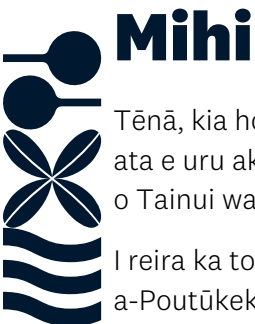


Ta mahere ā rohe o Franklin 2023

Franklin Local Board Plan 2023





Mihi

Tēnā, kia hoes e au taku waka mā ngā tai mihi o ata e uru ake ai au mā te awa o Tāmaki ki te ūnga o Tainui waka i Ōtāhuhu.

I reira ka toia aku mihi ki te uru ki te Pūkaki-Tapu-a-Poutūkeka, i reira ko te Pā i Māngere.

E hoe aku mihi mā te Mānukanuka a Hoturoa ki te kūrae o te Kūiti o Āwhitu.

I kona ka rere taku haere mā te ākau ki te puaha o Waikato, te awa tukukiri o ngā tūpuna, Waikato Taniwharau, he piko he taniwha.

Ka hīkoi anō aku mihi mā te taha whakararo mā Maioro ki Waiuku ki Mātukureira kei kona ko ngā Pā o Tahuna me Reretewhioi.

Ka aro whakarunga au kia tau atu ki Pukekohe.

Ka tahuri te haere a taku reo ki te ao o te tonga e whāriki atu rā mā runga i ngā hiwi, kia taka atu au ki Te Paina, ki te Pou o Mangatāwhiri.

Ka titiro whakarunga ki te tāhuhu o Hūnua kei reira ko Kohukohunui, me tōna toronga, a Te Wairoa.

Mātika tonu aku mihi ki a koe Kaiāua te whākana atu rā ō whatu mā Tīkapa Moana ki te maunga tapu o Moehau.

Ka kauhoetia e aku kōrero te moana ki Maraetai kia hoki ake au ki uta ki Ōhūiarangi, heteri mō Pakuranga.

I reira ka hoki whakaroto ake anō au i te awa o Tāmaki ma te taha whakarunga ki te Puke o Taramainuku, kei kona ko Ōtara.

Katahi au ka toro atu ki te Manurewa a Tamapohore, kia whakatau aku mihi mutunga ki

runga o Pukekiwiriki kei raro ko Papakura ki kona au ka whakatau

Let this vessel that carries my greetings travel by way of the Tāmaki River to the landing place of Tainui canoe at Ōtāhuhu.

There, let my salutations be borne across the isthmus to the Pūkaki lagoon and the community of Māngere.

Paddling the Manukau Harbour, we follow the Āwhitu Peninsula to the headland.

From there we fly down coast to the Waikato river mouth, sacred waters of our forebears.

Coming ashore on the Northern side at Maioro we head inland to Waiuku and Mātukureira, there too is the Pā at Tahuna and Reretewhioi.

Heading southward I come to Pukekohe.

My words turn to follow the ancient ridgelines along the Southern boundary, dropping down into Mercer and Te Pou o Mangatāwhiri.

I look up to the massif of the Hūnua ranges, locale of Kohukohunui and its arterial river, Te Wairoa.

My greetings reach you at Kaiāua who gaze across Tīkapa Moana to the sacred mountain, Moehau.

Taking to the sea, my remarks travel to Maraetai and then to Ōhūiarangi, sentinel to Pakuranga.

There we follow again the Tāmaki River to Te Puke o Taramainuku, Ōtara resides there.

From here I reach for Manurewa until my greetings come to rest on Pukekiwiriki.

Below lies Papakura and there I rest.

Ngā upoko kōrero

Contents

Mihi	1
Contents	2
From the Chair	3
About local boards	4
Developing our plan.....	5
Carrying out our plan.....	5
Climate action	6
Māori outcomes	10
Franklin Local Board area.....	16
Our plan at a glance.....	17
Our community.....	18
Our environment.....	28
Our places.....	34
Our economy	47
Funding information	53
Local activities and levels of service	54
Financial overview	56
Your Franklin Local Board members	57





He kōrero mai i te Heamana

From the Chair

Kia ora tatou,

The Franklin Local Board is pleased to present the Franklin Local Board Plan for 2023-2025.



As elected members, we stand for public service so that we can make a positive difference in our communities. As members of a local board in Auckland, that means making investment decisions on projects, programmes, services and facilities. We consider what makes our communities unique and our identity distinct, and apply that in the context of budget and resource constraints, and opportunity for regional and national investment. However, it is also critical, and arguably more important to make decisions with the future of our people and our environment in mind.

This need for change and innovation has recently come into sharp focus as we responded to an extremely constrained 2023-2024 budget. We have already had to make some difficult decisions about what is funded and what is not in response to these constraints.

While these decisions respond to an annual operational shortfall, we also have an issue of a \$30 million gap in capex renewal funding over the next ten years. Put bluntly, if rates are to remain at the same rate as projected in the 2021-2031 budget, we can't afford to retain all the facilities we have. To meet this forecast, the Franklin Local Board would need to reduce its local capital expenditure by \$30 million.

At the same time, we have growing communities that need capital investment to increase the capacity of existing facilities or to build new. We must upgrade our facilities to meet modern building and resource management policy and we need to adapt our facility network and service delivery approach to respond to the implications of climate change.

For some time now, the Franklin Local Board has recognised that Auckland Council needs to do things a bit differently for Franklin communities to be adequately served by local government. We have been determined to re-organise what we have, to trial innovative approaches and work with our community and with partners including Mana whenua to make our places and services affordable and future fit. We intend pursuing new ways to deliver the things that are most important to our community at the localised level, employing a range of mechanisms available to us including localised targeted rates, asset optimisation, asset divestment, targeted fees and charges, partnership, and advocacy. We must evolve in this way or we will condemn future Franklin to facility and service deficit.

This plan reflects this determination and lays out how we propose to address our challenges and leverage from our strengths.

Ngā mihi,

Angela Fulljames

Chair Franklin Local Board

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 provide input into regional strategies, policies and plans.



Local boards 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.

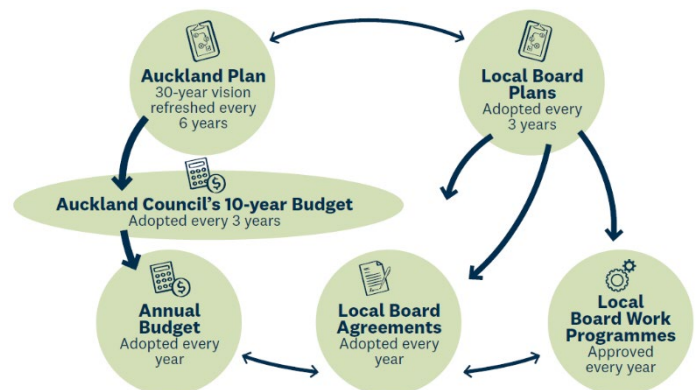
Local boards also have a role in representing the view of their communities on issues of local importance.

Recently the cost of providing these services has increased, due to higher inflation and the costs of borrowing money. 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 Plan
- 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.



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.

Local board agreements form the basis for each local board to develop its annual work programme and set 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.



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 People’s 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, to 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, Tātaki Auckland Unlimited and Eke Panuku. 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.

Sometimes, important projects in local areas are beyond the funding available to local boards or their authority to make decisions. In those cases, the role of the local board is to advocate to other decision-makers to ensure they are aware of community views and the local board’s support for them.

Regional areas of focus

Climate Action and Māori Outcomes are two region-wide areas of focus for Auckland Council. These focus areas are explained in the following sections.



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.

With 15 per cent of Auckland’s total coastline across the east and west and bordering two harbours, communities in the Franklin Local Board area are particularly exposed to the effects of climate change, including the increasing frequency and severity of extreme weather events and coastal hazards. The local board has provided input and encouraged community discussion on resilience to coastal hazards as part of three Shoreline Adaptation Plans (Beachlands and East; Āwhitu Peninsula; Manukau Harbour South) that have been developed for the Franklin local board coastal area. The Shoreline Adaptation Plans provide direction for management of council-owned land and assets in response to coastal hazard risk and how they can be adapted over time to respond to changing coastal hazard risks.

Growing populations at Beachlands, Whitford, Glenbrook Beach and Clarks Beach are reliant on rainwater supply and are vulnerable to drought. Isolated communities such as Kawakawa Bay, Orere, Whakatiwai in



the east and Āwhitu in the west are particularly vulnerable to the effects of flooding, coastal inundation, and wind.

High density residential development and large greenfield development in Drury, Pukekohe, Clevedon, Beachlands and Clarks Beach put significant pressure on the infrastructure network (including the transport network), on the environment (significant land use change) and increase the community dependency to light vehicle travel (for individual purposes and businesses). A key challenge is to provide sufficient local services (including public transport and safe active transport options), amenities and employment opportunities so that the community can be less reliant on the private car.

Urban areas of Franklin do not meet the 30 per cent canopy cover target under the Urban Ngahere (Forest) Strategy, and impervious surfaces are increasing with new development. Green infrastructure can absorb, store and even purify surface waters, remove carbon from the air and lower air surface temperatures. With significant development comes the opportunity to advocate for the uptake of green infrastructure to prevent, reduce and minimise any adverse effects of these developments.

About half of all trips in Tāmaki Makaurau-Auckland are under six kilometres with most made by car, largely because the transport network disadvantages other transport modes. People will take alternatives to cars when safe options are available. This is a challenge in Franklin as a large local board area with roads that do not support safe active transport and inadequate connection into Auckland’s public transport network.

Our communities want to contribute to Auckland’s climate action, however there are some significant challenges that prevent this. Our communities are car-dependent because we don’t have access to environmentally sustainable transport options. Auckland’s centralised economy and service network creates distance from jobs, schooling, medical services, public facilities and services. It is difficult for our people to reduce their travel by car, but it is important that we support them in that aim, however we can, such as through advocating for electric vehicle charging stations in Franklin.

Responding to these challenges and opportunities requires local advice and action planning. We are proposing to develop a bespoke Franklin Climate Action Plan over the next three years. In advance of this however, we will contribute to Climate Action across most of our outcome areas through a mix of delivery and advocacy as outlined below.

