

## Rodney Local Board workshop programme

**Date:** 28 February 2024  
**Time:** 10.00am – 3.15pm  
**Venue:** Rodney Local Board Office, 3 Elizabeth St, Warkworth  
**Apologies:** Member G Wishart until 11.00am

Local Board Services / Members only administrative time 9.45 – 10.00am					
Item	Time	Workshop item	Presenter	Governance role	Proposed outcome(s)
1	10.00 – 10.45am	Kawau Island multispecies eradication project <b>Supporting information</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memo</li> <li>• Presentation</li> </ul>	<b>Rachel Kelleher</b> (General Manager Environmental Services) <b>Lisa Tolich</b> (Kawau Pest Eradication Project Lead) <b>Yeshe Dawa</b> (Stakeholder Support Specialist) <b>Megan Young</b> (Senior Conservation Advisor) <b>Nick Fitzherbert</b> (Team Leader Relationship Advisory)	Keeping informed	An opportunity to receive an update on the Kawau Island multispecies eradication project

2	10.45 – 12.00pm	Reorganisation / Representation review <b>Supporting information</b>  • Presentation	<b>Warrick McNaughton</b> (Principal Advisor Governance)	Keeping informed	An opportunity to receive an update on the Representation and Reorganization review
	12.00 – 12.45pm	<b>Break</b>			
3	1.45 – 3.15pm	Auckland Transport Forward Works Programme – Kokiri Agreement <b>Supporting information</b>  • Presentation	<b>Beth Houlbrooke</b> (Elected Member Relationship Partner North)	Keeping informed	An opportunity to receive an update on Auckland Transport’s Forward Works Programme – Kokiri Agreement

**Role of Workshop:**

- (a) Workshops do not have decision-making authority.
- (b) Workshops are used to canvass issues, prepare local board members for upcoming decisions and to enable discussion between elected members and staff.
- (c) Members are respectfully reminded of their Code of Conduct obligations with respect to conflicts of interest and confidentiality.
- (d) Workshops for groups of local boards can be held giving local boards the chance to work together on common interests or topics.

## Memorandum

23 February 2024

**To:** Rodney Local Board

**CC:** Lesley Jenkins – Local Area Manager, Robyn Joynes – Local Board Advisor

**Subject:** Kawau multi-species eradication project update

**From:** Lisa Tolich – Kawau Eradication Project Lead, Environmental Services.

**Contact information:** Nick FitzHerbert [nick.fitzherbert@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:nick.fitzherbert@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

### Purpose

1. To provide an update on the proposed Kawau Island multi-species pest eradication project.

### Summary

2. Auckland Council has a statutory responsibility for protecting the natural environment of the Hauraki Gulf Islands from pests and diseases, as outlined in the Regional Pest Management Plan 2020-2030. One of the plan's commitments which was publicly consulted on is the proposed removal of rats, possums, wallabies, and stoats from Kawau Island.
3. In 2022, Auckland Council commissioned a feasibility assessment which included engaging the island's residents, landowners and organisations. The aim was to assess the project's technical feasibility and social acceptability.
4. The assessment concluded that removal of introduced mammals is considered technically feasible based on precedents established elsewhere for rats, possums, stoats and wallabies.
5. The feasibility assessment was published and shared with the Kawau Island community on 23 August 2023. Feedback was invited through a four-week engagement process that ran from 23 August to 21 September 2023. Engagement events were held to inform and involve the Kawau Island community including a public webinar, drop-in sessions, and field trips to pest free islands.
6. At the end of the feedback period, 307 pieces of feedback was received. During analysis of these, it became clear we had heard from roughly 50 per cent of the landowners on the island. As a result, additional efforts were made to contact landowners who had not provided feedback before finalising the feedback summary.
7. The feedback was compiled into a summary report (attachment A) and is available online alongside the feasibility report. There were two key themes to the feedback received: feedback directly on the eradication approach and methodology, and feedback on community involvement in the project moving forwards.
8. The concept of a pest free Kawau Island and the outcomes it would achieve are well supported by the community. There were differing views expressed, however, in response to some of the methods, particularly the use of toxins for rodent eradication and the arrangements that would be required for private properties associated.
9. The original operational approach was an eradication project focussed on the combined removal of wallabies, possums, stoats and rats. This approach had strong interdependencies between the different project phases. While there are ecological and operational efficiencies in this approach, following further work including incorporating feedback from island eradication

experts and taking into account community feedback, the programme will move forwards as two stand-alone projects.

10. The first project would focus on the eradication of browsers, specifically wallabies and possums over an approximately 24-month period. For wallabies, this would be achieved primarily through hunting, while possums would likely require a combination of bait stations and hunting.
11. The second project would focus on predators, specifically rodents, and if present, stoats, and would not be expected to commence prior to winter 2026 at the earliest.
12. By deferring the timeline for the second project, it will allow additional time to work with the community on any concerns they have regarding the aerial and hand-broadcasting of toxins required for rodent eradication, while at the same time, realising the benefits of removing browsers. The progression of both of these projects will be dependent on the completion of full operational planning and having sufficient funding to proceed.
13. In addition to the amendments to the project design, staff have considered community feedback regarding community involvement in the programme and have developed a proposed project structure. It is anticipated that the structure will be flexible and able to adapt to the programme needs over time.
14. The initial project structure will comprise of an inter-agency coordination group comprised of Auckland Council, Department of Conservation and Ng?ti Manuhiri Settlement Trust, a project steering committee and project working groups. It is also proposed that a Community Forum be established.
15. Securing third-party funding remains a key constraint. In addition to funding from Predator Free 2050 and in-kind support from the Department of Conservation, staff are exploring funding from the Crown as well as non-government funding. For example, the New Zealand Nature Fund has agreed to include the eradication projects in their fundraising portfolio.
16. As mandated representatives of Ng?ti Manuhiri and its environs, Ng?ti Manuhiri Settlement Trust are preparing a cultural values and impacts assessment. This underscores Auckland Council's commitment to a holistic approach that considers not only the ecological aspects but also cultural values. This will be a key element of the operational planning for both projects.

