

Te Poari ā-Rohe o Waiheke Te Rīpoata ā-Tau 2024/2025

WAIHEKE LOCAL BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2024/2025



Volume
2.18

Mihi

Titiro ki te Pane o Horoiwi,
ka whakapukepuke, ka whakatiketike ki waho rā.
He kawau, he kawau, he kawau!
He kawau tikitiki ka eke ki te tāhuna tōrea.
He kawau tikitiki ka eke ki te tāhuna ki
Te Waitematā.
Ko koutou ēna e ngā mataawaka
i rite ai te kōrero,
Ngā waka o Taikehu me he kāhui kātaha
kapi-tai, ka eke!
Kua eke, hui e, tāiki e!
Te noho nei au i te kūrae i Takaparawhā,
ka titiro whakawaho ki a koe Aotea
e tū hihiwa mai rā i te pae o te moana o Hauraki.
Ka hoki whakaroto ake aku mihi ki a Waiheke,
ki a Rangitoto te pueanga mutunga
a te moana.
Kia ū mai anō au ki te one i Ōkahu,
kia takahia e au te rārangi maunga i uta.
Ki te tonga ko Maungarei,
kei raro ko te Kōpua Kai a Hiku.
Ka rere mā roto ki Puketāpapa,
kia piki au ki Maungakiekie,
Tūpō-o-te-tini.
Ka whakamau taku haere
mā te Ahikāroa a Rakataura kia taka atu au
ki te Ara Whakapekapeka o Ruarangi.
I konā ka aro tika atu au ki a koe e Maungawhau
te tū whakahira tonu mai nā i te pū o te wehe,
kua werohia nei e te Tūkoi o te Rangi,
kia pokanoa au ki te pepeha
a Tītahi,
“Koia te pou whakairo ka tū ki Waitematā
i ōku wairangitanga”,
kia whakaotihia noa ai ki te kōrero rā,
“Te pai me te whai rawa o Tāmaki.”

Look to the sandbanks at Achilles Point,
rising majestically out there.
It is the visiting cormorant!
It has alighted onto the beach of the oyster-catcher.
A distinguished visitor has come to
the Waitematā.
It is you the descendants of the ancient voyagers,
those who embody the axiom,
The canoes of Taikehu, like shoals of herrings
on the tide, you have arrived!
The connections are made!
So here I sit on the headland at Bastion Point,
and I look out to Great Barrier Island
shimmering on the Hauraki Harbour.
Returning my gaze to Waiheke
and then to Rangitoto, the last gift
from the sea.
Once more I stand on the shore at Ōkahu,
from where I can traverse the ancient peaks.
To the south is Maungarei
below which lies the Panmure Basin.
Flying inland I come to Puketāpapa
from where I scale Maungakiekie,
resting place of many who have passed on.
I follow then the pathway
to Mt Albert down
into Pt Chevalier.
From there I return to Mt Eden,
shining gem at the heart of the great city,
lanced by the sky tower
so that I might appropriate the prophecy
of Tītahi who said.
“A tower that will stand in the Waitematā -
that is what I saw in my feverish dream,”
and to end it with the maxim,
“So flows the goodness and riches of Tāmaki”.

He kōrero mō tēnei rīpoata

About this report

This annual report tells the story of how Auckland Council has performed in delivering services in the Waiheke Local Board area from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

You can read about our progress, expenditure, service performance and challenges faced in 2024/2025. It’s part of the wider annual reporting package for the Auckland Council Group and meets our Local Government Act 2002 obligations to report on our performance against agreed measures. It reports against the council’s Long-term Plan 2024-2034 and the Waiheke Local Board Agreement 2024/2025.

This report also reflects the local flavour of your area by profiling its population, people and council facilities. It features a story about a council or community activity that adds special value to the area and demonstrates how **together we’re delivering for Auckland.**

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▼ Community planting day volunteers



He kōrero mai i te heamana

From the chairperson

On behalf of the Waiheke Local Board, I am pleased to reflect on the local board’s performance as part of the 2024/2025 Auckland Council Annual Report.

Budget constraints meant we had less capacity to deliver the planned capital budget projects. Instead, we focused on empowering and uplifting community initiatives using our discretionary operating budget.