Objective	Initiative	Climate Action plan priority area	Local board outcome area
Partner with community and mana whenua to restore the whenua (land)	Provide funding for the Te Korowai o Papatūānuku project and continue partnership with Ngāti Te Ata to restore sites of cultural significance	Te Puāwaitanga o te Tātai	Environment
	Support Ngāi Tai ki Tamaki as kaitiaki to lead restoration of the environment at Nikau Pa (Clevedon Scenic Reserve)	Te Puāwaitanga o te Tātai	Environment
	Continue to fund the local parks, ecological and environmental volunteers programme that enables local people to take part in local environmental initiatives		Environment



Enable modal shift within town centres and village	<p>Propose a Franklin-wide targeted rate to fund co-ordination, facilitation and delivery of paths that will accelerate modal shift within all three board subdivisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waiuku • Pukekohe • Wairoa <p>Priority paths include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orere Point village to Orere School • Clevedon Trails network to Clevedon School and village • Clarks Beach to Waiau Pa • between the two bays at Kawakawa Bay • Hunter Road/Woodhouse Road to the Patumahoe village <p>Facilitation to include actively advocating for investment, from third party funders, into local initiatives that encourage and incentivise modal shift (from private vehicles to active or public transport) or shorten the commute for those reliant on private vehicles (by improving access to public transport), to supplement funding from the proposed targeted rate</p>	Transport	Environment
	Develop a Franklin-wide paths network plan to capture aspirational Franklin-wide connections between townships and villages, including mapping unformed legal access roads with potential for paths development	Transport	Environment
	Partner with the community to deliver paths	Transport	Environment
Realise opportunities to increase canopy cover in urban and rural Franklin	Require all public space projects across urban/future urban areas to actively contribute to increases in eco-sourced native tree canopy cover and more green infrastructure	Built environment	Environment
	Identify opportunities to reduce Franklin's mowing footprint by replacing lawn with eco-sourced native trees	Built environment	Environment
Implement Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan in Franklin	In partnership with mana whenua, identify and communicate a suite of localised initiatives that communities, businesses, and rural producers could action within Franklin, to address climate change	All	Environment



Advocacy

Advocacy – we will advocate for:	Decision-maker	Climate Action plan priority area	Local Board Plan outcome area
Change of policy and process so that new developments deliver ‘urban lungs’ i.e. areas to be planted with eco-sourced native plants to improve air quality, to lower surface temperatures, to absorb and filter rainfall, and to improve native biodiversity	Governing Body	Built Environment	Environment
Approaches to environmental protections that align with the needs of rural communities whilst acknowledging the intent of <i>Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland Climate Plan</i> and government policy	Governing Body	Natural Environment	Environment
Stronger tree protections, particularly for existing mature native trees in Franklin	Governing Body	Natural Environment	Environment
Development of approved designs and a streamlined consenting process for measures to adapt to coastal hazards on private properties	Governing Body	Communities and Coast	Environment



Ngaa Huanga Maaori

Māori outcomes

Regional context

Māori identity and culture are Auckland’s unique point of difference in the world. Whānau, hapū, mana whenua 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.

Māori outcomes respond to the council’s legislative obligations and to extensive engagement with Auckland’s Māori communities.

Legislation establishes the principle of partnership between mana whenua and Auckland Council, and Franklin Local Board.



The Kia Ora Tāmaki Makaurau framework

The Kia Ora Tāmaki Makaurau framework outlines ten priority areas that support and progress these aspirations and has been adopted by the council as the way to deliver outcomes for Māori. These priority areas are:

Kia ora te kāinga – Papakāinga and Māori housing

Kia ora te whānau – Whānau and tamariki well-being

Kia ora te marae – Marae development

Kia ora te reo – Te reo Māori

Kia ora te ahurea – Māori identity and culture

Kia ora te taiao – Kaitiakitanga

Kia ora te rangatahi – Realising rangatahi potential

Kia hāngai te Kaunihera – An empowered organisation

Kia ora te hononga – Effective Māori participation

Kia ora te umanga – Māori business, tourism and employment

Independent Māori Statutory Board’s Issues of Significance for Māori 2021

The following actions identified by the Independent Māori Statutory Board are also considerations for the Franklin Local Board:

- develop a policy for increasing Māori representation on decision-making bodies and co-governance entities
- establish consistent protocols and processes to allow local boards to meaningfully engage with and implement mana whenua and mataawaka outcomes through their local board agreements/plans and delivery of projects
- develop proposals for funding of specific rangatahi and tamariki programmes in key local board areas
- partner with mana whenua and mataawaka to enable participation in local planning and delivery of economic benefits
- partner with mana whenua and mataawaka on cultural storytelling
- regularly review policies for renaming, co-naming and creating new names for sites to reflect Māori heritage and history.

Franklin Local Board area context

The 2018 census shows Māori make up 15 per cent (11,247) of the total Franklin population (74,838). This is an increase of 38 per cent since the 2013 census. Māori in Franklin are much younger than the rest of the Franklin population, with a median age of 24 years. By 2043, the Māori population in Franklin is estimated to increase to 26,800 or 20 per cent of the total Franklin population.

The highest concentration of Māori live in Pukekohe, Waiuku, and the Clarks Beach/Waiiau Pa and Kingseat/Karaka areas.

Ten mana whenua iwi have interests in the Franklin Local Board rohe:

- Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki
- Ngāti Tamaoho
- Ngaati Te Ata Waiohua
- Te Ākitai Waiohua
- Ngāti Paoa

- Ngaati Whanaunga
- Ngāti Maru
- Ngāti Tamaterā
- Te Patukirikiri
- Waikato-Tainui

There are six mana whenua marae located in the Franklin Local board rohe:

Ngā Hau e Wha Marae, Pukekohe

Ngāti Kohua Wharetipuna and Papakainga, Clevedon

Rereteewhioi Marae, Waiuku

Taahuna Pa, Waiuku

Umupuia Marae, Maraetai Coast Road, Clevedon

Whātāpākā Marae, Karaka

There are also several local organisations that represent and serve Māori communities and engage with the Franklin Local Board including:

- Huakina Development Trust
- Te Ara Rangatahi
- Te Kopu Incorporated
- Marama Hou Ministries Trust
- Tuwhera Charitable Trust

Mana whenua and Māori organisations have provided feedback since the 2010 amalgamation through Annual Budget, Long-term Plan (LTP), and Local Board Plan consultation processes, and through input into regional plans, policies and strategies such as Auckland’s Water Strategy, Ngā Hapori Momoho: Thriving Communities, and Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland’s Climate plan.

Governance level engagement in the southern region of Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland has been through Ara Kōtui, and shared and individual hui between the local board and iwi representatives, while project level feedback is shared through council-iwi kaimahi/staff relationships.

Engagement and relationships with mana whenua, marae and Māori communities are ongoing and the transition of the new local board provides opportunity for building on and strengthening existing connections.





Strategic priorities shared by mana whenua include:

- achieving high standards of health, education, housing and well-being for whanau
- supporting and developing rangatahi
- enabling iwi to be involved by providing a level of support that facilitates sustainable involvement
- protecting and enhancing the environment, biodiversity and water through the practice of kaitiakitanga, grounded in mātauranga Māori
- promoting te reo Māori and tikanga
- improving prosperity for Māori through business and employment
- applying a transgenerational approach and planning for many generations ahead.

Specific Franklin priorities and areas of interest from individual mana whenua have also been discussed over time. Feedback from mana whenua has been considered in developing the objectives and initiatives proposed in this plan.

The Māori community in Pukekohe requested a response from Auckland Council to the issues of historical racism in Pukekohe, and unmarked graves in the Pukekohe Cemetery.

Summary of objectives and initiatives that respond to local Māori priorities

Issue/opportunity	Local board plan objective	Local board initiative	Local board plan outcome area	Kia Ora Tāmaki Makaurau priority area
Addressing the extraordinary history of racism, and the unmarked graves in Pukekohe Cemetery	Partner with mana whenua and the community to recognise and commemorate local history	Collaborate with the Pukekohe Māori community to acknowledge historical racism and respond to the unmarked graves in the Pukekohe Cemetery	Our People	Kia ora te ahurea: Māori identity and culture
Supporting and developing rangatahi	Support rangatahi (young people) to realise their potential	Actively participate in the Tuia elected member-rangatahi mentorship programme	Our People	Kia ora te hononga: Effective Māori Participation Kia ora te rangatahi: Realising Rangatahi Potential
		Support rangatahi (young people) to develop capability and access local employment through the Te Ara Rangatahi delivered development programme/s	Our People	Kia ora te rangatahi: Realising Rangatahi Potential

Opportunities for co-design of services and facilities	Opportunities for shared decision-making with mana whenua	Establish joint committee/s with mana whenua to enable shared decision-making over locations of significance to mana whenua	Our People	Kia ora te hononga: Effective Māori Participation
		Continue to invest in Ara Kōtui as a platform for identifying shared governance opportunities, building shared understanding, and developing joint advocacy e.g. for funding for mana whenua marae	Our People	Kia ora te hononga: Effective Māori Participation
		Investigate areas identified through Ara Kōtui and within local board delegations, to consider for shared decision-making with mana whenua	Our People	Kia ora te hononga: Effective Māori Participation
Enabling Māori to fulfil their role as kaitiaki	Partner with community and mana whenua to restore the whenua (land)	Provide funding for Te Korowai o Papatūānuku project and continue partnership with Ngāti Te Ata to restore sites of cultural significance	Our Environment	Kia ora te taiao – Kaitiakitanga
		Support Ngāi Tai ki Tamaki as kaitiaki to lead restoration of the environment at Nikau Pa (Clevedon Scenic Reserve)	Our Environment	Kia ora te taiao – Kaitiakitanga
		Establish a committee of the local board to enable co-governance over Waiomaru Reserve and to inform the delivery of the Waiomanu Reserve Management Plan	Our Environment	Kia ora te taiao – Kaitiakitanga Kia ora te hononga – Effective Māori Participation





Involvement in place-naming and place design to acknowledge whakapapa relevant to the whenua and to reflect te ao Māori values	Invest in and support local place-based initiatives that celebrate ahi kā mana whenua identity and culture	Fund the Te Kete Rukuruku programme, enabling mana whenua to gift names to new and existing parks and public places	Our Places	Kia ora te ahurea: Māori identity and culture Kia ora te reo: Te reo Māori
		Implement <i>Te Aranga Design</i> principles in park, playground and green space upgrades	Our Places	Kia ora te ahurea: Māori identity and culture
Opportunities for Mana whenua and mataawaka to participate in the local economy could be actively facilitated	Facilitate local economic development opportunities	Facilitate opportunities for local Māori enterprise and entrepreneurship through the Local Economic Development Broker	Our Economy	Kia ora te umanga: Māori Business, Tourism and Employment

Advocacy

Advocacy – we will advocate for:	Decision-maker	Local board plan outcome area	Kia Ora Tāmaki Makaurau priority area
Increased funding for capacity contracts, so that mana whenua and mataawaka can access resource that will allow them to meaningfully and sustainably participate in local decision-making	Governing Body – LTP, Māori Outcomes fund	Our People	Kia ora te hononga – Effective Māori Participation
For Auckland Council’s road naming guidelines to be reviewed (with the involvement of mana whenua and local boards) to ensure the council’s processes acknowledge the contribution of road naming to place-making, and support the local board’s place-making role, and Auckland Council’s partnership with mana whenua	Governing Body	Our Places	Kia ora te ahurea: Māori identity and culture Kia ora te reo: Te reo Māori Kia ora te hononga: Effective Māori Participation
Governing Body to give effect to the council’s sustainable procurement policy, including supplier diversity metrics, Amotai and other supplier networks, and for local procurement	Governing Body – LTP, ongoing	Our Economy	Kia ora te umanga: Māori Business, Tourism and Employment

Te Rohe ā-Poari o Franklin

Franklin Local Board area



LEGEND

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



He aronga poto ki tā mātou mahere

Our plan at a glance



Our community

Support the community to plan and deliver activities celebrating local history, engaging new residents in community life, promoting healthy active lifestyles, environmental sustainability and local resilience. Improving access to Auckland Council services and facilities.