## Context

17. Kawau Island, or Te Kawau Tūmārō o Toi (the sentinel cormorant of Toi) is located in the Hauraki Gulf, east of Warkworth and has both cultural and ecological values. The nearest point on the mainland is the Tāwharanui Open Sanctuary, approximately 1.4 kilometres to the north. Kawau is an inhabited island, home to between 80 to 100 permanent residents and holiday makers, with 365 landowners overall. Around 88 per cent of Kawau is privately owned with the balance of the island being public land, most of which is managed by the Department of Conservation (DOC). Most of the islands of the Hauraki Gulf are now pest free and Kawau lies close to several of them as well as Tāwharanui open sanctuary, where invasive mammals have been removed.
18. Kawau is large, has an extensive canopy and a diverse range of habitats. It has the potential to sustain species that require significant space, and the island already supports kiwi and weka. Kākā are re-establishing on the island and there have been anecdotal sightings of bellbirds and kākāriki.
19. Under the Auckland Regional Pest Management Plan 2020-2030 (RPMP), Auckland Council has a statutory obligation to protect the natural ecological values of the Hauraki Gulf Islands from the threat of pest and disease.
20. One of the RPMP's commitments is the proposed removal of rats, possums, wallabies, and stoats from Kawau Island. The plan recognises that the programme will be contingent on external funding contributions with Auckland Council only committing to partial funding.
21. Third-party funding includes an existing commitment of \$1.3 million from Predator Free 2050 Limited. A further \$500,000 is being sought through the Ministry of Primary Industries national wallaby eradication programme. Staff are in discussion with the New Zealand Nature Fund who

have agreed to support fundraising efforts for this project with their private and business philanthropic contacts. Options for other grants and third-party funding are also being pursued.

22. The Hauraki Gulf Controlled Area Notice 2020, as specified in schedule one of the RPMP 2020-2030, pursuant to section 131 (2) of the Biosecurity Act 1993, will support the proposed project by reducing the risk of reinvasion of pests from the mainland.
23. Strategically, the project is of critical importance to New Zealand's predator free vision, paving the way to other inhabited islands within the Hauraki Gulf and elsewhere. Should the project proceed, technologies and skills developed, as well as lessons learned will contribute to future projects, as this project will build on past eradication efforts from within New Zealand, and abroad. The outcomes of this project are expected to be widely disseminated through reports, scientific publications and conference proceedings, thereby providing maximal benefits for other pest eradication programmes in the Hauraki Gulf and elsewhere.
24. Kawau is located within the eastern boundaries of Ngāti Manuhiri who are mana whenua of this rohe. Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust are mandated to represent Ngāti Manuhiri and its environs and will be involved across all levels of the project.
25. Information and feedback on the project has also been shared with Te Kawerau ā Maki, Ngāti Paoa, Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki, Ngāti Maru, Ngaati Whanaunga, Ngāti Wai, Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua, Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara who have an interest in the island. No opposing feedback to the project has been received from these iwi at this time.
26. As a project partner Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust are working alongside council and DOC in recognition of their cultural expertise and specific relationship with both the Crown and council.
27. Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust have employed a Kaimahi Whakawhanaungatanga role, funded through the Predator Free Jobs for Nature funding secured for the project, to assist with planning, including the preparation of a project cultural values and impact assessment.

## Discussion

### Feasibility assessment findings and community engagement to seek feedback

28. In 2022, a feasibility assessment was commissioned, and Auckland Council contracted Island Conservation to embark on a one-to-one community engagement process with Kawau residents, landowners, commercial operators and stakeholders. The purpose of this was to communicate the benefits offered by the project, provide a clear understanding of the potential risks and impacts and convey an accurate picture of what would be involved should an eradication proceed. Further, the Kawau Island residents, landholders, and organisations were asked if they support the eradication of target species from Kawau Island.
29. Reaching 95 per cent of landowners on the island, this proposition was supported by more than 80 per cent of respondents who shared their views during one-to-one engagement.
30. The assessment concluded that removal of introduced mammals is considered technically feasible based on established domestic and international precedents for rats, possums, stoats and wallabies.
31. In 2023, the feasibility assessment was published and shared with the Kawau Island community on 23 August. Feedback was invited through a four-week engagement process that ran from 23 August to 21 September 2023. Engagement events were held to inform and involve the Kawau Island community including a public webinar, drop-in sessions, and field trips to pest free islands.
32. At the end of the feedback period, 307 pieces of feedback were received. During analysis of these, it became clear we had heard from roughly 50 per cent of the landowners on the island. As a result, additional efforts were made to contact landowners who provided feedback during the earlier engagement process but did not provide feedback on the feasibility assessment. This was to understand whether their views had changed or remained the same, post the release of the feasibility report.
33. All feedback was then collated and analysed. A feedback summary report was produced and released publicly on 30 November 2023 (attachment A).

