

Te Poari ā-Rohe o Hibiscus and Bays Te Rīpoata ā-Tau 2024/2025

HIBISCUS AND BAYS LOCAL BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2024/2025



Volume
2.6

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,
engari e kaikini tonu nei i ngā mahara i te ao, i te pō.
Ngā 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.
Koinā 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 te 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 ngā 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.

◀ On the cover: A child has fun at the opening of the new park in Harvest Avenue, Ōrewa.

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 Hibiscus and Bays 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 Hibiscus and Bays 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**.

▼ A child explores the climbing net at the opening of the new park in Harvest Avenue, Ōrewa.



Contents

About this report	3
From the chairperson	4
Your board	5
Projects and improvements	6
Our performance report	8
Local flavour	13
Funding impact statement	14

He kōrero mai i te heamana

From the chairperson

I’m pleased to share the progress and achievements we’ve made on a range of projects this year.

Our comprehensive refurbishment of the Ōrewa Library and new basketball flooring at Stanmore Bay Leisure Centre will ensure our important local assets remain functional and well used. We developed a new playground in Harvest Avenue, Ōrewa and renewed playgrounds in Cranston Street, Torbay and Edith Hopper Park, Manly. Bushglen Reserve in Browns Bay has new tracks and boardwalks which enhance the community’s enjoyment of this bush reserve.

We responded to the community’s feedback to prioritise protecting the Hauraki Gulf, fresh water and soil from contaminants and sedimentation. One way we actioned this was to start investing in construction waste enforcement on building sites. This year we continued our storm resilience project which supports homeowners to clear up and stabilise the banks of streams they have running through their property.

We continued prioritising support for our young people through a range of projects and grants. This year we trialled a new programme called ‘Kids Panels’, which supported students from three schools to learn about democratic participation and to co-design a new play trail for Mairangi Bay. We are looking forward to delivering this, based on their ideas, very soon.

Our grants programmes deliver fantastic outcomes for our community, and many local groups and organisations have benefitted from nearly \$290,000 in funding. Local business associations received over \$40,000 in grants to foster business capability, resilience and growth. We continue to develop vibrant and attractive town centres via our Events Partnership fund.

We are proud of all of the work accomplished this year. Thank you to everyone who has worked hard to deliver these outcomes.

Alexis Poppelbaum

Alexis Poppelbaum JP
Chairperson,
Hibiscus and Bays
Local Board



Te Poari ā-Rohe o Hibiscus and Bays

Hibiscus and Bays Local Board



▲ Standing (L to R) Sam Mills, Gary Brown (Deputy Chairperson), Jake Law, Gregg Walden and Leanne Willis. Sitting (L to R) Alexis Poppelbaum (Chairperson), Julia Parfitt and Victoria Short.

Contact us



Albany

Hawiti Building (Ground Floor),
6-8 Munroe Lane, Albany



09 301 0101



hibiscusandbayslocalboard@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Auckland Council
Private Bag 92300, Auckland 1142



aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/hibiscusandbays

Ngā kaupapa me ngā whakapaipai ake

Hibiscus and Bays projects and improvements

Key to current and planned projects

✓
Delivered projects

- 1 Harvest Ave - develop new neighbourhood park
- 2 Edith Hopper Park - renew play space
- 3 Ōrewa Library comprehensive refurbishment
- 4 Renew play space at Cranston Street Reserve
- 5 Bushglen Reserve track upgrade