Our people

We are focusing on empowering and enabling all people in our community, with a focus on key groups – Māori, young people, and the aged and disabled communities.



Our environment

To support both urban and rural Franklin communities in their efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve the health and function of waterways, increase canopy cover and eradicate pest species.



Our places

Make changes to our current facilities network so that our parks, libraries, community halls and recreational facilities are fit for purpose, and deliver to future need and budget constraints.



Our economy

Facilitate Franklin-centric economic development initiatives that leverage local opportunity from growth, leverage local opportunity from our unique attributes and that are a platform for future prosperity.



Tō Tātou Hapori

Our community

Vision: Support the community to plan and deliver activities and initiatives that recognise local history, engage new residents in community life or that promote healthy active lifestyles, environmental sustainability or local resilience. Improve access to existing Auckland Council services and facilities.

Franklin Local Board has 13 settlements, 16 villages and three town centres. Each of these have distinct needs and are experiencing varying levels of change and growth.

Our communities are on the fringe of Auckland and its largely centralised services and employment hubs. Beyond Pukekohe, our transport options are limited, with many areas of Franklin completely unserved by public transport and unable to be safely travelled to by foot or by bike. While many spend long hours commuting to centralised services and jobs using private vehicles, getting around is a particular challenge for young people, the elderly, and others who cannot drive.

This means that many in our communities can be disconnected from the local networks they need, cannot access arts, library, recreational services and programmes, and are suffering deprivation through isolation.

The local board intends to revisit how we deliver community services and reorganise our investment in community service programmes to deliver them more equitably. This will ensure our communities do not continue experiencing inequity of service, or deprivation of service through their geographic isolation from service hubs.



Our people should be able to access community places and services that cater for their needs; library, cultural and art activities must be affordable and more accessible. Digital solutions and outreach from hubs in Pukekohe and Waiuku alone may not be acceptable given our power and internet vulnerability, and the poor public transport options available to some.

Auckland Council does not have the capacity to deliver the same services in every town centre, village and settlement. Reorganising our budgets and community service delivery alone will not meet the challenges of geographic size and service delivery inequity. Where practical, we will enable local organisations to lead delivery of community services through strategic partnership funding, and by assisting these groups to develop their own capacity and capability. This includes enabling interested community groups to develop local emergency resilience and response plans that are supported by, and linked to, the broader Auckland Emergency Management approach.

We will also:

- revisit and refine our current community service levels to prioritise funding for those services that can be delivered equitably across Franklin, are closely aligned to local priorities and climate action, and that deliver Māori outcomes
- re-examine current community services that deliver very specific or additional benefit to a small group, and investigate different approaches to funding, such as through local targeted rates or increased fees and charges. This would release budget for delivery of core services in places with a community service deficit
- advocate strongly to the Governing Body for accelerated action to address local board funding inequity (including the continued under-funding of Franklin, Papakura, and Manurewa Local Boards).

Communities will be consulted on any proposal for change so that their preferences can inform our decisions.

Challenges

- Continued inequity of local board funding, and insufficient funding, means we must allocate limited budget to create maximum impact
- How to sustainably deliver community services to 13 settlements, 16 villages and three town centres over a vast area comprising 23 per cent of Auckland's land area
- Variation in access to community services - lack of ability to connect to centralised service hubs, particularly for Kawakawa Bay, Orere Point, Beachlands-Maraetai, Clevedon, Clarks Beach-Waiiau Pa, Glenbrook Beach, and for communities on the Āwhitu Peninsula
- Communities across Franklin with different service priorities and preferences – not all communities want the same services (and facilities)
- Dormitory suburbs that undermine opportunities for community connection and reduce the opportunity to continue a strong tradition of volunteerism and community service
- Beachlands is Franklin's second biggest (and growing) urban centre, however core council services and facilities are still provided by local trusts and volunteers, and do not provide the same level of service as council-led facilities/services
- Outdated and prescriptive regional plans focus on a 'network' approach that does not acknowledge local context or prioritise local need e.g. Community Facilities Network Plan 2016

- Auckland Council’s systems and processes are so complex that they are a barrier to community groups leading initiatives, and accessing council support that is available
- Poor internet connectivity in some parts of Franklin means accessing council services digitally is not always viable.



Opportunities

- Build on the community partnership approach, funding local community groups to deliver activities on the basis they are best placed to identify what is needed
- Alternative approaches to fund services that deliver localised benefits
- Increased decision-making provisions that allow the local board to restructure services to create a community hub in Beachlands, housing arts and library services
- Enable interested local communities to develop local resilience and response plans so that they can respond to, and withstand, emergencies such as severe weather events
- Willingness of developers to engage with the local board to plan and deliver facilities that will accommodate or enhance community services in the future
- Prioritising a local approach to planning for community facilities and services.

Our plan

Objectives	Key initiatives	Measure of success
Enable community groups across Franklin to lead delivery of community initiatives	Fund a capability and capacity building programme to help community groups to organise themselves, plan their priorities and attract non-council funding for local activities	Franklin Community groups have well communicated opportunities to participate in the programme, groups report that the programme is helpful and relevant, and groups identify additional sources of funding
	Fund community resilience programmes that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • facilitate locally led emergency response and resilience plan development, including an annual review • deliver local community response exercises and practice scenarios, and upskill opportunities for community organisations • support resident associations to embrace new communities • support organisations helping our most vulnerable • support food security initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local emergency and resilience plans are developed and accessible to local communities. • Annual review of local resilience plans is facilitated. • Initiatives in place to address growth and change are reported and shared with the local board and community
	Support community-led place-making, safety initiatives, activations, and events that promote community participation	



Fund a community broker role to help deliver the objectives in this plan by:

- connecting the community with council departments, and elected members
- enabling the community to lead and to volunteer
- surfacing under-represented voices
- connecting with the Māori community
- building high trust relationships and networks
- providing the local board with community insights, and strategic advice
- brokering strategic community partnerships
- leveraging external funding sources

Fund strategic community partnerships that align with our plan over the next three years. Priorities are likely to include, but are not limited to, events and organisations that deliver to and/or support:

- young people and youth spaces
- free and low-cost local arts, activations and events
- disabled community
- aged community
- local economic development
- attracting business to Franklin
- coastal rescue services
- promoting Franklin as a visitor destination

- Scope for strategic partnerships developed by February 2024
- Community groups invited to submit proposals by March 2024
- Community partners funded for three years
- Partnership commitments delivered
- Allocated funds fully used

Provide improved access to community services and Council customer services across the Franklin Local Board area, including in isolated areas

- Reconfigure the community hub service delivery approach to deliver:
- youth spaces and initiatives in Waiuku, Pukekohe and Beachlands
 - access library services in local communities across the whole local board area
 - access to arts experiences and support for local arts across the whole local board area
 - more accessible council customer services across Franklin
 - free or subsidised access to venue for hire spaces for selected groups and events
 - mobile services where applicable
 - activation of the atrium space in Franklin: The Centre

- A staffed community hub is established in Beachlands within budget at an existing facility
- Communities are enabled to contribute to the design of service delivery needs and preferences
- Wairoa subdivision communities use the services available to them in Beachlands

Plan for, and deliver, Community Facilities Key Moves 1-7 from the *Franklin Community Provision Investigation 2023: Technical Report*



<p>Provide communities with funding options, so they can retain services and facilities that are a high priority for the local area</p>	<p>Investigate the use of targeted rates, and/or fees and charges, to fund specific or additional services that benefit a specific population, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> operational expenses for rural halls mangrove removal in the Waiuku estuary operation of the Pukekohe summer pool (Jubilee Pool) 	<p>The community has options on the future provision of location-exclusive services and can inform local board decision-making. Equity of service investment is addressed</p>
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Levels of service

- Extension of community services beyond Pukekohe and Waiuku community hubs into isolated areas.
- Establishment of community hub-based service in Beachlands.

Advocacy

Advocacy – we will advocate for:	Decision-maker
Improved recreation service provision for south-east Auckland based at Beachlands-Maraetai	Governing Body
local board funding inequity to be addressed in the first 3 years of the 10-year budget	Governing Body
Provision of fit for purpose public transport services that enable underserved communities to access Auckland’s public and active transport networks and community service hubs, e.g. through ‘AT Local’ services or new bus routes. Priority growth areas include Clevedon, Beachlands-Maraetai, Waiuku Pa-Clarks Beach, Glenbrook Beach, Drury, Auranga and Pukekohe	Governing Body (LTP) and Auckland Transport (RLTP and service delivery planning)
For access to reliable and cost-effective internet service provision across the whole of Franklin	Central government





Ō Tātou Tāngata

Our people

Vision: The Franklin Local Board is elected to represent all people in this area.

However, some groups stand out as having specific roles, aspirations and challenges – mana whenua (Māori who have customary authority over land through ancestral links) and Māori communities, rangatahi (young people), our aged population, and the disabled community.

While we deliver to all the people in our community, we are committing to focussing on these target groups over the coming term to help create a steady foundation for planning for the future.

We want local mana whenua to lead delivery on local Māori community aspirations and we want young people across Franklin to engage with local government, serve their communities and provide a youth voice to inform and influence the decisions we make for Franklin.

It is our intention in the coming year, to turn our attention to reviewing *Tāmaki Makarau Tauawhi Kaumatua: Auckland's Age-Friendly Action Plan* and actively consider how this plan can be applied to improve the well-being of older Aucklanders living in the Franklin Local Board area. Intergenerational approaches that link older people with young people are also a priority.

We also want to ensure the views and preferences of disabled people in our community inform and influence our decision-making, and that we are aware of the particular challenges this community faces in Franklin.



Working with our young people for a better future

Communities across our area are dispersed and often remote. Our young people, particularly those of high school age, can often feel disconnected from their community and isolated from services and facilities that traditionally bring them together, e.g. school, arts and cultural activities, recreational activities and even part-time jobs.

Our young people have told us that they want to be part of the solution to these challenges. It can be difficult to remain connected as they leave for different schools outside their community, spend long hours travelling to school, after-school activities, and travel out of the community to socialise. What is a gap for young people in Waiuku is likely to be different for Beachlands or Pukekohe.

We will put support in place at a local level to help our young people:

- connect with each other, and their local community and create a sense of belonging
- to engage with other young people to hear their views and preferences
- to share a youth voice with decision-makers to ensure young people have a say in local planning for the future, and that we meet the needs of today's young people.

We will work harder to connect with our young people, to improve their understanding of how they can make a difference and how they can access our facilities and services.

Working with mana whenua for a better future

We have statutory obligations to Māori under the Local Government Act 2002, such as providing for contributions by Māori to the council's decision-making processes. Mana whenua, in their role as kaitiaki (guardians), are partners in environmental and place-based stewardship, and their priorities often align with those of the local board, and local communities.