34. It is important to note that the data collection methodologies in the two engagements (2022 and 2023) were fundamentally different. The 2022 approach adhered to a census methodology, where the Kawau residents, landowners and organisations were proactively approached in person over a one-year period. In contrast, the 2023 approach adopted a convenience sample method where Kawau residents, landowners and organisations were invited to submit feedback online via email. Consequently, the disparity in the turnout figures is not unexpected.

### **Key feedback findings in response to the Pest-free Kawau feasibility report**

35. The feedback summary report outlined the key themes relating to the views and preferences of those who submitted feedback.
36. Thematic analysis of feedback revealed that respondents could be categorised into three primary groups:
- a) Supporters (44 per cent), those who fully support the project in its current form
  - b) Tentatives (33 per cent), those who do not fully support/oppose the project in its current form
  - c) Opponents (23 per cent), those who fully oppose the project in its current form.
37. Those who are strongly in favour and those who partially support are agreed on the value of Kawau Island becoming pest free, emphasise the importance of conservation work, its long-term benefits and the urgency of the project. Community engagement is seen as critical to the project with a willingness to collaborate, suggest improvements and become actively involved with the work on the island.
38. While the concept of a pest free Kawau Island and the need for pest control has widespread support, some residents express reservations about specific eradication methods particularly the use of toxins during the rodent control phase. Some expressed a preference to have toxins contained in a bait station and some would prefer wallabies to be controlled rather than removed.
39. Those who are opposed have reservations about the use of toxins, citing concerns around potential harm to non- target-species, the environment and human health. There are also concerns around the likelihood of maintaining a pest free status and the potential use of legal instruments to access properties.
40. The feedback summary also highlighted that there was significant interest in how the Kawau Island community is represented in the project structure. Feedback showed a strong preference for a member or members of the wider Kawau Island residents, landowners, and organisations to represent the community. However, there were a range of different views expressed on how this could be achieved with no clear preferred option.

### **Adapting our approach in response to community feedback**

41. In response to the community feedback changes have been made to the initial project proposal.
42. The original operational approach was made up of two closely linked eradication phases with interdependencies relating to methodology between the different project phases. Incorporating further advice from island eradication specialists it is now proposed that the programme will be carried out in two standalone projects with an expanded timeframe between them.
43. While a combined approach has benefits from a cost and operational efficiency perspective, it is important to recognise that social acceptance is critical to the proposed multi-species eradication effort. A collaborative approach, involving community conservation groups, island residents and agency partners will be required, working together in a holistic approach that considers longer term restoration outcomes, including weed management and restoration planting. Additional lead-in time for the rat eradication project will also provide opportunities to pilot and trial innovative approaches or technologies in residential areas.
44. The first project would focus on the eradication of browsers, specifically wallabies and possums. Possums eat large quantities of indigenous vegetation and prey on invertebrates and birds. They are the major cause of forest canopy health loss and can cause major changes in the

species present in native forests. Wallabies are also responsible for reducing biodiversity across Kawau Island's landscape by stopping native bush regeneration and impacting on native wildlife habitat and food sources. The lack of understory and dominance of kanuka scrub, where wallaby pressures exist also create an elevated fire risk and increase soil erosion.

45. The wallaby eradication would be achieved primarily through hunting, while with possums, this would likely be a combination of the use of bait stations and hunting. This would take place over an approximately 24-month period and the benefits of the removal of the browsing species on native bush regeneration would become evident in a short space of time.
46. The second project would focus on predators, specifically rodents, and if present, stoats, and would not be expected to commence prior to winter 2026 at the earliest, using a mix of aerial, hand-broadcasting and bait station application of brodifacoum. Rats and stoats prey on indigenous birds, reptiles and invertebrates. They have caused the decline or extinction of many of our native insects and lizards. The benefits of the second project would be demonstrated through longer-term biodiversity monitoring of ecosystems and individual species.
47. By deferring the timeline for the second project, it will allow additional time to work with the community on any concerns they have regarding the aerial and hand-broadcasting of toxins required for rodent eradication, while at the same time, realising the benefits of removing browsers. The progression of both of these projects will be dependent on the completion of full operational planning and having sufficient funding to proceed.
48. Staff from Environmental Services are currently undertaking assessments to determine the presence or absence of stoats on Kawau island. A rapid assessment carried out in February did not detect the presence of stoats, but plans are now underway for a specialist scat detection dog to be brought to the island to provide further confidence of this assessment. If a stoat is detected, they will be included as a target species in the second phase. If stoats are not present on the island, they would be included in the wallaby and possum surveillance programme.

### **Ensuring community voice at all project levels**

49. To progress the wallaby and possum project, and taking into account community feedback, a new project structure will be established moving forwards. It is anticipated that the structure will be flexible and able to adapt to the programme needs over time. For example, there may be different representation required on the operational working groups if the rat eradication proceeds.
50. The project structure will comprise of an inter-agency coordination group - Te Rōpū Whakahaere, a project steering committee, project workstreams and it is also proposed that a Community Forum be established.
51. Te Rōpū Whakahaere, the inter-agency coordination group will be made up of representatives from Auckland Council, Ngāti Manuhiri, and DOC.
52. This group will work together to ensure alignment between the respective organisations in their support for the project while recognising each has its own resourcing, statutory and risk management obligations. The group will endorse recommendations from the steering committee and provide feedback and direction to ensure obligations and responsibilities of the respective agencies are being met. Each agency will also have the ability to escalate matters specific to their responsibilities if and when necessary within their organisation.
53. The project Steering Committee will be made-up of six members. It is proposed that three members will represent the community, being the chairs of the community organisations Kawau Island Residents and Ratepayers Association (KIRRA), the Pohutukawa Trust, and a representative from the yet to be established Community Forum. They will ensure the communities knowledge of the island, perspectives and feedback are considered in the project design.
54. The remaining three members will represent Auckland Council, Ngāti Manuhiri and DOC, to ensure a mix of technical and cultural expertise.
55. The Steering Committee will steer the operational and tactical direction of the project, including making shared decisions relating to design and delivery approach, the methods used, funding