The Rangihoua Reserve Onetangi Sports Park Management Plan was adopted in October 2024 after consideration of public feedback and deliberations. Developed over several years and including engagement with mana whenua and our community, this is a significant milestone. The plan provides a framework for managing the use, enjoyment, maintenance, preservation and management of the reserve.

Community partnerships continue to enliven our island. The board-funded rangatahi co-design group was able to become a more independent entity — the Rangatahi Rōpū. The rōpū completed a vital youth needs assessment on the island that in turn helps inform and direct the board in its investment in youth needs and development. Pest management was also a continuing success, with 96 per cent of our scheduled pest plant control delivered through our ecological restoration contracts.

We are proud to have been working with Auckland Emergency Management on the early stages of establishing a local New Zealand Response Team based on Waiheke. This will greatly increase our community’s resilience to emergencies and will directly support the islands’ first responder services in liaison with Auckland Emergency Management.

In line with our Waiheke Climate Action Plan, the board has continued to fund a climate activator role working directly with community groups. Climate change adaption and resilience has long been a priority for the board, and many of the other community initiatives we fund continue invaluable and meaningful work in this area.

Thank you to all community groups and individuals with whom we are fortunate to work alongside. Together we can pursue enabling a strong and resilient island community.

Ngā mihi,



Cath Handley
Chairperson,
Waiheke Local Board



Te Poari ā-Rohe o Waiheke

Waiheke Local Board



▲
(L to R): Kylee Matthews (Deputy Chairperson), Paul Walden, Cath Handley (Chairperson), Bianca Ranson, Robin Tucker.

Contact us


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Ngā kaupapa me ngā whakapaipai ake

Waiheke projects and improvements

Key to current and planned projects

✓
Delivered projects

- 1 Tracks and pathways - renewal
- 2 Open space furniture, fixings, equipment, BBQs and signage - renew
- 3 Onetangi Sports Park - general renewals
- 4 Tawaipareira Reserve stage two - replacement of play space, bike track
- 5 Open space toilets - develop and renew stage two - Waiheke
- 6 Walkways and paths - Renewal - Waiheke
- 7 Citizens Advice Bureau - interior and exterior renewals - Waiheke
- 8 Waiheke Service Centre HVAC renewal

🚶
Current projects

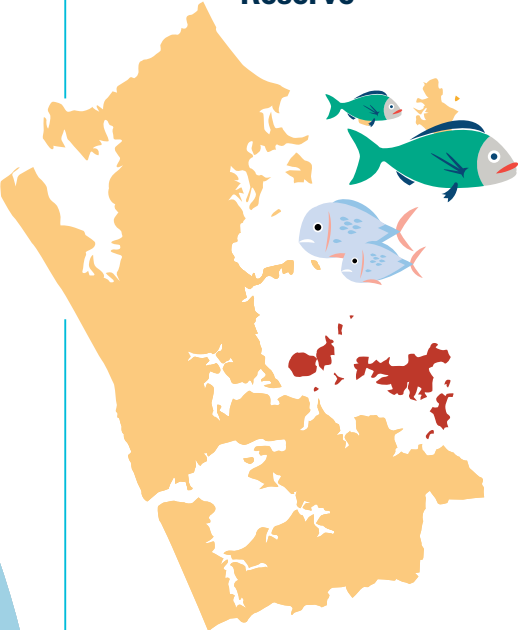
- 1 Waiheke Library - refurbish building
- 2 Rakino Hall - remediate storm damage
- 3 Hekerua Bay Reserve - renew path and install retaining wall
- 4 Tawaipareira Reserve stage three - install new flying fox and landscaping
- 5 Artworks Shade Sail - Waiheke

Map legend

- 📍 Local board office
- 🟢 Public open space (District Plan)
- 🛣 Major road
- 🛤 Minor road



Waiheke Island is **19km long** with a surface area of 92km² and 133km of coastline and is home to the **Te Matuku Marine Reserve**



A population of **9,162** with 13% of residents under 15 and 24% 65 years and over



We are home to **100** parks and reserves, the Te Ara Hura **100** kilometre round-island walking track and the Whakanewha Regional Park with **270** hectares of bush, forest, beach and wetlands



Data sources: Council Growth Scenario AGS23v1 (Feb 2024), StatsNZ Census 2023 (initial release May 2024)

Tā mātou pūrongo whakahaere mahi

Our performance report

KEY

●●●● Achieved ●●●● Substantially achieved (+/-2% slim margin) ●●●● Not achieved ●●●● Not measured

For more information on our service performance judgements and assumptions please refer to pages 122-123 of Volume 1 of this Annual Report.