The local board actively works on how we can facilitate better understanding, and partnership approaches that better recognise and reflect te ao Māori (a holistic Māori world view). We will invite shared governance opportunities starting at the project and process level, and will find opportunities to enable mana whenua leadership in the delivery of Māori outcomes.

An important and specific goal for the Franklin Local Board for this term is to respond to the unmarked graves in the Pukekohe cemetery. The Pukekohe Māori community has asked that we help to share the story of historical racism in Pukekohe and acknowledge the burial issue in a way that the Pukekohe Māori community, in particular the descendants of those interred, considers suitable. The local board is committed to facilitating a response.

Challenges

- The community does not always understand the local board's role and mandate, and its limited influence in regional and national decision-making
- People have consultation and engagement fatigue and loss of trust and confidence in council
- Council's communications channels, and consultation and engagement methods do not reach, and do not resonate with, young people and Māori communities



- The huge size of Franklin means that multiple options for engagement and participation are required i.e. there is no one solution that can serve all
- Distance from hospitals, schools and community facilities, and limited public transport services, means our older and younger residents are unable to easily access facilities, and the services and programmes they offer
- Aged people having to leave their rural communities to go into care elsewhere with the subsequent loss of social connection to their home community, particularly in Waiuku, Kawakawa Bay and Orere Point
- Limited spaces and places focussed on young people
- Youth mental health and well-being.

Opportunities

- Shared mana whenua-local board perspectives and advocacy that amplifies our local voice to leverage regional (and national) funding streams, and influence policies and plans
- Partnering with mana whenua on projects of mutual interest
- Greater sense of connection and well-being through increased participation by young people in their communities, and in local decision-making
- Place based approach that reflects Franklin’s large geographical area and the desire for people to access facilities, services and initiatives in their local area.

Our plan

Objectives	Key initiatives	Measure of success
Support rangatahi (young people) to realise their potential	Actively participate in the Tuia elected member-rangatahi mentorship programme	Local board seeks and supports Tuia candidates annually
	Support rangatahi (young people) to develop capability and access local employment through the Te Ara Rangatahi delivered development programme/s	Three-year funding agreement developed with Te Ara Rangatahi with agreed social and cultural performance measures, and the local board receives annual updates that demonstrate strong participation and positive outcomes for local rangatahi (young people)
	Prioritise support for community organisations led by, or offering targeted support to, Franklin’s young people (through the local board’s capacity and capability programme and strategic partnerships)	More youth-focussed organisations supported between July 2024 and June 2027



Encourage and enable participation in local governance and decision-making	Use local communication, consultation and engagement approaches that are relevant and engaging for all people, with a particular focus on young people and Māori communities, including innovative use of social media	Engagement in, and awareness of, local services, use of facilities and consultation events increases from a 2024 baseline by June 2027
	Support young people to participate in ‘youth voice’ groups, to influence development and delivery of board programmes and projects in their area	At least three ‘influencer’ groups established and functioning (one in each sub-division) by June 2025
Opportunities for shared decision-making with mana whenua	Establish joint committee/s with mana whenua to enable shared decision-making over locations of significance to mana whenua	Existing governance partnerships, (e.g. Ngāi Tai ki Tamaki co-governance at Waiomaru) refreshed, formalised, and progressed
	Continue to invest in Ara Kōtui as a platform for identifying shared governance opportunities, building shared understanding, and developing joint advocacy e.g. for funding for mana whenua marae	Ara Kōtui forum is resourced to meet annually, and identifies at least one process, project, or aspect where governance can be shared
	Investigate areas identified through Ara Kōtui and within local board delegations, to consider for shared decision-making with mana whenua	New opportunities identified and developed by June 2027
Partner with mana whenua and the community to recognise and commemorate local history	Support opportunities for ageing residents of Franklin to share local history and experiences, including through commemorative events such as ANZAC ceremonies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community-led ANZAC ceremonies supported • Programmes support intergenerational exchange.
	Collaborate with the Pukekohe Māori community to acknowledge historical racism and respond to the unmarked graves in the Pukekohe Cemetery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Descendants of the interred inform the nature of the memorial for those buried in unmarked graves • Appropriate funding identified to support the memorial • Opportunities to share the experience of those affected by historic racism in Pukekohe identified and progressed by June 2027
Implement the <i>Tāmaki Makaurau Tauawhi Kaumātua: Auckland Age-friendly Action Plan</i> in Franklin	An age-friendly lens is applied to all local facility and open space developments, and to community services	Needs of the ageing community are considered in all local projects and community services
	Prioritise initiatives that utilise an intergenerational approach	



Focus on the needs of the disabled community in Franklin	Create a demographic profile of the disabled population in Franklin and identify specific challenges faced by disabled people in Franklin	Profile created by 2025
	Ensure a lens of disability accessibility is applied to playground renewals and new playgrounds and other new open spaces and community facilities across Franklin	Disabled community engaged on local open space, playground and facility development/s

Advocacy

Advocacy – we will advocate for:	Decision-maker
Increased funding for capacity contracts, so that mana whenua and mataawaka can access resource that will allow them to meaningfully and sustainably participate in local decision-making	Governing Body (Māori Outcomes fund)
Enable meaningful involvement in local decision-making by actively promoting civics education in the community	Governing body
For the Governing Body to give direction to the organisation to expand communication and consultation channels and methods so that they are relevant and engaging for all people, with a particular focus on young people and Māori communities, including through social media	Governing Body



Tō Tātou Taiao

Our environment

Vision: To support both urban and rural Franklin communities to contribute to prevention and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, encourage reforestation and uptake of greenspace, healthy functional waterways and the pest-free Auckland initiative.

The environment is hugely important to communities in Franklin who consistently tell us through consultation that environmental protection is a high priority.

We have national and regional frameworks and regional plans set out priorities for action and investment, but they don't always resonate with, or reflect circumstances and priorities in local areas, and there are some barriers to Franklin communities participating in climate action activities.

Transport is a key barrier. Public transport networks are distant, limiting access to facilities and services without using private vehicles. Our internet and power networks are unreliable. Some of us must travel large distances to work and school. Farmers, growers and industry must use heavy vehicles and are reliant on a functional roading network.

The local board will invest in a local community climate action plan using the objectives from *Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan*. This will give us a basis for local board investment and advocacy and identify how our local communities can make a practical contribution to Auckland's climate action movement.



Active transport options is one area we know can be addressed in Franklin. The local board has already invested in developing paths plans to enable communities in Pukekohe, Paerata, Clarks Beach - Waiau Pa, Waiuku, and Maraetai along the Pohutukawa coast to move around their communities on foot and by bike. The Clevedon community has planned its own paths network and Kawakawa Bay aspires for a path. However, we don't have the funds to deliver these plans or resources to leverage regional and national investment. Instead, we're proposing a local targeted rate to get these paths underway and using the funds to attract partnership from regional and national funding agencies and community investors. A paths network will benefit all communities in Franklin, enabling 'modal shift' where people move away from cars for local journeys and use alternatives such as paths.

Our other strength is our love for, and strong engagement with, the natural environment. Mana whenua as kaitiaki (guardians) are well placed to lead environmental restoration projects and the local board will support three existing opportunities that deliver Māori outcomes and broad environmental benefit. We will also continue supporting the wider community to protect and restore waterways, manage pest animals and plants, and address the causes of environmental degradation.

Finally, a risk and opportunity for Franklin is population growth and development. Increasing urbanisation and housing density is challenging for us socially and culturally, but with it comes the opportunity to improve the way we manage stormwater and to increase canopy cover (and manage surface temperature and air quality). We will work with developers to advocate for design and development approaches that enable active mobility and green infrastructure in our new communities i.e. 'sponge-city approaches where nature is used to help filter our water and air, and support the well-being of our people.

Challenges

- Planning frameworks and growth funding policies do not enable local boards to leverage increased canopy cover and provision of urban 'lungs' from development projects
- Pest plants and animals undermine the health of local ecosystems
- Erosion (including of council-owned esplanade reserves) can contribute to silt build up that can lead to the proliferation of mangroves, and may impact the effective function of waterways
- Auckland climate action is focussed on reducing carbon largely by reducing the use of private vehicles, while action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by rural residents, rural business, growers and farmers could be further developed
- Management of coastal hazard risks to council-owned land and assets
- Auckland Council processes and consenting costs that make it challenging for Franklin's residents to cost-effectively and collaboratively take action to adapt to climate-related hazards such as erosion and sea-level rise
- Flooding associated with severe weather events causing damage to council-owned assets and private properties
- Limited funding for pest management means that roadside weed maintenance in rural areas is only funded in areas close to ecologically significant natural areas
- Central government rules, and council processes, costs and complexity mean it is very challenging for community groups to deliver pathway projects.



Opportunities

- Learn from past mistakes and actively pursue water sensitive urban design. With this approach, we can create spaces that better manage stormwater by planting more trees and greenery
- Use a targeted rate to attract partner funding and investment to develop a network of paths that enable modal shift (change from one form of transportation, e.g. cars, to another, e.g. walking, cycling, and public transport) within Franklin’s town centres and villages
- Develop a Franklin-wide paths network plan, including mapping unformed legal access roads that can be used as connections
- Plan a local response to climate change so our communities can participate
- Co-leadership approach with mana whenua to conservation throughout Franklin, to the extent that mana whenua would like be involved
- Invest in initiatives that treat environmental impacts at the source, i.e. address causes of erosion and silt buildup and pollution of waterways rather than just remove the mangroves
- Use development to deliver environmental restoration initiatives e.g. better manage stormwater run-off, prevent flooding and improve water quality through water sensitive design, and planting more trees and greenery i.e. make new development ‘sponge city’ developments.

Our Plan

Objectives	Key initiatives	Measure of success
Partner with community and mana whenua to restore the whenua (land)	Provide funding for the Te Korowai o Papatūānuku project and continue partnership with Ngāti Te Ata to restore sites of cultural significance	Ngāti Te Ata is enabled to restore the mauri of their culturally significant sites
	Support Ngāi Tai ki Tamaki as kaitiaki to lead restoration of the environment at Nikau Pa (Clevedon Scenic Reserve)	Ngāi Tai ki Tamaki is enabled to restore the mauri of the whenua (land) at Nikau Pa
	Establish a committee of the local board to enable co-governance over Waiomaru Reserve and to inform the delivery of the Waiomaru Reserve Management Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-committee established • Waiomaru Management Plan refreshed and endorsed
	Continue to fund the local parks, ecological and environmental volunteers programme that enables local people to take part in local environmental initiatives	



Enable modal shift within town centres and villages

Propose a Franklin-wide targeted rate to fund co-ordination, facilitation and delivery of paths that will accelerate modal shift within all three board subdivisions:

- Waiuku
- Pukekohe
- Wairoa

Priority paths include, but are not limited to:

- Orere Point village to Orere School
- Clevedon trails network to Clevedon School and village
- Clarks Beach to Waiau Pa
- between the two bays at Kawakawa Bay
- Hunter Road/Woodhouse Road to the Patumahoe village

Facilitation to include actively advocating for investment, from third party funders, into local initiatives that encourage and incentivise modal shift (from private vehicles to active or public transport) or shorten the commute for those reliant on private vehicles (by improving access to public transport), to supplement funding from the proposed targeted rate

10-year paths programme scoped, targeted rate implemented, top priority paths delivered

Develop a Franklin-wide paths network plan to capture aspirational Franklin-wide connections between townships and villages, including mapping unformed legal access roads with potential for paths development

Franklin wide path network plan developed by 2025.