proposals, and communications strategies. They will also steer the direction of the project workstreams which will deliver the day-to-day operational aspects of the project.

56. Representatives from the Steering Committee, including community representatives, will meet regularly with Te Rōpū Whakahaere to maintain transparency, open communication channels and confirm the direction of the project.
57. The project structure also includes a number of workstreams that deliver the day-to-day operational aspects of the project. The workstreams require a range of expertise from organisations, community and mana whenua. To date, members of the community have been actively involved with the operations workstream, providing their experience in wallaby and possum control as well as in the funding and philanthropy workstream. As the project progresses, community representation will extend to additional workstreams, depending on the needs and stage of the project.

### **Establishment of a Community Forum**

58. As noted above, it is proposed that a Community Forum be established. This is recognising that through feedback received, a significant number of individuals wanted an additional voice to that of KIRRA and the Pohutukawa Trust included in the project structure due to their interests not necessarily being represented by either group.
59. The Community Forum would be a community led and driven engagement / stakeholder forum. Ideally it would ensure a diverse range of community voices and perspectives including those from business, charitable trusts, conservation groups and residents / ratepayers.
60. This group would act as an additional conduit between the community and the steering group to share updates, ideas, concerns, or suggestions both ways. A representative of this group would make up the third representative on the Steering Committee.
61. As it may take some time to establish this group, council is looking to support the establishment of the community forum with the intention of stepping back completely and empowering community management as soon as this is achieved.
62. Such support could look like assistance with the development of a partnering agreement with council or terms of reference, providing project team members to attend meetings if and when invited, venue hire costs, or a zoom license to hold online forums.
63. Council could also provide group advisory and / or capacity building support, and individual mentoring via our community conservation and education team. The former provides governance level support for community groups at any stage of their development. The latter is specifically for leaders who could benefit from professional development opportunities to enhance their leadership and facilitation skills. Both programmes are independent of the proposed multi-species pest eradication programme.
64. To establish the group, we intend to seek interest from individuals or organisations who are interested in establishing a community forum. The forum will only progress if there is sufficient interest.

### **Working with and supporting the community**

65. Staff will continue to meet with and establish constructive relationships with community members and organisations including the newly formed Kawau Community Conservation Trust and Tiaki o Kawau.
66. The Kawau Community Conservation Trust originally began as a group with an alternative proposal to that as laid out in the feasibility assessment. It has since evolved into an organisation to enable communities on Kawau Island to implement pest control, starting with rats. They are establishing a network of community coordinators to train and support islanders with rat control in residential areas. Norway rats and ship rats are known predators of reptiles, birds and other vertebrates and control of these species would lead to significant gains for biodiversity, contribute to the recovery of several threatened species and ecosystems, create employment and training opportunities and improve living conditions.



67. Tiaki o Kawau has been set up with the aim to protect, enhance, and restore the natural environment and biodiversity of Kawau Island, with a focus on weed control and restoration planting.

### **Cultural Values and impacts assessment**

68. As mandated representatives of Ngāti Manuhiri and its environs, Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust are preparing a cultural values and impacts assessment. This underscores our commitment to a holistic approach that considers not only the ecological aspects but also the cultural values associated with Te Kawau Tūmārō o Toi (the sentinel cormorant of Toi) / Kawau Island.
69. This will include:
- a) information on the relevant cultural values associated with the area as well as a description of proposed activity to assist with this and the wider assessment
  - b) the effects on those values, and the relationship of tangata whenua to them, as a result of the proposed activity
  - c) recommendations of how any adverse effects on these relationships might be avoided, remedied or mitigated.
70. The cultural values and impacts assessment is expected to be received by the end of March 2024 and recommendations will be taken into account in project development

### **Next steps**

71. The project structure is under development, including the formation of a community forum. This is expected to be in place by the end of April 2024.
72. Staff will be progressing the detailed operational planning needed for wallaby and possum eradication over the next eight to ten months.
73. There are ongoing discussions with Crown agencies and third-party funders to secure funding required for the wallaby and possum eradication project which will need to be in place before the eradication commences in financial year 2024/2025.
74. The local board will be provided with regular updates as the project progresses.
75. Local board views on the feasibility study are welcome through Nick FitzHerbert [nick.fitzherbert@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:nick.fitzherbert@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

### **Attachments**

#### **Attachment A: Pest Free Kawau Island feedback summary report**



**AUCKLAND COUNCIL**

# **Pest-free Kawau Island/Te Kawau Tu Maro ō Toi feasibility report feedback summary**

30 November 2023

Authors: Jay Kheiri, Yeshe Dawa, Katyanne Hall, Javier Canete, Lisa Tolich



## Contents

Purpose of the report .....	3
Executive Summary.....	3
Overview of submissions and key findings .....	4
Context .....	6
Engagement methodology for the feasibility report.....	7
Feedback and analysis methodology .....	9
Limitations.....	10
Analysis.....	11
Summary of individual submissions before and after the data cleaning.....	11
Aggregated data based on households and land area .....	12
Thematic analyses .....	13
Community representation in the project structure.....	17
Attachments.....	17
Attachment A – Pest free Kawau Island feasibility report.....	17
Attachment B – Kirra Feedback template.....	18
Attachment C – 2023 feasibility report engagement letters.....	21

## **Te take mō te pūrongo**

### **Purpose of the report**

The information in this report summarises the feedback received from Kawau Island residents, landowners, and organisations during engagement between August and October 2023 on the technical feasibility assessment and report for a multi-species eradication on Kawau Island (attachment A).