Local Community Services

We supported 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.

We funded community-led programmes in housing, sustainability, and youth.

Enable a range of choices to access community services and recreation opportunities

The number of visits to library facilities	●●●●	Target	Result
	2025	110,000	116,210
	2024	95,000	125,299

Percentage of time physical library services are accessible to the community ¹	●●●●	Target	Result
	2025	100%	100%
	2024	New measure	New measure

Percentage of local community facility asset components that are not in poor or very poor condition ²	●●●●	Target	Result
	2025	85%	96%
	2024	New measure	New measure

Within the building portfolio, a significant proportion of roof system assets, including roof panels, gutters, fascias, and downpipes, are currently in average condition, and expected to deteriorate further as part of standard asset lifecycle. These components are anticipated to require renewal over the coming years and will be incorporated into our renewals planning process.

Provide opportunities for communities to lead and deliver their own initiatives

Number of partner organisations supported to sustain their governance capacity and capability	●●●●	Target	Result
	2025	7	7
	2024	New measure	New measure

Number of partner organisations and groups funded to deliver placemaking activities	●●●●	Target	Result
	2025	10	10
	2024	New measure	New measure

Provide urban green spaces (local parks, paths and ngahere) and access to the coast

Percentage of local parks, facilities and spaces meeting maintenance quality standards ³	●●●●	Target	Result
	2025	90%	98%
	2024	New measure	New measure

Percentage of local open space asset components that are not in poor or very poor condition ²	●●●●	Target	Result
	2025	98%	94%
	2024	New measure	New measure

5.3 per cent of assets are currently rated as poor, and 0.3 per cent as very poor. While most poor-condition assets have been renewed, a significant proportion of land fixture assets - such as bins, fitness equipment, drinking fountains and seating - have deteriorated from average to poor or very poor condition. These will form part of our renewals planning.

Number of trees planted in the Urban Ngahere programme ⁴	●●●●	Target	Result
	2025	15	0
	2024	New measure	New measure

No tree stock was available on Waiheke this season. Funds were allocated to a local nursery to grow trees which will be available for planting in the 2026 season.

- 1. This measure compares actual opening hours to advertised opening hours to achieve a result.
- 2. For definitions of “Community Facilities” and “Local open space assets” please refer to the Glossary in Volume 1 of this Annual Report, pages 124-126
- 3. Maintenance quality standards are defined through SOP (Standard Operating Procedures) and asset maintenance contracts. These standards are monitored by staff who have received specialised training and are audited through a quality process to ensure consistent scoring.
- 4. Urban Ngahere delivers specimen trees intended to be over 3m tall. Additional plantings occur outside this programme.

Local environmental management

We supported strong, diverse, and vibrant communities through libraries and literacy, arts and culture, parks, sport and recreation, and events delivered through a mix of council services, community group partnerships and volunteers.

We funded community-led programmes in housing, sustainability and youth.

Protect, improve and minimise risks to the natural environments and cultural heritage

Number of participants in sustainable initiative programmes

The target was set using the best information available at the time, but actual delivery was lower than expected.

	●●●●	Target	Result
2025		185	180
2024		New measure	New measure

Number of community groups supported in stream enhancement programmes

	●●●●	Target	Result
2025		1	1
2024		New measure	New measure

Local governance

Activities in this group supported the board in engaging with and representing its communities, and making decisions on local activities. This included strategic advice; local board plans, agreements and work programmes; community engagement including relationships with mana whenua and Māori communities; and democracy and administrative support.

Respond to the needs and aspirations of mana whenua and Māori communities

Number of local activities that deliver moderate to high outcomes for Māori as outlined in ‘Kia Ora Tāmaki Makaurau’ (Council’s Māori outcomes framework).

	●●●●	Target	Result
2025		Set baseline	6
2024		New measure	New measure



▲ Rehearsals for the Puna Mahara – Spring of Memories theatrical dance showcase at Artworks Theatre



▲ The refreshed exterior of the Waiheke Citizen’s Advice Bureau



▲ Waiheke Walking Festival

Te āhuatanga ā-rohe

Local flavour

Waiheke Rangatahi Ropu hits ground running

Waiheke youth have a dedicated team looking out for their wellbeing. Waiheke Rangatahi Ropu / Waiheke Youth Group works with the Waiheke Local Board and local community partners to improve the wellbeing of rangatahi aged 14 to 24 years old. They have started with a series of free cultural activities and events on the island.