Partner with the community to deliver paths

Realise opportunities to increase canopy cover in urban and rural Franklin

Require all public space projects across urban/future urban areas to actively contribute to increases in eco-sourced native tree canopy cover and more green infrastructure

Increased canopy cover and green infrastructure included as an outcome in all local public space projects

Identify opportunities to reduce Franklin's mowing footprint by replacing lawn with eco-sourced native trees

Reduced budget needed for ongoing mowing

Areas planted up and no longer need to be mowed

Protect and enhance threatened species and a representative range of indigenous ecosystems

Establish canopy corridors and 'stepping stones' between existing native habitats – areas as small as 100m² between larger areas of habitat



Pest plants and animals well managed across the whole board area	Continue the ecological restoration contract to manage pest plants and animals across Franklin, and encourage the contractor to use local sub-contractors where possible to carry out local environmental work	Reduced plant and animal pest numbers and broader benefit to flora and fauna
	Invest in community and mana whenua led plant and animal pest management education, and support community action initiatives, including responsible pet ownership	Reduced plant and animal pest numbers and broader benefit to flora and fauna
Improved water quality and waterway function through intentional intervention	Partner with mana whenua, community groups, developers, and landowners to protect and enhance waterways leading to the Manukau Harbour and Hauraki Gulf	Waterway protection partnerships enabled
	Public education about use of planting, revegetation, riparian planting and other actions to improve water quality, manage overland flow, and address the causes of silt build up and mangrove proliferation (in the Waiuku, Waikopua and Turanga estuaries)	
	Continue to fund the Manukau Harbour Forum (alongside other local boards) as a mechanism to draw attention to the plight of the harbour and advocate for funding to address water quality and other issues	
Support a local circular economy approach to waste management	Support waste reduction and management education programmes and initiatives, for local communities and for local businesses e.g. the Waiuku Zero Waste business and community education programme	
Implement <i>Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan</i> in Franklin	In partnership with mana whenua, identify and communicate a suite of localised initiatives that communities, businesses, and rural producers could action within Franklin, to address climate change	Potential actions identified and shared with communities by July 2026



Advocacy

Advocacy – we will advocate for:	Decision-maker
Encourage developers to design and develop approaches that enable active mobility and green infrastructure in our new communities i.e. ‘sponge-city’ approaches where nature is used to filter our water and air and support the well-being of our people	
Change of policy and process so that new developments deliver ‘urban lungs’ i.e. areas to be planted with eco-sourced native plants improve air quality, to lower surface temperatures, to absorb and filter rainfall, and to improve native biodiversity	
Approaches to environmental protections that align with the needs of rural communities whilst acknowledging the intent of <i>Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland Climate Plan</i> and government policy	
Additional resource recovery centres to be established in south Auckland and in Franklin, as per the <i>Auckland Waste Management and Minimisation Plan</i>	Governing Body (LTP)
Increased funding of the Ecological Restoration Maintenance Contract so that management of pest plants on all rural roadsides can be delivered through the contract, and not just roadsides close to significant ecological areas, as the current level of funding allows for	Governing Body (LTP)
Funding of Blue-Green Networks, in particular for the Whangapouri Stream catchment in Pukekohe, and for regular maintenance of waterways, as articulated in the Making Space for Water proposal, and the Franklin Local Board’s formal feedback on the proposal	Governing Body (LTP)
Increased water quality monitoring, including, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taihiki River, Glenbrook Beach • Clarks Beach, Manukau Harbour 	
Stronger tree protections, particularly for existing mature native trees in Franklin	
Use of non-potable water for the irrigation of sports and recreation facilities	Governing Body, Watercare
Highly productive class 1, 2 and 3 soils to be retained in productive agricultural use that makes best use of the highly productive soil, as per the National Policy Statement on Highly Productive Land	
Development of approved designs and a streamlined consenting process for measures to address coastal erosion on private properties	Governing Body
Better public transport services that enable Franklin’s urban and rural communities to contribute to climate action through modal shift (a full list of priorities for public transport can be found on pages 62-63).	Auckland Transport (Climate Action)



Ō Tātou Wāhi

Our places

Vision: Advocate for and make changes to our current facilities network so that our transport, parks, libraries, community halls and recreational facilities are fit for purpose, and deliver to future need within budget constraints.

As our population grows, we need to keep pace with the rising demand and changing needs for the spaces we use. Funding for new facilities including roads, parks, pools, libraries and community centres is at the discretion of the Governing Body. Its decisions consider the wider network, budget constraints and local preferences as articulated by local boards.

Community facilities, services and parks

We will advocate for timely acquisition and delivery of new facilities where there are none, and for regional investment to enhance existing facilities to address population change and support equity of facility-based services where possible. We will advocate for a partnership approach that enables developers to deliver new parks and public spaces so they are provided to new communities in a timely manner. We will also provide direction on the design of new facilities so that they are attractive, functional, cost effective and contribute positively to the natural environment.

While new and growing communities need new places and facilities, we also know that current funding levels are not sufficient to maintain the existing suite of community facilities. Local boards are given a



budget to maintain and renew local facilities. Franklin, along with every other local board in Auckland, is facing a deficit in capital funding, meaning the council does not have sufficient funds allocated to keeping doing what we are doing. The Franklin funding deficit is approximately \$30 million over the next 10 years. This was first signalled in the planning for the Auckland Council 10-year budget back in 2021.

We believe local decision-making is the best approach to addressing the funding shortfall and for planning to fulfil future need. This will ensure decisions reflect local context.

The challenge of meeting future need, while reducing our overall facility footprint to meet budget constraints, is huge. To meet it, we need to make some difficult decisions and do things differently.

We have started this process with the decision to sell Ardmore Hall and Bell Field and reinvest in other similar local facilities where there is a gap in provision and to sell reserves at Pohutukawa Road and Hawke Crescent in Beachlands for local reinvestment. We have been approached by the community at Bombay who wish to acquire and manage the Bombay Hall independently from Auckland Council and we want to progress that option. We recognise that the council may not always be the best option for owning/managing community facilities and is open to considering alternatives. This is why we will continue to invest in third-party owned facility development through our Franklin Sport and Recreation Facilities fund.

When making decisions, we will consider factors including our distance from regional services and activities, cultural values associated with buildings or assets, cost, benefit, degree of use, proximity to other facilities and services. and the likelihood of future need. This will not be a sudden or swift process and communities will be engaged with along the way.

Challenges

- A \$30 million capital expenditure gap in our asset renewals budget, meaning we can't afford to maintain the same number of halls, rural libraries, communities, playgrounds and toilets
- A deficit of community facilities in growing areas e.g. Drury, Clevedon, Beachlands-Maraetai, Clarks Beach, Glenbrook Beach, and Pukekohe
- Poor level of innovation in providing services, meaning people experience deprivation through isolation
- Council systems and processes do not currently support innovative or responsive facility portfolio management
- Auckland-wide community facilities, parks and open space policies and plans that focus on a 'regional network' approach to community facility provision, and do not recognise local context or local priorities
- Challenges with access to reliable internet and mobile services in areas across Franklin
- Community facilities in Franklin do not have specific places for young people
- An increasing population facing long travel distances and time to access medical facilities (e.g. no public hospital in Franklin), and no large tertiary education facilities.

Opportunities



- Using financial levers available to the local board, including optimising (selling) under-utilised assets to generate revenue and reduce costs
- Respond to proactive and motivated communities and partner with them to deliver on local aspirations
- Use increased local board decision-making to curate and direct Franklin’s community facilities network to plan for, and meet, local needs
- Actively consider future need when renewing facilities and consider consolidating, retiring, or selling underused assets, to reduce ongoing maintenance costs and to enable improvements to assets with higher use
- Work with developers, government agencies and the Governing Body to deliver places that support community well-being
- Generate more revenue from facilities we do own
- Apply a community cost-benefit lens to all renewals to ensure we are not renewing under-utilised facilities, or assets where the costs are so significant that it does not make financial sense to retain the asset
- Amplify local voices through strong advocacy to the Governing Body in the development of the 10-year Budget, and to Auckland Transport in the development of the Regional Land Transport Plan, through clear and focussed advocacy
- Make better use of existing facilities through reconfiguration, including creating dedicated youth spaces
- Take a different approach to enabling and providing for play by embracing opportunities provided by Franklin’s existing open spaces, and beaches, acknowledging that play can be provided for without necessarily constructing traditional playgrounds
- Playgrounds consider the needs of the disabled community
- Public toilets and rubbish bins are provided at all high use spaces and playgrounds.



Our plan

Objectives	Key initiatives	Measure of success
Local public places are fit for purpose and affordable, and meet the needs of growing communities	Progress optimisation (sale and reinvestment) of 39R Pohutukawa Road and 17W Hawke Crescent, Beachlands, to enable fit for purpose facilities and timely service provision to the Beachlands Community	
	Progress optimisation (sale and reinvestment) of Ardmore Hall and Bell Field, Ardmore to enable fit for purpose facilities and timely service provision to the wider community in the vicinity of Ardmore	Facility and associated service offering improves for community in the vicinity of Ardmore
	Franklin-wide assessment of potential assets for optimisation (sale or divestment)	Optimisation income lever is used to address renewal budget shortfall Number of council-owned assets is reduced Renewal funding deficit is reduced
	<p>Investigate opportunities to invest in local assets using proceeds from optimisation, within the Franklin Local Board area. Priorities for investment include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clevedon Village Heart project (Clevedon Hall, playground, toilet block renewal and improvements) • Community facility provision in Beachlands-Maraetai • Clevedon Showgrounds sports facility improvements (drainage, lighting, cricket pitch) • Clarks Beach Community Hub proposal 	<p>Community is engaged in identifying priority facilities for reinvestment</p> <p>High priority facilities can be renewed and improved within renewal budget constraints</p> <p>Sale proceeds reinvested in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beachlands project/s by 2026 • enhanced Clevedon Hall by June 2027 • Clevedon cricket facilities by June 2027. <p>Capacity of Clevedon sports fields improved to accommodate teams from surrounding areas including Ardmore</p>