This report outlines key themes relating to the views and preferences of those who submitted feedback, rather than detailing every point of feedback received.

## **Whakarāpopototanga matua**

### **Executive Summary**

Auckland Council proposed the concept of a pest free Kawau Island as part of the Regional Pest Management Plan 2020–2030 (RPMP). During the 2018 public consultation, the proposal garnered the support of 64 per cent of Aucklanders, leading to the inclusion of this concept in the approved RPMP.

The proposed project aims to eradicate wallabies, possums, mustelids, and rodents from Kawau Island, offering significant biodiversity benefits. Its success is strategically significant for New Zealand's predator-free vision, acting as a proof of concept for conservation initiatives on other Hauraki Gulf islands and informing projects nationally and internationally.

In 2022, Auckland Council, in partnership with Island Conservation, conducted a feasibility assessment on Kawau Island, focusing on the eradication of invasive species. This involved extensive engagement with the island's residents, landholders, and organisations to discuss the benefits, risks, and logistics of the proposed eradication. Around 95 per cent of the landowners on Kawau Island shared their feedback during the engagement period with over 80% of them supporting the eradication of the target species. Subsequently, Island Conservation carried out a detailed evaluation of both the technical feasibility and social acceptability of the project. The findings of this evaluation are documented in the public report released on 23 August 2023 (attachment A).

Following the release of the feasibility report, Auckland Council sought general feedback from Kawau Island residents, landholders, and organisations over a four-week period. Council also asked for specific feedback regarding the level of community representation and voice they would like incorporated into the project and how they think the community representation should be chosen. This engagement focused on gathering feedback and answering questions on the detailed proposal related to removing target species as outlined in the feasibility report (attachment A). The summary of all community engagements on this proposal is detailed in Table 1.

**Table 1: Summary of three engagements on the Kawau Island Pest Eradication proposal**

Date	Purpose	Audience	Conducted by	Engagement method
2018	RPMP consultation	<b>Consulted</b> with all Aucklanders	Auckland Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engagement content online, in libraries and other venues</li> <li>• Public talks and Q&amp;A evenings</li> <li>• Letters to Kawau ratepayers</li> <li>• Written submissions</li> <li>• Emails</li> <li>• Have your say events for in-person feedback</li> </ul>
2022	Assessment of project technical feasibility and social acceptance	<b>Engaged</b> with Kawau Island residents, landholders, and organisations	Island Conservation on behalf of Auckland Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Face-to-face conversations</li> <li>• Video conferencing</li> <li>• Phone call</li> <li>• Email</li> <li>• Written correspondence</li> </ul>
2023	Engagement for feedback on the feasibility report	<b>Engaged</b> with Kawau Island residents, landholders, and organisations	Auckland Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public webinar</li> <li>• Field trips to pest free islands for residents</li> <li>• Drop-in days for in-person discussion</li> <li>• Email</li> <li>• Phone calls</li> </ul>

## Overview of submissions and key findings

Following the four-week engagement period which closed on 21 September, 307 submissions were received via email, comprising 303 submissions from individuals and four submissions from three different local and national organisations, the S.P.C.A, the Hauraki Gulf Forum, and Restore Rodney East.

Given that approximately half of the properties on Kawau provided feedback on the feasibility report in 2023, and to ensure a better understanding of the views of those who had not provided feedback, efforts were made by the Kawau Island Project team in late October 2023 to contact a random selection of households, amounting to 82, who had not yet shared their feedback. This effort resulted in receiving feedback from a further 51 households. Given the different data collection methodology, the feedback obtained through this process is presented separately in

Table 3 and is not amalgamated with the submissions received via written submissions and is not used for thematic coding.

Prior to data analysis, all feedback underwent data cleaning, which involved identifying and rectifying data errors or inconsistencies. Hence all submissions were initially screened for potential duplication. Multiple pieces of feedback from the same individual were amalgamated into a single entry for percentage analysis to avoid potential inflation of group percentages and maintain accuracy.

Additionally, nine submissions that were made on behalf of others without verifiable information, and four submissions unrelated to the topic (uncategorisable) were also excluded from analyses. This resulted in a total of 260 valid submissions that were used for percentage analysis. However, all submissions (with the exception of those made on behalf of others and the uncategorisable submissions), including the duplicate ones were considered for thematic coding. This process encompassed a total of 294 submissions, with feedback received via phone calls excluded from the thematic analyses.

The thematic analysis revealed that all feedback could be categorised into three primary groups: supporters, opponents, and those with tentative views (either towards support or opposition). Responses from each categorised group are summarised as follows with words in bold highlighting the key codes of each theme. Some feedback received and outlined in the bold text includes views in response to elements not proposed in the report.

