cost effective options for other informal recreation and play in these areas
	Investigate and support new or enhanced facilities that provide for more indoor courts, venues for hire, and community services, whether solely council owned, community-led, or with an emphasis on a partnership model
	Ensure our libraries, leisure centres, pool, halls, playgrounds, toilets, and other public assets are maintained and renewed by balancing of value for money, good design for all, and amenity value (reflecting or supporting: a sense of place, adaptability, durability, and imagination)
A vibrant and thriving community with places to celebrate, learn and enjoy	Engage with our arts and culture partners and providers to investigate equitable and sustainable funding models, by reviewing existing arrangements and establishing alternative options
ulture and arts	Engage with staff and users of our council owned facilities and spaces, such as libraries, leisure centres and pools, and venue for hire, to ensure that they continue to reflect the evolving ways our community wishes to use and access services and remain accessible to all



### **Advocacy**

- Continue to advocate to Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency and Auckland Transport to collaborate with the local board on the changes being made to those remnants of the Archers Block land, and Cedar Reserve likely to be offered back following the completion of O Mahurangi/Penlink
- Advocate to the Governing Body for a revision of the Community Facilities Network Plan. This
  revision should primarily reflect the changes in decision-making resulting from the Increased
  Decision-Making for local boards. Secondarily advocate for a clear definition of gaps or duplication
  of network provision to only include those facilities that are owned, leased, or have a pending
  partnership agreement with Auckland Council
- Advocate to the Governing Body, Auckland Transport and Watercare to collaborate on simpler and
  more user-friendly fault-reporting mechanisms for assets and infrastructure. In particular to
  encourage real time responses when the fault is corrected, with an end goal of supporting the value
  for money gains are made by improving the systems behind reactive maintenance procedures
- Advocate to the Governing Body, Auckland Transport, and Watercare collaborate to ensure Aucklanders have a greater understanding about the policies for maintaining and monitoring infrastructure, and the consequent importance of reporting faults



Children playing at Bonair basketball half court, Millwater.



Browns Bay Business Association delivers Browns Bay Santa Parade, Beach Front Lane

# Ō Tātou Wāhi me Tō Tātou Ōhanga

# **Our Places and Our Economy**

Our local roading network is connected, but being built on ridgelines and peninsulas has vulnerabilities. We will continue to advocate for safe, efficient, and multi-mode alternative access routes for our communities, especially in Whangaparāoa and Long Bay / Torbay / Okura.

One of our key advocacy points has been to support a connected, frequent, and reliable public transport network. Given the longer than normal commutes that our residents have, this is essential. However, such a network also benefits us all and the local board supports an integrated transport network, which includes provisions for walking, cycling and micro-mobility (including e-scooters). A key part of our advocacy and funding go to safer journeys for those not in cars. For those whose only option is to make a car journey, we will continue to advocate for this to be safer and more convenient as well.

We will continue to support greater safety and lower speeds around those areas where those travelling are more likely to be distracted – alongside beaches, schools, and town centres. Also, an added advantage of making non-car use more attractive is that it makes our area safer, as the more people out and about on foot, the less crime happens in that area.

We are also joining with the Rodney Local Board to advocate for a Rural Roads Design Guide, as our rural areas have different needs in relation to footpaths and lighting than urban areas. And currently, there are no specifically rural guidelines for Auckland Transport to use when delivering improvements in areas such as Waiwera, Okura or Stillwater.



Lastly, our ability to fund dramatic improvements to town centres is very limited, due to budget constraints. However, we will continue to deliver on the intentions in our existing town centre plans to create vibrancy by involving communities in placemaking activities.

## **Challenges**

- Budget constraints make it difficult to fund all the improvements signalled by our adopted town centre plans.
- The urban intensification resulting from the removal of minimum parking requirements required by Central Government by the Medium Density Residential Standards is creating demand for transport infrastructure including safe walking, cycling and reliable public transport networks, that have not been planned or budgeted for.
- Budget constraints continue to impact on the maintenance of footpaths, cycleways, and roads.
- Usage and public trust in public transport had dropped since 2020<sup>11</sup>, because of issues with reliability<sup>12</sup>, service connectivity, safety, cost, and convenience compared to private vehicle use.
- Commute times for Hibiscus and Bays residents are higher than average compared to all of Auckland, mostly caused by the distance to education and employment centres.
- Almost two-thirds of the dwellings consented in 2021 and 2022 in the area were for low density housing.
- There are not enough employment opportunities within our area, meaning many must commute longer distances than the Auckland average for work, an expensive, polluting, and exhausting option for all.