	Develop a Franklin local community occupancy policy to inform the application of community lease fees and charges so that leaseholders delivering accessible and broad community outcomes continue to be supported to do so, and those enjoying the use of publicly owned land or facilities contribute fairly	Local community occupancy guidelines developed by June 2025
	Re-assess community leases (against the new occupancy policy) to ensure community assets are being used for maximum community benefit	
	Progress high priority local projects, including, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ray Fausett Reserve playground, Pukekohe • Clarks Beach Recreation Reserve - upgrade playground and skate park • Skate park renewal, Beachlands 	Ray Fausett completed by 2026 Clarks Beach all stages completed by 2026 Te Puru completed by 2026
	Complete concept planning for a new park in Belmont, Pukekohe	Concept plan complete by 2026
	Complete concept plans for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hamilton Estate Reserve, Waiuku • Colin Lawrie Park, Pukekohe • Clevedon Village Heart • Clevedon Showgrounds • Te Puru Park, Beachlands • Karioitahi Beach 	Concept plans complete by 2025 and available to support growth funding requests, and inform renewals funding
	Plan to deliver Key Moves 1-7 from the <i>Franklin Community Provision Investigation 2023: Technical Report</i>	
<i>Kia Puawai o Pukekohe: Unlock Pukekohe delivers maximum benefit to the Pukekohe community</i>	Partner with Eke Panuku on the Unlock project through the provision of local insight, direction, and ensuring the views and preferences of local community are heard	Ongoing
	Enhance Pukekohe's civic, arts and culture precinct (Franklin: The Centre and Pukekohe Town Hall) by creating a covered connection between the two facilities, and making better use of existing indoor and outdoor spaces, creating new youth spaces, and utilising the atrium/foyer space as a location for performing arts events and art display	Design of Franklin: The Centre Civic Enhancement complete, and funding secured by June 2027



Partner with others, including communities, businesses, schools, mana whenua, local organisations and developers to deliver new or improved facilities

Continue to invest in third-party owned facility development, through our Franklin Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan, and review the plan on a three yearly basis

Funding allocated annually to top priority projects, list of projects in the plan reviewed annually

Partner with developers to deliver play spaces and other open space areas, to ensure the needs of new communities are met early in the development of new areas of housing

Further investigate the proposal to reconfigure facilities in Clarks Beach to create a Clarks Beach community hub (as per Feasibility Report 2015)

Investigate, with a view to progressing, requests from the Bombay Community Group to:

- take over management of Bombay Hall
- develop Paparata Road Reserve, Bombay

Advice regarding the Bombay Hall proposal received by December 2024
Concept for Paparata Reserve developed by December 2024

Create youth space in Franklin by reconfiguring existing facilities or partnering to deliver new facilities

Invest in and support local place-based initiatives that celebrate ahi kā mana whenua identity and culture

Fund the Te Kete Rukuruku programme, enabling mana whenua to gift names to new and existing parks and public places

At least three new places co-named and 20 per cent of all new public places/roads are names gifted or recommended by mana whenua.

Implement Te Aranga Design principles in parks, playgrounds and green space upgrades

Levels of service

- Libraries open 6 days a week, 44 hours per week
- Council-led library service in each subdivision of the local board area

Advocacy

Advocacy – we will advocate for:	Decision-maker
Advocate for Auckland Council to fund and develop recreation facilities at Beachlands-Maraetai to provide this community with equitable recreational facility and service provision within Auckland’s wider recreation facilities network	Governing Body (LTP)
Review the Community Facilities Network Plan 2015 to ensure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> planning for community facilities acknowledges increased decision-making of Local Boards planning for, and provision of, community facilities reflects the local context and addresses local need guidelines for provision of youth spaces guidelines for provision of local emergency community hub locations, including for rural halls and marae marae are recognised within the ‘network’ of community facilities climate change, and accessibility via public transport lenses is included 	Governing Body (LTP)
Review the following regional policies relating to open space to ensure planning for parks and open space reflects the increased decision-making of Local Boards, acknowledges local context and addresses local need: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parks and Open Space Acquisition Policy 2013 Parks and Open Spaces Strategic Action Plan 2013 Open Space Provision Policy 2016 	Governing Body (LTP)
Planning for, and provision of, increased cemetery capacity in Waiuku	Governing Body
For Council’s road naming guidelines to be reviewed (with the involvement of mana whenua and local boards) to ensure council’s processes acknowledge the contribution of road naming to place-making, and support the local board’s place-making role, and Auckland Council’s partnership with mana whenua	Governing Body
Bring forward funding for, and delivery of, a new park at Belmont, Pukekohe	Governing Body (LTP)
Karaka Sports Park ‘One Local Initiative’ to receive funding through development and regional budgets	Governing (LTP)
Region-wide review of public access points to harbours and waterways (eg boat ramps, wharfs etc) in response to growing use and associated scarcity issues (eg congestion at boat ramps, lack of parking), and to assess future need, including consideration of infrastructure required to deliver public transport ferry services on both sides of the Manukau Harbour	Governing Body
A public teaching hospital – planned for Drury – to be delivered	Central Government
To begin planning the access to open space and community facilities in Drury	Governing Body (LTP)





Transport in Franklin

Franklin is a large, predominantly rural area with limited public transport options. Therefore, the road network is vitally important to this community. Franklin is a fast-growing area, and the community has a long list of transport projects and programmes that it would like delivered.

However, Franklin Local Board is acutely aware of the pressure on both local authority and central government budgets. Auckland’s transport is funded by central government (approximately 40 per cent), Auckland Council (approximately 40 per cent) and by Auckland Transport’s own business operations (approximately 20 per cent).

Transport projects and programmes are governed by several regional plans, the Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP) being the most important. This plan brings together the work of Waka Kōtahi (New Zealand Transport Agency) that part funds Auckland Transport and manages the state highway network and Kiwi Rail that builds and maintains Auckland’s rail lines.

Franklin Local Board’s role is to advocate to Auckland Council’s Governing Body about our community’s expectations for transport in Franklin. The Local Board Plan is used to express this community’s local transport priorities so that they can inform the development of the RLTP.

The RLTP includes a small budget (the Local Board Transport Capital Fund) that the local board can use to pay for transport projects that are not prioritised in the plan.

Objectives	Key initiatives to fund through the Local Board Transport Capital Fund
Accelerate modal shift in town centres and villages	<p>In priority order, as per budget availability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A footbridge over the Whangapouri Stream at Belmont, Pukekohe • Beachlands kerb and channel (priority order First View Avenue, Karaka Road, Second View Avenue) • Clarks Beach/Waiiau Pa pathway • George Street/France Street/Kaiwaka Road (Waiuku Primary School) safety improvements • King Street/Kitchener Road, Waiuku, crossing upgrade

Context for transport planning for Franklin

Transport planning needs to consider the local context:

- Franklin Local Board’s area is Auckland’s second largest spanning the rural south from the Āwhitu Peninsula and Manukau Harbour in the west, to Kawakawa Bay, Orere Point and the Hauraki Gulf in the east
- The local board area makes up 23 per cent of Auckland’s land area and in 2020 included 16 per cent of Auckland’s road network, including 951 kms of rural roads
- The area’s population was measured in the 2018 Census at 75,387 and projected to grow to 160,671 by 2051
- The area contains one existing and three proposed new train stations, two state highways (State Highways 1 and 22) and a ferry terminal in Beachlands

- Franklin is the connection point between Auckland and Waikato meaning that freight and commuter travel often extends both north into urban Auckland, and south into the Waikato region, and east into the Bay of Plenty
- The local board area includes both urban and rural areas, with three townships, 16 villages and 13 settlements.
- Franklin’s transport networks support a number of key industries including agricultural and horticultural production in west Franklin, quarries, landfills and the Glenbrook Steel Mill
- Large areas of new housing built before the development of local business and employment hubs means that many people must commute for work
- Efficient and effective movement of both freight and people is a priority for Franklin.



Challenges

Lack of road maintenance

- Many local roads are old and were not built to the standard required for heavier modern trucks, or the numbers of commuters living in rural villages
- Since 2010, when Auckland Council was established, rural roadside drains maintenance has reduced. Drains are not regularly dug out or cleared, meaning that recent storm events were especially damaging
- Local roads are poorly maintained. Some local roads have been re-sealed, but work has been sub-standard.

Road network resilience

- State Highway 1 is the main route into or through Franklin, creating a single point of failure for road transport. Until the Mill Road upgrade is delivered, the road network lacks resilience and even a minor crash or other event brings road movement to a congested standstill.

Managing growth

- Increased population creates road safety issues at rural intersections. High traffic volumes and minimally engineered rural intersections are a dangerous combination
- Growth has been unprecedented and uncoordinated, creating large new suburbs, the populations of which are forced to use roads designed for lower capacity use.

Freight movement

- Franklin is a busy area with an increasing number of large freight trucks moving stock, vegetables and gravel on roads designed for smaller slower trucks
- Trucks do more damage to roads and people perceive trucks as being unsafe, reducing local people’s willingness to walk or cycle
- There is currently no ability for on-road freight to connect with the rail network in Franklin.

Public transport

- Most communities in Franklin rely on cars because its communities are geographically spread out



- The public transport network that currently exists is perceived as unreliable and there is limited 'park and ride' space available, reducing people's ability to commute using public transport
- Public transport services do not include express services so commuting to the central city is often slower by public transport than by car.

Urban focus in design standards

- Auckland Council and Auckland Transport design standards for consenting new roads and subdivisions are not fit for purpose in rural areas, failing to consider larger vehicles, commercial vehicles and the car dependency of many rural communities.
- Design standards for walking and cycling paths are urban focussed and prescriptive, meaning that many local pathways, that do not need to be as well engineered as urban pathways, become too expensive to build. Additionally, this reduces the ability of the community to build their own pathways
- Prescriptive street lighting standards transposed from the city do not reflect the rural context and dark sky principles that this community expects.

Climate change

- Many isolated rural communities rely on one road in or out so are vulnerable to the impacts of severe weather events and it takes a long time to fix rural roads serving small communities e.g. slips on Āwhitu Peninsula
- Some roads are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, especially in coastal areas like the intersection of West Road and Papakura-Clevedon Road (vulnerable to frequent flooding) and the Maraetai Coast Road.

Walking and cycling

- Funding for these projects is based in 'Future Connect' strategy that concentrates funding in urban areas, specifically, commuter cycling rather than recreational paths, meaning that urban areas in Franklin like Pukekohe or Beachlands that are suitable for, and want walking and cycling paths, do not get funding to build them
- Franklin Local Board wants to be able to support its community to build walking and cycling paths.

Footpaths

- Funding for new footpaths does not meet community demand for new footpaths
- Small 'gaps' in footpath connection in growth areas, with no associated budget to deliver these small, localised connections e.g. Shelly Beach Road, Beachlands and Clarks Beach
- Some existing settlements in Franklin do not have footpath networks or kerb and channel e.g. in 'old' Beachlands and 'old' Glenbrook Beach.

Uncoordinated planning

- Development of greenfield areas without associated investment in roading networks and public transport
- Allowing new housing subdivisions without requiring developers to include shared paths
- Lack of collaboration and aligned planning between central and local government
- Legacy of Special Housing Areas in isolated locations



- Auckland centric transport network planning that assumes movement north from Franklin towards the centre of Auckland, and not south into the Waikato, east to the Bay of Plenty and east/west within south Auckland
- Lack of cross-border transport network planning that focusses on the specific roading and public transport needs of both the Franklin Local Board area and the North Waikato
- Auckland Transport and Waka Kotahi developing and funding programmes without seeking input from or listening to local boards, meaning local transport priorities are not addressed, and conversely projects are proposed and/or delivered that are not supported by local communities.