**Supporters:** overall, 113 submissions (44 per cent) **fully support** the proposal in **its current form**. Supporters are **enthusiastic** about Kawau Island becoming **pest-free, optimistic** about the project's **success**, emphasising the importance of **environmental preservation** and the project's **urgency**. Some express a **willingness to collaborate, suggesting improvements** and highlighting **community engagement** as being **crucial**. Supporters also focus on the project's **long-term benefits**, including **enhanced biodiversity** and **environmental enrichment**. Some of them raised **concerns** about **inaccurate information online** shared by others, and **community worries**. Some individuals also expressed concerns about the potential for what they described as the **biased feedback template** (attachment B), introduced by Kawau Island Residents and Ratepayers (KIRRA) in the first two weeks of the feedback period, suggesting that the nature of the feedback form **directed** responses in a way that they read as not supporting the project. Overall, this group of people demonstrate unwavering enthusiasm, collaborative spirit, and a keen understanding of the project's potential benefits and challenges.

**Tentatives (either towards support or opposition):** overall, 87 submissions (33 per cent) are from individuals who **neither fully support nor fully oppose the project in its current form**. They support **some aspects** of the project but **not all**. Many tentatives show **support** for the proposal, favouring a **pest-free Kawau Island** and **recognising the need** for pest control. Some **endorse** various aspects of the plan, including **eliminating** rats, stoats, possums, wallabies, and using **toxins** such as **brodifacoum** for eradication, while also supporting the **protection of native birds** as outlined in the report. Thematic analyses of this group mostly cover those aspects they



do not support, as these are the elements that render their positions tentative. They express reservations about **specific eradication methods**, particularly the **widespread use of toxins**. Some do **not** support the **complete eradication of wallabies** and prefer them to be **controlled** while some others do **not** support using **toxins** unless they are **contained** in a bait station and **controlled**. Additionally, they are concerned about the **adverse effects on non-target species** and the **reduction of weka if wallabies are eradicated**. They also express concerns about the **re-establishment of pests** and prefer **alternative eradication methods** such as **shooting**. Some cited concerns about Auckland Council's **approach** in this project, such as **fairness** and **transparency** of Auckland Council in capturing the **community's feedback** and the need for **alternatives**, particularly for **wallaby eradication**. Additionally, they shared **concerns** regarding **property access**, the **safety** of their **drinking water**, **financial losses** and the importance of **engaging with the community** to achieve **consensus**. Collectively, this group presents a spectrum of opinions and reservations, reflecting their cautious and balanced stance on the project.

**Opponents:** overall, 60 submissions (23 per cent) **fully oppose** the project in **its current form**. Some opponents express **strong reservations** about the proposed **methods**, particularly the use of **toxins**, citing concerns about its potential **harm to non-target species**, the **environment**, and **human health**. Some shared **general concerns** about the project, questioning its likelihood of **success** and the potential use of **legal instruments to access properties**. They believe the **economic benefits are misleading**, and there has been a lack of **proper community engagement**. Some opponents also believe that the project is **unnecessary**, contending that there is no **tangible threat**, that the pests will **reestablish in the future** and suggesting **alternative focuses**, such as addressing **exotic plants and weeds**. Collectively, this group presents a range of criticisms and concerns, challenging the project's methods and perceived necessity.

Detailed thematic analyses for all submissions within each group are provided in the analysis section.

Furthermore, the analysis of responses regarding community representation with the project structure revealed a range of viewpoints concerning the composition of the project structure and the individuals who should represent the community. Nevertheless, there is a clear majority for a member or members of the broader Kawau Island community to serve as representatives of the Kawau community across the Kawau project. A comprehensive analysis of this aspect of the submissions is available at the end of the report.

## Horopaki Context

Auckland Council proposed the concept of a multi-species mammal eradication on Kawau Island as part of the Regional Pest Management Plan 2020–2030 (RPMP). During the public consultation, which was open to all Aucklanders in 2018, this proposal received the support of the majority of participants, with 64 per cent either wholly or partially endorsing it, 24 per cent

indicating a neutral stance and 12 per cent expressing full or partial opposition. These results provided a sufficient basis for incorporating the concept into the approved RPMP.

The project's primary aim is to eradicate wallabies, possums, mustelids, and rodents from Kawau Island, referred to as 'target species' in this report. This would result in substantial biodiversity benefits and aid in protecting and restoring various threatened species and ecosystems. From a strategic perspective, the project is vital for New Zealand's vision of becoming predator-free, setting the stage for similar efforts on other inhabited islands within the Hauraki Gulf and beyond. The eradication of invasive target species on Kawau Island would be a key stepping stone, providing an important proof of concept for conservation initiatives on other inhabited Hauraki Gulf islands, such as Aotea and Waiheke, and informing island conservation projects both nationally and internationally.

In 2022, Auckland Council initiated a preliminary feasibility assessment engaging with Kawau Island residents, landholders, and organisations. This was carried out by Island Conservation, a non-governmental organisation specialising in the eradication of invasive species from islands. This engagement aimed to communicate the benefits offered by the project, provide a clear understanding of the potential risks and impacts, and convey an accurate picture of what would be involved should an eradication proceed. As part of this process, the Kawau Island residents, landholders, and organisations were asked if they support the eradication of target species from Kawau Island. Reaching 95 per cent of landowners on the island, this proposition was supported by more than 80 per cent of respondents who shared their views. Following this, Island Conservation undertook an evaluation of the technical feasibility and social acceptability of the proposition to eradicate target species. The findings were published in a feasibility report released on 23 August 2023 (attachment A) on Auckland Council's website, [www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/kawau-island](http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/kawau-island).