The local board is funding the group as part of its work programme for the financial year 2024/2025.

Deputy Chair Kylee Matthews is impressed by the group's initiative and achievements.

“Our **rangatahi** are the future and we want to make sure Waiheke is a place they feel welcome and fulfilled. The **Waiheke Rangatahi Ropu** is something we are proud to support and the research they have done into the needs of young people on the island and the subsequent outcomes have been amazing. We're really looking forward to what they do next,” Matthews says.

Early research with young people on Waiheke indicated immediate needs for more cultural activities for rangatahi Māori, affordable events and all-weather spaces for young people, and greater awareness and access to mental health support.

The group responded with a series of attended events aimed at Waiheke youth.

- Coast Arcade — all ages gig at Artworks Theatre featuring indie pop band Coast Arcade with support from Waiheke High School bands Lemoncholi and Vital Signz.
- Paint and Snack — an evening of paint-by-numbers, shared kai, music and whakawhanaungatanga (relationship building).

- Sunrise and Swim — Morning swim and shared kai on the beach to connect with te taiao (the natural world), experience the physical and mental benefits of cold-water swimming, and strengthen community connections in a relaxed and welcoming environment.
- Table of 10 — an opportunity for youth to connect through the shared medium of kai.

Waiheke Rangatahi Ropu member Ria Town is excited about the response to their events.

“We've had good numbers turn up at our events. Big thanks to the local board and our community partners for their help in making these events happen. This is just the beginning however and we hope to have more events and activities in future. We will also be advocating for more mental health support and greater job opportunities and skill development for Waiheke rangatahi.”

Follow the Waiheke Rangatahi Ropu at [instagram.com/rangatahiropu](https://www.instagram.com/rangatahiropu)



The Waiheke Rangatahi Ropu Paint and Snack evening ▲

Te tahua pūtea

Funding impact statement

Financial year ending 30 June 2025

\$000s	Notes	Actual 2024/2025	Annual Plan 2024/2025*	Annual Plan 2023/2024
Sources of operating funding:				
General rates, UAGCs, rates penalties		7,166	7,166	7,041
Targeted rates		0	0	0
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes		2	2	2
Fees and charges		41	42	40
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees and other	1	119	53	52
Total operating funding		7,327	7,263	7,135
Applications of operating funding:				
Payments to staff and suppliers	2	5,548	5,694	5,561
Finance costs		629	629	404
Internal charges and overheads applied		935	935	1,016
Other operating funding applications		0	0	0
Total applications of operating funding		7,112	7,258	6,982
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding		216	5	154
Sources of capital funding:				
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure		0	0	0
Development and financial contributions		0	0	0
Increase (decrease) in debt	3	936	1,110	2,740
Gross proceeds from sale of assets		0	0	0
Lump sum contributions		0	0	0
Other dedicated capital funding		0	0	0
Total sources of capital funding		936	1,110	2,740
Application of capital funding:				
Capital expenditure:				
- to meet additional demand		139	132	254
- to improve the level of service		276	271	260
- to replace existing assets		737	712	2,380
Increase (decrease) in reserves		0	0	0
Increase (decrease) in investments		0	0	0
Total applications of capital funding		1,152	1,115	2,894
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding		(216)	(5)	(154)
Funding balance		0	0	0

* Same target as the Year 1 of the Long-term Plan 2024-2034

Variance explanation Actual 2024/2025 to Annual Plan 2024/2025

- 1 We received more income than expected from local taxes, fines, and other sources. This was mainly because income from a commercial lease wasn’t included in the budget.
- 2 We spent less than planned on staff and supplier payments. Some budgeted repair and maintenance costs under the full facility maintenance contract were paid at a regional level, rather than locally.
- 3 We received more money than expected and spent less than planned. Higher revenue from local taxes, fines, and other sources—along with lower payments to staff and suppliers—led to a funding surplus. As a result, we didn’t need to borrow as much as originally planned.

► Waiheke Walking Festival



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