Opportunities

Road maintenance

- Increase investment in road maintenance, making roads safer
- Start clearing drains on rural roads annually, preventing flooding.

Road network resilience

- Support Waka Kōtahi to build Mill Road, providing a more viable second alternative to State Highway 1
- Aggressively plan for the future including designating land needed for future transport needs now (including park and ride areas), supporting future growth
- Make sure financial plans are developed to fund redevelopment of roads that are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, especially in coastal areas like the intersection of West Road and Papakura-Clevedon Road (vulnerable to frequent flooding) and the Maraetai Coast Road

More flexibility in design standards to account for rural communities

- Allow for more flexible design approaches for walking and cycling paths in rural areas (e.g. gravel rather than concrete paths)
- Auckland Council needs to work with central government to change the National Policy Statement so that consents for new development reflect rural communities' limited access to public transport, employment and social services, requiring cars to be accommodated in developments.

Freight

- Support building Mill Road to provide an alternate freight route
- Investigate a road-rail freight depot in Franklin
- Support a rail connection from Glenbrook Steel Mill.

Public Transport

- Build more 'park and ride' capacity so that rural people can get to trains rather than commuting by car to town
- Support electrification of the rail network, southern line level crossing upgrades, and third and fourth lines
- Express train services from Franklin into central Auckland that are equal to, or faster than, travelling by car to encourage commuters to use trains



- Auckland Council and Waikato Regional Council to work together with central government to develop better public transport across local authority boundaries
- Ferry services on the Manukau Harbour that improve network resilience and enable connection by ferry between Clarks Beach, Waiuku, Glenbrook Beach and Āwhitu Peninsula, to trains at Onehunga
- Reduce the cost of public transport to those living on the outskirts of Auckland.

Walking and Cycling

- Use the rail corridor and unformed legal access roads to create off-road paths
- Fund paths and pedestrian safety improvements through the proposed Franklin Paths Targeted Rate
- Partner with communities to deliver local paths
- Review *Future Connect* to ensure more focus on urban areas outside metropolitan Auckland.

Planning

- Collaborate with Waikato Regional Council and Waikato District Council to create a transport network plan for North Waikato/Franklin.

Funding

- Implement congestion charges and toll roads in urban areas (where transport alternatives exist) alongside removing fuel taxes to ensure revenue is collected from all communities who use roads and does not inequitably fall on rural communities with no alternatives and long travel distances (who therefore pay the most fuel tax)
- Auckland Transport and others co-fund projects through the proposed Franklin Paths Targeted Rate.



Key Transport Advocacy

Transport is a key priority for Franklin communities and there are many projects that the local board and its community would like delivered. The role of the local board is to prioritise and identify those that are most important, and they are listed in the table below. Another table listing all of Franklin’s transport advocacy is included in Appendix A on page 58.

Advocacy – we will advocate for:	Decision maker
<p>Road maintenance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ring-fenced, dedicated road maintenance and renewals funding in the RLTP. Specifically, that Auckland Transport is funded to renew and maintain at least 7.5 to 9 per cent of Auckland’s roads in any given year; as per Auckland Transport’s Asset Management Plan • Auckland Transport improves supervision of contractors and ensure renewal and reseals are high quality and to specification • Annual maintenance of roadside drains in all rural areas 	<p>Governing Body (LTP) Auckland Transport (RLTP)</p>
<p>Local Board Transport Capital Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinstatement of the Local Board Capital Transport Fund to \$20 million per annum, and for Auckland Transport to support local boards to advocate for this fund 	<p>Governing Body, Auckland Transport</p>
<p>Support for walking and cycling paths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support from Auckland Transport to deliver the programme of paths and pedestrian safety improvements articulated in the Franklin Paths Targeted Rate proposal • Greater flexibility in design standards for rural walking and cycling paths, the aim being that when a community offers to build a path the project is assessed flexibly rather than based in urban approaches to infra-structure 	<p>Auckland Transport (RLTP)</p>
<p>Safety:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auckland Transport to prioritise improving safety on local roads and at intersections across Franklin 	<p>Governing Body (LTP) Auckland Transport (RLTP)</p>





Tā Tātou Ōhanga

Our economy

Vision: Facilitate Franklin-centric economic development initiatives that support future-facing local prosperity and leverage local opportunity from growth and from local attributes.

Some in our community have questioned whether local government has a role to play in economic development. The Franklin Local Board is clear that local economic activity is critical to local economic well-being, and that local well-being is our business.

As communities are established or transform, access to jobs and business opportunity will support local prosperity. The type of business and jobs will influence the degree of prosperity and ultimately the quality of life for locals. This is of local interest, and investment in attracting and curating economic opportunity will deliver benefits for generations to come. We believe that being employed locally allows people to have more time to contribute to their communities e.g. through volunteering.

We will achieve our vision by investing in a local economic broker to connect local businesses with regional, national and global opportunities. We will support our young people to participate in the local economy and we will actively support initiatives that leverage sustainability of the natural environment as an economic resource.

Franklin has much to offer with stunning scenery, including estuaries, coastline, rivers and native bush, combined with open spaces and a network of artists and food producers. Outdoor recreation and local

tourism are both growing climate change friendly economic activities that Franklin is well placed to deliver to the considerable population in the greater Auckland area.

Our advocacy goal is to amplify the voices of Franklin's producers, entrepreneurs, business owners and business innovators so that they are heard by regional decision makers and serviced by regional and national economic growth agencies.



Challenges

- Population increases in areas without diverse employment opportunities, training, or transport options to connect to employment options or sustain business activity
- Unreliable, slow and poor internet, and mobile network connectivity in locations across Franklin
- Insufficient investment and planning for a freight-friendly roading network
- Poor exposure to, and planning for, future facing business trends and opportunities
- Limited opportunities for sustainable funding for small and emerging business communities, e.g. towns and villages that rely on voluntary co-ordination efforts and do not have sufficient numbers to form a Business Improvement District (BD) with associated funding streams e.g. Clevedon Community and Business Association, Clarks Beach and Waiau Pa Business Association
- Disconnection between planning for housing and planning for commerce, business growth, and local job opportunities
- Auckland Council procurement practices that create barriers for small local business to procure work for Auckland Council contracts
- Tātaki Auckland Unlimited, the agency responsible for economic development in Auckland, no longer providing support and advice to local boards regarding local economic development
- Lack of cross border local economic development planning that focusses on Franklin and North Waikato as a community of interest
- Prioritisation of planning for economic development in central and metropolitan Auckland, while at the same time being unable to access central government funding for regional development
- Changing uses of rural land and increasing urbanisation altering the rural look and feel of Franklin
- Changes to regional plans and policies that have direct impacts on local areas e.g. changes to the Future Development Strategy.

Opportunities

- Leverage from *The Southern Initiative* programme to deliver localised employment and economic development opportunity
- New urban development in Drury covering 2180 hectares and plans for 60,000 new residents may create local business and job opportunities
- Elite soils in the wider Pukekohe area sustain a significant proportion of New Zealand's vegetable growers and a wide range of high-quality, successful artisan food producers



- Motivated developers ready to engage and invest in commercial development in Beachlands, Drury and Pukekohe that will provide local job opportunities and reduce the need to travel
- Motivated and engaged business associations in Waiuku, Pukekohe, Clevedon and Clarks Beach/Waiiau Pa
- Franklin-based iwi investigating and investing in business opportunities
- A diverse natural environment that offers spectacular experiences sought after by regional, domestic, and international visitors and film producers
- Recreational tourism given our proximity to Auckland and as the gateway to the rest of New Zealand
- Improved connections to Auckland's public transport networks, enabling people to travel to and from Franklin business hubs and attractions e.g. train, ferry and active transport pending development of a Franklin Paths network
- Emerging new uses for unproductive rural land e.g. solar farms in rural areas that do not contain highly productive land
- International investment in agricultural research and development based in Franklin
- Government agencies recognising the importance of Franklin's agricultural sector.

Our plan

Objectives	Key initiatives	Measure of success
Facilitate local economic development opportunities	<p>Fund a Local Economic Development Broker to develop and deliver a three-year programme of work aligned with the five pillars (innovation, regional development, growers, education, visitor economy) including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • connect local business to regional resources, central government (e.g. MBIE) and investment opportunities, and globally relevant business intelligence • attract business to Franklin • facilitate opportunities for local enterprise and entrepreneurship • influence planning for new centres of business, industry and employment • advocate for local economic development focus on combined Franklin/North Waikato • develop an economic master plan for Beachlands-Maraetai • promote the ‘Kai Franklin’ initiative as the platform for telling the Franklin food produce story • help rural business leverage new income opportunities such as agri-tourism • growers and farmers are supported to promote rural south Auckland as the nation’s food bowl and thrive as a centre for primary production • facilitate opportunities for local Māori enterprise and entrepreneurship 	<p>Three-year programme developed and adopted by the local board by August 2024 and delivered by July 2027</p> <p>Entrepreneurs can share their economic aspirations with the local board and staff, providing options to the local board for supporting the realisation of those aspirations by June 2026</p> <p>t least one campaign promoting Kai Franklin (local produce and producers) is delivered per year between July 2024 and June 2027</p> <p>At least one opportunity is identified and promoted to farmers, producers and rural businesses per year between July 2024 and June 2027</p>
	<p>Participate in delivery on the <i>Southern Auckland Economic Masterplan</i> so that Drury-Opāheke and surrounding areas are best placed to leverage local prosperity outcomes</p>	<p>Local board chair or delegate is actively and consistently engaged in the forum delivering on the plan</p>
	<p>Use the plan change feedback process to consistently give feedback that addresses and requests local business and employment opportunities</p>	<p>Feedback on private plan changes consistently address local business and employment opportunities</p>





Support representative Franklin based business organisations to leverage opportunity from growth	Support small and emerging business communities, that rely on volunteers and do not have sufficient numbers to qualify as a Business Improvement District, to investigate sustainable funding options	Businesses engaged to discuss by March 2025 Options developed by August 2025 Preferred option identified by June 2026
	Facilitate connection between business associations (BIDs and non-BIDs) and the Auckland Council group, by providing insights on future growth to enable BIDs to leverage opportunity from growth	Appointed elected members regularly and actively participate in BID board meetings
	Facilitate connection between rural industry representative organisations and the Auckland Council group	Appointed elected members regularly and actively participate in representative organisations meetings
	Facilitate connection between Eke Panuku and the Pukekohe Business Association to ensure Pukekohe economy benefits from the Unlock Pukekohe programme of works	Pukekohe businesses are regularly engaged in the delivery of the Unlock Pukekohe programme
Support the development of a sustainable visitor economy	Fund the Clevedon Community and Business Association (CCBA) to develop and leverage benefit from the Hunua Ranges as a centre for recreation and ecological restoration	Hunua Traverse attraction developed and promoted by CCBA CCBA reports on local businesses taking up opportunities generated from local attractions
	Develop destination management plans for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South-east coast (Beachlands-Maraetai, Kawakawa Bay, Orere, Whakatiwai) • Wairoa Valley (Clevedon, Hunua) • Āwhitu Peninsula (including Karioitahi Beach) 	Seasonal pressure points and opportunities on local attractions and communities from the visitor economy identified by June 2027 Board is informed by June 2027 on how best to invest and advocate to protect local communities and environment while leveraging local economic outcomes

Levels of service

No immediate changes to levels of service are anticipated.