## **Opportunities**

- We have a strong community of creative people, and two thriving arts centres to assist with
  possible low-cost placemaking initiatives such as pop-up public art installations, colourful murals,
  or decorative street furniture.
- The rapid increase in residents working from home reduces congestion and adds value to the local economy by keeping commuter spending local.
- The strong culture of volunteering in our community enables partnerships to be formed to organise volunteer-led events, clean up days, or community gardening initiatives with existing community groups.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has sparked an increased interest in walking and cycling, with our communities now more eager than ever to embrace these sustainable modes of transport.
- Access to the internet at home is the highest of all the local board areas in the region.
- O Mahurangi/Penlink will form a vital transport link in north Auckland and is due for completion in December 2026, and the planning is well advanced for a rapid transit link (like the northern busway) to come through Dairy Flat terminating in Milldale.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> AT Metro patronage report

#### **Our Plan**

What we want to achieve (Objectives)	What we will deliver in the next 3 years (Key initiatives)
Town centres feel like a friendly village but operate like a bustling metropolis	Listen to the voices of community by utilising placemaking and other engagement opportunities to enhance the character of our town centres, to transform our public spaces
	Continue to support activities that promote vibrancy, diversity and showcases creativity in our area, such as events, festivals, and other shared experiences in our public spaces for all
Getting around without a car is attractive because of	Continue to renew and enhance the paths network (greenways) to create a safer, off road, well-connected networks for active modes of transport
the seamless and safe network of paths and public transport	Support and promote separated and safe routes for the use of active modes of transport, with an aim for them to be as connected and as well maintained as our roading network, through improvements to connectivity and dedicated infrastructure - such as improved path surfaces, signage, or seating
People embrace and enjoy living, working, playing, and travelling locally	Encourage local business associations to continue to support business development, to contribute to safer, more vibrant, and attractive town centres, that continue to meet the changing needs of our residents
	Support an enhanced sense of community through safer, vibrant and connected town centres and neighbourhoods

### **Advocacy**

- Advocate to Auckland Transport and Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency to ensure that
  the Whangaparāoa Transport interchange and supporting public transport services are in place
  when O Mahurangi Penlink is open, as a crucial option to support the existing Gulf Harbour Ferry
  route in the area
- Advocate to Auckland Transport to prioritise and fund the fast delivery of the Glenvar and East Coast Road improvements project
- Advocate to Auckland Transport to prioritise and fund the delivery of the upgrades to Vaughans Road and Okura River Road areas for safer access for Long Bay, Okura, and Torbay
- Advocate for Auckland Transport to take a more proactive approach in transport planning by taking the lead in working with new commercial developments that are trip generators, such as supermarkets, to ensure that provision for integrated and safe public transport infrastructure, such as bus stops, are made early in the planning process, even on streets with a higher volume of users
- Advocate to Auckland Transport and Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency for increased funding for safe and separated walkways and cycleways, and their complementary infrastructure, to ensure a safe, fully connected active transport network, that is integrated with public transport (noting that, where possible, this should not be created at the expense of the capacity of the existing roading network)



- Advocate to Auckland Transport for increased and improved public transport options and routes for all residents of the local board from Waiwera to Campbells Bay and out to Gulf Harbour, that includes services at weekends and nights
- Advocate to Auckland Transport for more bus shelters at existing bus stops to encourage people to utilise public transport.
- Advocate to Auckland Transport to better accommodate the integration of public transport
  vehicles, major bus stop and park and rides, with micro-mobility and bicycles, to enable people to
  use these modes to connect with their public transport journey
- Advocate to Auckland Transport to lead the development and/or adoption of a Rural Roads Design Manual, distinct from the Transport Design Manual, which would set principles for various rural road types and provide more appropriate design standards for rural conditions such as introducing options for gravel footpaths and rural bus stops
- Advocate to Auckland Transport to prioritise and fund the delivery of the upgrade of Vaughans Road and Okura River Road, to ensure a safe alternative travel option to connect the surrounding communities
- Advocate to the Auckland Council for changes to the procurement policy to allow for greater flexibility to ensure increased use of local businesses, and more consideration of local boards views in decision-making over major sub regional contracts such as the full facilities contracts.
- Advocate to the Governing Body, Auckland Transport and Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport
  Agency, and Te Tupu Ngatai/Supporting Growth to keep up with population growth by funding all
  the elements of public transport; including free or low-cost park and rides, efficient and dependable
  Rapid and Frequent Transport Networks, dedicated or priority public transport lanes or routes
  where space allows.
- Advocate to Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency, for north facing on-ramps to be funded and delivered in conjunction with the south facing ones at the Redvale motorway interchange.
- Continue to advocate and support projects, facilities and initiatives which provide for local people to be employed locally
- Continue to advocate that planning (public or private), and funding for development infrastructure be concentrated on creating a quality compact city, with intensification centred around public transport hubs, and town centres





Destination Orewa Beach delivers a community movie, Gulf Harbour



## He korero take putea

# Funding information

The local board funding policy sets out how local boards are funded to meet the costs of providing local activities and administration support.