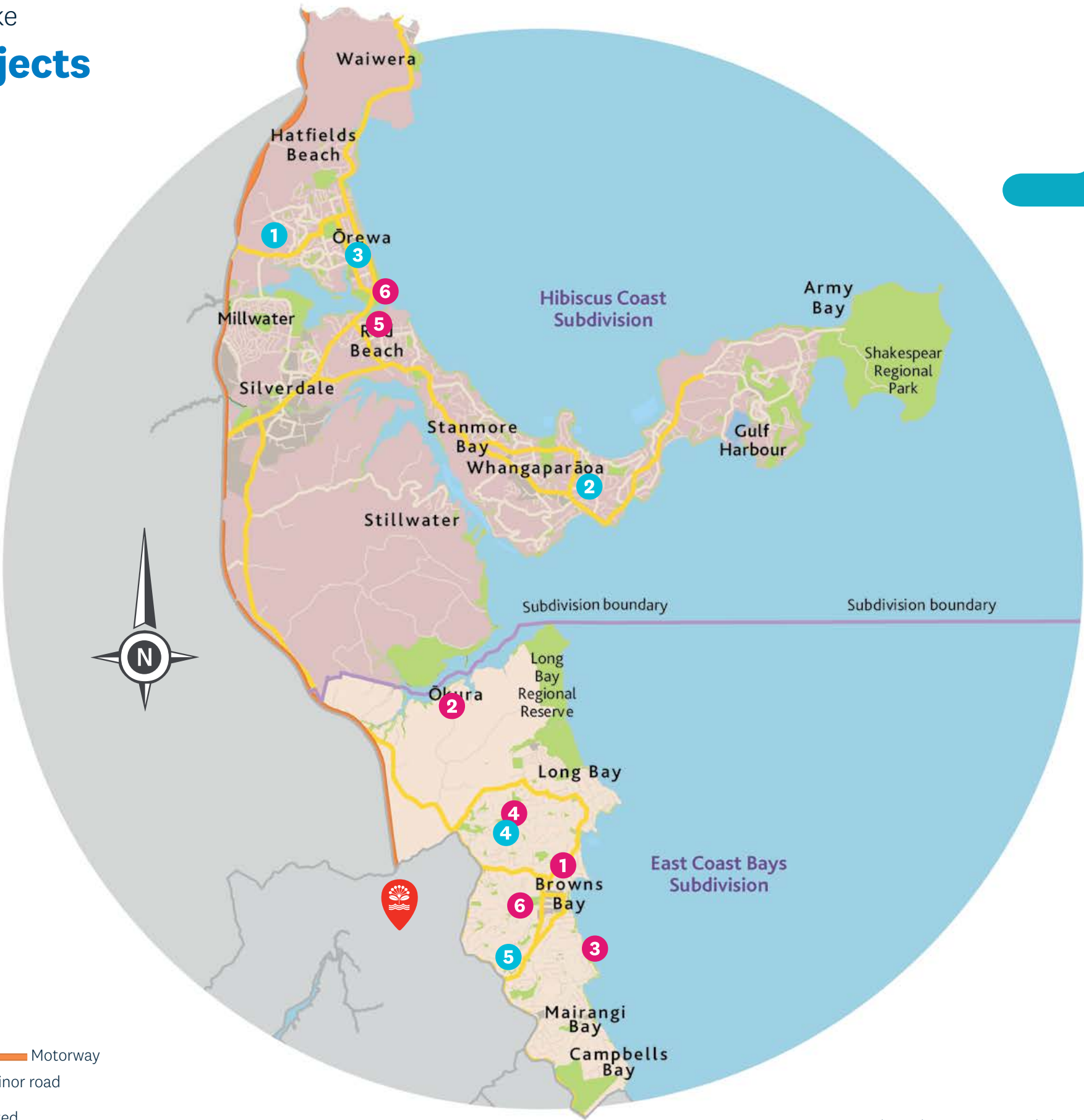
🚶
Current projects

- 1 East Coast Bays Community Centre refurbishment
- 2 Okura Hall - refurbishment
- 3 Pathway renewals - Churchill Reserve, Murrys Bay and Crow's Nest Rise
- 4 Stredwick Reserve - renew play space
- 5 Rosario Reserve - renew play space
- 6 Investigate developing dog parks

Map legend

- 📍 Local board office*
- 🌳 Public open space (Unitary Plan)
- 🛣️ Motorway
- 🛣️ Major road
- 🛣️ Arterial road
- 🛣️ Medium road
- 🛣️ Minor road

*located at Albany while the local board office is being renovated



Hibiscus and Bays has **155km** of coastline



Long Bay – Ōkura Marine Reserve is the only marine reserve in Auckland’s urban area



25% Hibiscus and Bays residents are 19 years or younger

We are home to **314** parks and sports fields, **3** libraries, **2** leisure centres and **2** arts centres



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

This year, we continued support for local youth networks to deliver youth-led activities and improve youth voices in local board decision making. We commenced the first year of our new Event Partnership Fund to support the annual delivery of local events to continue promoting vibrancy, diversity and showcasing creativity in our area. We continued investing in the planting of canopy trees under the Urban Ngahere programme, and supporting community response groups so our community and organisations know how to access information and get help, including in emergencies.