Advocacy

Typically, we advocate to the Governing Body, which is responsible for allocating budgets, providing direction to council-controlled organisations (CCOs), adopting policy, and approving submissions to central government. In some instances, the local board may also advocate directly to CCOs such as Auckland Transport, Eke Panuku and Tātaki Auckland Unlimited. This advocacy will also be outlined in the Franklin Local Board CCO engagement plans.



Advocacy – we will advocate for:	Decision maker
Plan changes that create live zones of land that enable local economic and business development	Governing Body
Investment to deliver actions from the <i>Southern Auckland Economic Masterplan</i> (e.g. the business attraction strategy)	Governing Body, Tātaki Auckland Unlimited
Fit for purpose roading networks and transport options that support effective distribution of freight (including the Glenbrook Steel Mill rail opportunity and road-rail freight connections in Franklin) and movement of people to/around Franklin’s town centres and villages	Auckland Transport, Waka Kotahi, KiwiRail
Tātaki Auckland Unlimited to return to providing local economic development advice and support to local boards	Governing Body, Tātaki Auckland Unlimited
Seek the opportunity to refresh The Southern Initiative approach so that there is greater opportunity for local board governance over the programme, so that the programmes respond to the variance on need and preference across the south. In Franklin this means realising the opportunities from the rural economy and Drury as a significant growth area.	Governing Body (LTP)
Governing Body to give effect to the Council’s Sustainable Procurement policy, including supplier diversity metrics, Amotai and other supplier networks, and local procurement	Governing Body



He kōrero take pūtea

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 budgets. 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, and 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 Franklin Local Board Agreement 2023/2024. This is available on the council website.

The levels of service and performance measures for local activities will be reviewed as part of the 10-year budget 2024-2034 and targets reviewed through subsequent annual budgets.

Local Activities	Level of service statements
<p>Local Community Services</p> <p>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</p>	<p>Provide safe, reliable, and accessible social infrastructure for Aucklanders that contributes to placemaking and thriving communities</p> <p>Utilising the ‘Empowered Communities’ approach, we support Aucklanders to create thriving, connected and inclusive communities</p> <p>We provide safe and accessible parks, reserves, beaches, recreation programmes, opportunities, and facilitates to get Aucklanders more active, more often</p> <p>We showcase Auckland's Māori identity and vibrant Māori culture</p> <p>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</p>
<p>Local Planning and Development</p> <p>We support local town centres and communities to thrive by developing town centre plans and, supporting Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), heritage plans and initiatives</p>	<p>We help attract investment, businesses and a skilled workforce to Auckland</p>



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 Franklin Local Board for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.



Annual Plan Financials	2023/2024 (\$000s)
Operating revenue	
Local community services	449
Local planning and development	-
Local environment management	-
Total operating revenue	449
Operating expenditure	
Local community services	14,550
Local planning and development	188
Local environment management	948
Local governance	1,321
Total operating expenditure	17,007
Net operating expenditure	16,558
Capital expenditure	
Local community services	9,757
Local planning and development	-
Local environment management	-
Local governance	-
Total capital expenditure	9,757¹

¹This 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 Franklin

Your Franklin Local Board members



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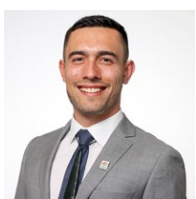


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Appendix A: Transport Advocacy

Transport is a key priority for Franklin communities. The local board will advocate for the following transport priorities:



Advocacy – we will advocate for:	Decision maker
<p>Road maintenance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An increase of funding, ring-fenced for maintenance and renewals exclusively, that allows Auckland Transport to renew and maintain at least 7.5 to 9 per cent of Auckland’s roads in any given year as per Auckland Transport’s Asset Management Plan • Asphalt road surfaces on arterial roads with more than 20,000 vehicle movements per day • Auckland Transport improves supervision of contractors and ensures renewal and reseals are high-quality • Annual maintenance of roadside drains in rural areas 	<p>Governing Body – Long Term Plan Auckland Transport-Regional Land Transport Plan</p>
<p>Local road improvements – safety</p> <p>Auckland Transport prioritises improving safety on the following local roads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whitford-Maraetai Road, Whitford • North Road, Clevedon • Linwood Road to Hingaia Road, Karaka • Mill Road/East Street, Bombay to Pukekohe • Glenbrook Beach Road, Glenbrook Beach <p>Auckland Transport prioritises safety improvements at the following intersections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whitford-Maraetai Road and Clifton Road, Whitford (landfill entry/exit) • Tourist Road, Creighton’s Road, Papakura-Clevedon Road, Clevedon • Jack Lachlan Drive and Whitford-Maraetai Road, Beachlands • State Highway 22 and Blackbridge Road, Karaka • King Street, Kitchener Road and View Road, Waiuku • Racecourse Road and Kitchener Road, Waiuku • Constable Road and Leonard Street, Waiuku • Gun Club Road, Heights Road and Helvetia Road, Pukekohe 	<p>Governing Body – Long Term Plan Auckland Transport-Regional Land Transport Plan, and Forward Works Programme</p>
<p>Local road improvements – already funded</p> <p>To continue to fund, and deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manukau Road, East Street and Stadium Drive signalisation, Pukekohe • Hingaia Road and Oakland Road, Papakura, signalisation and stage two road widening • Mill Road and State Highway 1, Bombay, signalisation 	<p>Auckland Transport – Regional Land Transport Plan Waka Kotahi</p>



<p>Other local improvements – to be funded</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A suite of interventions to address speed and safety in the two bays, and parking at the boat ramp, in Kawakawa Bay • Repairs to slips impacting the road network on the Āwhitu Peninsula, including on Awhitu Road and Cemetery Road, Pollok • Streetlighting in the ‘old’ sections of Beachlands ,that currently has none, to be prioritised, and addressing street lighting issues in Clarks Beach • T2/Bus Lane on Hingaia Road to allow future bus services to get to the Papakura train station for timely connections particularly during commuter times 	<p>Auckland Transport-Regional Land Transport Plan, and Forward Works Programme</p>
<p>Projects that support growth – increasing capacity To bring forward funding for projects led by Supporting Growth that support growth in Pukekohe and Drury:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pukekohe arterials • Drury to Pukekohe link (an alternative route to SH22) • Mill Road (Bombay) and Pukekohe East Road upgrade, including intersection upgrade at Harrisville Road • Drury West and Paerata arterials (access to new train stations, and improving access to surrounding areas) • SH22 Drury Upgrade Project • Waihoehoe Road Upgrade Project • Manukau to Takaanini access and safety project (Mill Road from Alfriston to Redoubt Road upgrades) • Grade separation on the southern rail line • 3rd and 4th track development on the southern train line 	<p>Supporting Growth, Auckland Transport, Waka Kotahi, Kiwirail</p>
<p>Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinstatement of the Local Board Capital Transport Fund to \$20 million per annum, and for Auckland Transport to support local boards to advocate for this fund • Congestion charges and toll roads in urban areas (where transport alternatives exist) alongside removing fuel taxes for all 	<p>Governing Body – Long Term Plan Auckland Transport-Regional Land Transport Plan Waka Kotahi</p>
<p>Climate change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigation of flooding on key corridors that are vulnerable to flooding during weather events and in response to climate change e.g. Papakura-Clevedon Road, Clevedon and Maraetai Coast Road, Maraetai 	<p>Auckland Transport-Regional Land Transport Plan</p>
<p>Footpaths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase and prioritise regional footpath budget for new footpaths in growth areas, especially for connection ‘gaps’ between old and new areas within communities, and in places with no footpaths or kerb and channel at all e.g. in Beachlands, Glenbrook Beach, Clarks Beach 	<p>Auckland Transport-Regional Land Transport Plan</p>



<p>Navigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update and regularly maintain navigation charts of the Manukau Harbour including the upper reaches of the Waiuku estuary to the NZ Steel Mill and Waiuku • Installation of updated navigation markers (buoys and lights) on the main channels in the Manukau Harbour servicing Orua bay, Te Toro, Waiuku, Grahams Beach and Onehunga 	<p>Auckland Transport-Regional Land Transport Plan</p>
<p>Walking and cycling:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support from Auckland Transport to deliver the programme of paths and pedestrian safety improvements articulated in the Franklin Paths Targeted Rate proposal • Greater flexibility in design standards for rural walking and cycling paths, the aim being that when a community offers to build a path the project is assessed flexibly rather than based on urban approaches to infrastructure • Auckland Council and Auckland Transport to work together to plan active transport and extend the reach of Future Connect beyond metropolitan Auckland, to deliver active transport paths as guided by the Pohutukawa Coast Trails Plan, Pukekohe-Paerata Trails Plan, Waiuku Trails Plan and Clarks Beach-Waiuku Pa Trails Plan 	<p>Governing Body, Auckland Transport (RPTP, RLTP)</p>
<p>Public Transport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build more park and ride capacity so that rural people can get to trains rather than commuting by car to town, and plan for future growth by putting designations in place now • Increase ferry capacity and frequency at Pine Harbour, Beachlands, to address local population growth and east Auckland congestion issues, and offer off-road commuter options • Joined up planning between Kainga Ora, Auckland Council, and Auckland Transport, to ensure all Kainga Ora developments are connected to the public transport network • Bus services - new: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A ‘rural township’ bus service to link Clevedon with the Papakura train station and Pine Harbour ferry and on to Botany (i.e a south-east connector service) ○ A direct service between Beachlands and Howick, and Beachlands and Manukau, with no change at Botany ○ A service to Kawakawa Bay and Orere Point (limited services) ○ A service from Clarks Beach to Paerata train station and Pukekohe ○ A future service between Bombay and new stations and town centres at Drury/Ramarama • Bus services – existing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ More frequent services to Port Waikato (currently only on Thursdays) ○ Bus shelters at stops in Waiuku ○ More frequent services between Waiuku and Pukekohe • Auckland Transport ‘On Demand’ services are made available in Pukekohe and Beachlands-Maraetai 	<p>Auckland Transport (RPTP, RLTP), Waka Kotahi</p>



- Support electrification of the rail network, southern line level crossing upgrades, and 3rd and 4th train tracks
- Express train services from Franklin into central Auckland that are equal to, or faster than travelling by car to encourage commuters to use trains
- Ferry services on the Manukau Harbour, to improve network resilience and enable connection by ferry between Clarks Beach, Waiuku, Glenbrook Beach and Āwhitu Peninsula, with the train network at Onehunga
- To recognise Pukekohe (and Papakura) train stations as transport hubs for the North Waikato – Auckland Transport, Auckland Council and Waikato Regional Council to work together with central government to develop better public transport across local authority boundaries
- Reduce the cost of public transport for those living on the outskirts of the Auckland region and travelling the largest distances.