Local board funding is approved through the council's budget-setting process. This involves the council's Governing Body adopting a 10-year budget (Long-term Plan) every three years and an annual budget every year. Local board agreements, in which the local board and the governing body agree the local board budget for each year, make up part of the annual budget.

The council's budget-setting process involves allocating funding gathered through revenue sources such as rates and user charges. It also involves setting levels of service for council activities and corresponding performance targets.

The financial and levels of service statements in this plan are based on the information included in the 10-year Budget 2021-2031 and updated through subsequent annual budget. Updated financial information and levels of service will be adopted as part of the 10-year Budget 2024-2034 which is due to be adopted in June 2024. The 10-year Budget will be informed by the local board plans and may impact the initiatives in this local board plan.

## Kaupapa ā-rohe me ngā paerewa ā-mahi

## Local activities and levels of service

The current 10-year Budget 2021-2031 outlines local board responsibilities, provided for directly in legislation or allocated to boards, are summarised into local activities and levels of service statements. These are described in the table below.

More information regarding the most recent levels of services, including performance measures and performance targets, can be found in the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Agreement 2023/2024 and in the 10-year Budget 2021-2031 (Vol 2 section 2.6). This is available on the council website.

The levels of services and performance measures for local activities will be reviewed as part of the 10-year budget 2024-2034 and targets reviewed subsequent Annual Budgets.

#### **Local Activities**

#### **Level of service statements**

#### **Local Community Services**

We support strong, diverse, and vibrant communities through libraries and literacy, arts and culture, parks, sport and recreation, and events delivered by a mix of council services, community group partnerships and volunteers Provide safe, reliable, and accessible social infrastructure for Aucklanders that contributes to placemaking and thriving communities

Utilising the Empowered Communities Approach, we support Aucklanders to create thriving, connected and inclusive communities

We provide safe and accessible parks, reserves, beaches, recreation programmes, opportunities and facilitates to get Aucklanders more active, more often

We showcase Auckland's Māori identity and vibrant Māori culture

We fund, enable, and deliver services, programmes, and facilities (art facilities, community centres, hire venues, and libraries) that enhance identity, connect people, and support Aucklanders to participate in community and civic life

#### **Local Planning and Development**

We support local town centres and communities to thrive by developing town centre plans and development, supporting Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), heritage plans and initiatives

We help attract investment, businesses and a skilled workforce to Auckland

#### **Local Environmental Management**

We support healthy ecosystems and sustainability through local board-funded initiatives such as planting, pest control, stream and water quality enhancements, healthy homes, and waste minimisation projects.

We work with Aucklanders to manage the natural environment and enable low carbon lifestyles to build resilience to the effects of climate change





#### **Local Governance**

Activities in this group support the local board to engage with and represent their communities, and make decisions on local activities. This support includes providing strategic advice, leadership of the preparation of local board plans, support in developing the local board agreements, community engagement including relationships with mana whenua and Māori communities, and democracy and administrative support.

The measures for this group of activities are covered under the Regional Governance group of activities in the Long-term Plan which determine participation with Auckland Council decision making in general. This includes local decision-making

# Tirohanga take pūtea whānui

# Financial overview

Revenue, expenditure and capital investment by local activities for the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

Annual Plan Financials	2023/2024 (\$000s)
Operating revenue	
Local community services	3,667
Local planning and development	-
Local environment management	-
Total operating revenue	3,667
Operating expenditure	
Local community services	21,209
Local planning and development	1,049
Local environment management	354
Local governance	1,126
Total operating expenditure	23,739
Net operating expenditure	20,072
Capital expenditure	
Local community services	11,176
Local planning and development	-
Local environment management	-
Local governance	-
Total capital expenditure	11,176¹

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>This exceeds the estimate local board funding allocation for 2024/2025 in the 10-year Budget 2021-2031, which is due to decisions of the Governing Body in subsequent Annual Budgets, and expenses will be met from the relevant sources as identified by the Governing Body (including as set out in the Revenue and Financing Policy)



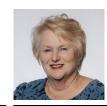


# Ngā Mema o tō Poari ā-Rohe o Hibiscus and

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