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

The number of visits to library facilities	●●●●	Target	Result
	2025	581,000	628,265
	2024	610,000	627,827

Visitors at all three libraries was consistent against prior year, even with the Ōrewa Library having operated from a temporary smaller site for most of this year.

Percentage of time physical library services are accessible to the community ¹	●●●●	Target	Result
	2025	100%	99.9%
	2024	New measure	New measure

Hibiscus and Bays libraries had three closures this financial year, totaling 10.5 hours - just 0.2 per cent of the total planned hours. These closures were due to facility issues and health and safety challenges. In all other instances, our libraries remained open and committed to serving their communities.

Number of visits to Pool and Leisure Centres	●●●●	Target	Result
	2025	511,000	680,582
	2024	New measure	New measure

Visitor numbers at Stanmore Bay Pool and Leisure Centre exceeded the target this year, partly reflecting a return to pre-COVID levels of activity and engagement. Membership also increased by 10 per cent, with a net gain of 309 members.

Percentage of time main Pool and Leisure Centre services are accessible to the community ¹	●●●●	Target	Result
	2025	95%	99.2%
	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	83%	95.0%
	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.

Number of local community events delivered

Ten community partnerships were funded through the Events Partnership Fund this year to deliver a programme of free community events. The target of 11 partnerships was not met as one of the proposed partnerships was not recommended by staff and there were no proposed alternatives for local board consideration.

●●●●	Target	Result
2025	11	10
2024	New measure	New measure

Number of activities and events delivered which support local communities to be physically active

●●●●	Target	Result
2025	50	50
2024	New measure	New measure

Provide opportunities for communities to lead and deliver their own initiatives

Number of partner organisations and groups funded to deliver placemaking activities

This measure is below target, as the benchmark was based on assumptions made in the absence of historical data. However, a number of organisations such as Coast Community Trust and Harbour Sport were funded this year.

●●●●	Target	Result
2025	25	18
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%	95.3%
	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	96%	94.6%
	2024	New measure	New measure

4.4 per cent of assets are currently rated as poor, and 1 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	37	40
	2024	New measure	New measure

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 planning and development

We supported the rating of our Business Improvement Districts (BID), enabling all five BIDs to develop positive outcomes for local businesses.

Support a strong local economy

Percentage of Business Associations meeting their Business Improvement District (BID) targeted rate grant agreement obligations

All five business associations within the Hibiscus and Bays area complied with the BID policy.

	●●●●	Target	Result
2025		100%	100.0%
2024		100%	100%

Local environmental management

Our key initiatives this year included supporting the work and leadership of environmental restoration networks, organisations and volunteers, to improve our blue (waterways and coastal) and green (parks and reserves) spaces. This was achieved through support for programmes such as environmental restoration network co-ordinators and storm recovery and resilience. We also continued our waste minimisation and educational programmes including Eco-ECE, EcoNeighbourhoods, Trash Free Taiaotea and construction and demolition waste enforcement and leadership.

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

Number of planting events for biodiversity enhancement

The number of planting events exceeded the target due to favourable weather conditions throughout the year.

	●●●●	Target	Result
2025		2	19
2024		New measure	New measure

Volunteer time undertaking animal and/or plant pest control (hours)

Due to a clerical error the 2024/2025 target was incorrectly set too low and did not reflect the correct number of volunteer hours anticipated for undertaking animal and/or plant pest control. The result was a combination of volunteer hours achieved through Pest Free Hibiscus Coast, and environmental restoration network co-ordinators.

	●●●●	Target	Result
2025		150	12,500
2024		New measure	New measure

Local governance

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	20
2024		New measure	New measure



▲ The ANZAC Memorial Parade and Service takes place at the Browns Bay beachfront.

► One of several bridges rebuilt at Stanmore Bay Park.

▼ Track upgrades at Bushglen Reserve include new boardwalks, stairs, handrails and a small bridge to improve access to the reserve.





▲ A large crowd gathered at the official opening of the newly upgraded Ōrewa Library.