## **Engagement methodology for the feasibility report**

Kawau Island residents, landowners, and organisations were engaged with specifically about the feasibility report during the four-week feedback period between 23 August and 21 September 2023. As part of a commitment to ensuring accessible opportunities for engagement, Auckland Council held a series of engagement events:

- A public webinar was held on 30 August. A panel of experts discussed the feasibility report and answered 26 questions from attendees in the 75-minute session. An additional 55 unanswered questions were addressed in a follow-up document published on 8 September. The webinar was attended by 113 individuals. The webinar was recorded and then uploaded to YouTube and a link was sent to Kawau Island residents, landholders, and organisations on 1 September. The recording has had over 400 views at the time finalising this report in November 2023. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dhEaddbe13I>)
- Two drop-in sessions took place at Sandspit Wharf café on Monday 4 September and Thursday 14 September. Residents, landholders, and organisations were invited to engage in face-to-face discussions about the feasibility report with Auckland Council and Island Conservation staff. 13 and 22 individuals attended the drop-in sessions respectively.



- Four field trips to the pest-free islands of Tiritiri Matangi and Rakino took place both before and during the four-week feedback period, with the following attendance records:
  - On 21 June, 11 individuals visited Tiritiri Matangi,
  - On 22 July, 31 individuals visited Tiritiri Matangi,
  - On 12 August, 15 individuals visited Rakino Island,
  - On 15 September, 17 individuals visited Rakino Island.

Kawau Island residents, landholders, and organisations also had the option to submit questions to [kawauislandproject@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:kawauislandproject@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz). 31 email requests with an approximate total of 144 questions between them were received. Questions were addressed by subject matter experts within the project team during the four-week feedback period.

Auckland Council maintained direct communication by email with residents, landholders, and organisations using rates database contact information and contact details gathered during the assessment of project technical feasibility and social acceptance in 2022. Five emailed letters were distributed on the following dates: 23 and 29 August, and 1, 8, and 18 September 2023 (attachment C). These letters served as crucial updates and reminders, providing information about engagement event schedules and the feedback period. Furthermore, Auckland Council sought general feedback from residents, landholders, and organisations on the proposal and also inquired about preferences for:

- The extent of community representation and voice to be integrated into the project,
- The methodology for selecting community representatives.

As noted earlier, upon the closure of the submission deadline, over 300 submissions were received. While this level of public engagement is indeed noteworthy, it falls notably short of the level of engagement achieved in 2022. In that year, approximately 95 per cent of landowners were reached during the engagement period, while the turnout after the four-week submission period in the current year stood at around 50 per cent. This implies that nearly half of the Kawau Island landowners, residents and business owners who had shared their feedback in 2022 did not participate in this year's engagement process. It is important to note that the data collection methodologies in these two engagements were fundamentally different. The 2022 approach adhered to a census methodology, where the Kawau residents, landowners and organisations were proactively approached in person over a one-year period. In contrast, the 2023 approach adopted a convenience sample method where Kawau residents, landowners and organisations were invited to make a (voluntary) submission online (via email). Consequently, the disparity in the turnout figures is not unexpected. However, it poses a substantial challenge in understanding the community's views.

In response to this, further efforts were made by the project team to reach island landowners and residents to determine their perspective on the project, in particular whether they had any specific feedback on the feasibility assessment and if their level of support had changed since they had been initially engaged. Given that this report was scheduled for publication in November 2023, there was insufficient time to contact all landowners who had not made a submission. Consequently, a concerted effort was made to reach out to as many of them as possible from the

26 to the 31 October. As previously mentioned, the properties were randomly selected based on information from the Auckland Council's rates database. This outreach resulted in successful discussions with 51 out of the 82 landowners contacted, allowing their feedback to be incorporated into this report. To maintain complete transparency, the feedback obtained through this process has been separately analysed and presented in Table 3. It has not been amalgamated with other feedback received via email.

## Feedback and analysis methodology

In total, 307 submissions were received during the submission period via email, with 303 coming from individuals and four from local and national organisations. This amounts to approximately 130 pages of submissions. Prior to data analysis, all email submissions underwent a data cleaning process to ensure the quality and reliability of the dataset. Data cleaning is the process of identifying and rectifying errors and inconsistencies (e.g., duplicate entries) in a dataset to enhance data reliability. It is important to note that the purpose of a data cleaning process is purely focused on improving the quality and reliability of the data, not modifying the content of the submissions. As a result of this process, out of the total 307 submissions, 47 were excluded from the data analysis. These exclusions consisted of 34 submissions made by individuals who had already made a prior submission. While these submissions may not be identical and could differ in content, to ensure accuracy and prevent numerical inflation, submissions from the same individuals were amalgamated for percentage analyses. Consequently, 34 additional submissions from those who had previously made a submission were only counted as one submission for percentage analyses but all of them were considered for the thematic analyses.

Subsequently, the submissions were subjected to two distinct types of analysis. The first, percentage analysis, involved classifying the submissions into one of three primary groups (supporters, opponents, and tentatives) based on their content. The second involved thematic analysis, encompassing all submissions, including potential repetitions. However, the on-behalf and uncategorisable submissions were excluded from both analyses. Nine submissions were from individuals who claimed to be submitting on behalf of others (three in support, three in opposition, and three with tentative positions). We decided to exclude these submissions from the analysis since we are unable to verify their accuracy. Also, four submissions did not address the topic and could not be categorised into any of the three groups, resulting in their removal from the analyses.