▼ A new park opened in Harvest Avenue, Ōrewa.



Te āhuatanga ā-rohe

Local flavour

A helping hand to clean up backyard streams

Residents are getting the help and tools they need to care for streams in their backyards with an innovative new project introduced by the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board as a result of the 2023 floods.

The Green your stream project helps homeowners maintain private streams and is being delivered by the Restore Hibiscus & Bays team in partnership with Auckland Council’s Healthy Waters.

There is a large percentage of private streams in Hibiscus and Bays, and blocked streams flooded during both the Auckland Anniversary floods and Cyclone Gabrielle.

With homeowners responsible for the stream that runs through their property, and by having the knowledge and tools, they will be able to cope with major rainstorms and be more storm resilient.

Setting up the project involved identifying sites with open streams using the council’s mapping system, then adding overlays with address data to establish the catchment areas and target sites.

Restore Hibiscus & Bays staff door knocked private stream owners and talked to them about the storm damage, their responsibilities to care for private streams, and handed out information about the project.

Restore Hibiscus & Bays Manager Kelly Meikle says that since the pilot launch, landowners have signed up in East Coast Bays and on the Hibiscus Coast.

Aimed at private stream owners, the project has the following steps:

- removing obstructions such as rubbish, garden waste and fallen trees from the stream
- controlling pest plants from the riparian area
- planting a variety of native plants for ground cover and to stabilise stream banks
- ongoing maintenance of the stream.

Homeowners are responsible for ensuring a stream isn’t blocked and won’t cause problems for neighbours. If fencing a stream, fences should be built outside of the floodplain area and parallel to the flow of the stream. Wire fences are preferred as timber fences without removable slats or brick walls can obstruct the flow of water and cause flooding.

Meikle says the project includes several schools as some school sites have large streams which are ideally located to support larger scale stormwater management.

▼ Native plants planted on a site in Arkles Bay.



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		22,190	22,190	22,694
Targeted rates		1,036	1,086	1,048
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes		74	76	638
Fees and charges		5,762	5,339	2,961
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees and other receipts		69	95	67
Total operating funding		29,130	28,787	27,409
Applications of operating funding:				
Payments to staff and suppliers	1	24,232	22,963	22,071
Finance costs		2,395	2,395	1,550
Internal charges and overheads applied		3,213	3,213	3,704
Other operating funding applications		0	0	0
Total applications of operating funding		29,840	28,570	27,325
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding		(710)	217	84
Sources of capital funding:				
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure		0	0	0
Development and financial contributions		0	0	0
Increase (decrease) in debt	2	18,010	13,461	11,092
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		18,010	13,461	11,092
Application of capital funding:				
Capital expenditure:	3			
- to meet additional demand		40	579	204
- to improve the level of service		3,676	599	2,783
- to replace existing assets		13,584	12,500	8,189
Increase (decrease) in reserves		0	0	0
Increase (decrease) in investments		0	0	0
Total applications of capital funding		17,300	13,678	11,176
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding		710	(217)	(84)
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 spent more than planned mainly because of three things:
 - Higher costs from paying the living wage in maintenance contracts and adding more assets to the maintenance schedule during the year.
 - Increased spending on utilities like water, electricity, and gas due to higher prices and more usage at local facilities such as pools and leisure centres.
 - Some staff costs for council-run pools and leisure centres were budgeted at a regional level, but the actual expenses incurred at by individual centres.
2. We spent more than expected on capital projects and payments to staff and suppliers, which required an increase in borrowings in this local board. These increases have been offset by reductions in other local boards and Group of Activities.
3. We spent more than planned on capital projects mainly because the Ōrewa Library was finished earlier than expected, in May 2025, with only minor cost increases. We also had spending to renew the seawall at Ōrewa Beach between Kohu Street and Arundel Reserve which was budgeted at a regional level. This extra spending was partly offset by a pause in work over summer on another seawall renewal between Kohu Street and Marine View.



▲ The Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Plan, created with Auckland Emergency Management, offers practical guidance to residents and businesses in emergencies.

Auckland Council disclaims any liability whatsoever in connection with any action taken in reliance of this document for any error, deficiency, flaw or omission contained in it.

ISSN 2624-1919 (Print)
ISSN 2624-1927 (PDF)