Furthermore, while certain households submitted only one entry on behalf of the entire household, there were instances where multiple submissions originated from the same household/property. Consequently, in addition to conducting individual assessments for all submissions, a distinct set of analyses is presented for all three groups (supporters, opponents and tentatives) by consolidating all submissions from the same household into a single submission. This approach aims to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the feedback and opinions expressed by different households, ensuring a well-rounded analysis of the data. These analyses are reflected in Table 4.

Also, an additional analysis was carried out for all submissions that included a property address. This analysis was on their land sizes and their stance on the project (support, oppose, or tentative). The findings from this analysis are presented in Table 5.

Lastly, the feedback obtained from the telephone conversations is presented in Table 3, categorised by their stance towards the project (support, oppose, or tentative). It is important to note that since this feedback was acquired through a distinct methodology compared to email submissions, it has not been amalgamated with the submissions, nor has it been integrated into thematic coding. As a result, this data is distinctly presented in a separate table for clarity, differentiation and transparency.

## Limitations

The data comes with a few limitations. Firstly, while the request for feedback was initially sent to the residents, landowners, and organisations of Kawau Island, it was later circulated among non-residents. As a result, there are 20 submissions that cannot be definitively attributed to a property on Kawau Island (14 in support of the project, 3 with tentative views, and 3 opposing the project). Fortunately, the relatively small number of such cases does not significantly impact the analyses statistically.

Secondly, at the midpoint of the feedback period, KIRRA independently distributed a feedback template (attachment B) to residents. This template presented a list of factors in favour of the project and some factors against it, inviting respondents to indicate their agreement with these points. This may have introduced a degree of leading in certain responses. Notably, the number of "tentative" responses saw a significant increase following the distribution of this template, as many individuals selected factors from both sections.

Thirdly, as previously mentioned, a considerable number of Kawau residents and landowners who had previously conveyed their opinions did not submit feedback for this current round of engagement. In the previous engagement in 2022, the participation rate stood at approximately 95 per cent. However, during the engagement period in 2023, only around 50 per cent of the residents provided their feedback. Subsequent phone calls managed to boost the participation rate to roughly 60 per cent, but due to time constraints, the project staff could not make additional calls to gather more input from the landowners. This situation may present the challenge of not understanding the prevailing community sentiment completely. Notably, the majority of those who did not share their feedback in this engagement had previously expressed support for the proposal. The phone calls also indicated that those who did not submit feedback overwhelmingly support the project and assumed that the support they expressed in the 2022 engagement was sufficient and further feedback was not needed. Consequently, although this report encompasses approximately 350 submissions, it still overlooks some community members, particularly those who most likely support the project.

## Tātaritanga Analysis

### Summary of individual submissions before and after the data cleaning

Table 2 presents the analysis outcomes for all individual submissions, both before and after the data cleaning process, categorised into three groups: supporters, opponents and tentatives.

**Table 2: individual submissions before and after data cleaning**

Before data cleaning	<b>Total submissions</b>	307	100%
	Uncategorisable submissions	4	1%
	On behalf	9	3%
	Supporters	127	41%
	Opponents	67	22%
	Tentatives	100	33%
Duplicate submissions	<b>Total submissions</b>	34	100%
	Supporters	14	41%
	Opponents	7	21%
	Tentatives	13	38%
<b>After data cleaning</b>	<b>Total submissions</b>	260	100%
	Supporters	113	44%
	Opponents	60	23%
	Tentatives	87	33%

Table 3 summarises the feedback gathered through phone calls. In total, 82 landowners were contacted using the council rate database, representing approximately 30 per cent of those who did not submit their feedback. Of these, 51 individuals were successfully reached, resulting in a 62 per cent response rate among those contacted. This additional feedback has augmented the overall turnout for this engagement by nearly 10 per cent, reaching approximately 60 per cent of the targeted population. Similar to email submissions, all feedback received via telephone calls is documented with reference to property addresses to ensure its verifiability.

**Table 3: feedback received via phone conversations**

<b>Total phone calls</b>	51	100%	
Supporters	43	85%	
Opponents	0	0%	
Tentatives	8	15%	

## Aggregated data based on households and land area

In this section, individual submissions from Kawau Island residents, landowners, and organisations were aggregated in two separate ways: as households and by land area. This categorisation aims to provide a deeper and more comprehensive understanding of the submissions.

For households (table 4), all submissions for the same property were grouped as “one submission” and underwent a verification process against the rates database to confirm the property address and owner/s. Household includes the rates registered landowner(s) and/or family of the landowner(s) and/or other tenants of the property, depending on who provided feedback. It is worth highlighting that the count of 211 households may not equate to 211 distinct properties, as certain households may possess multiple properties. Additionally, 9 per cent of households, totalling 19 households, expressed mixed views on the proposal, which encompassed combinations of support and/or opposition and/or tentativeness. For the sake of maintaining consistency, simplicity, and comparability, the mixed households were grouped together with the tentative ones. Additionally, the phone calls are included in the analyses as they are conducted on a household basis.

**Table 4: Submissions aggregated for households**

<b>Household</b>	<b>Overall</b>	211	100%
	Supporters	109	52%
	Opponents	28	13%
	Tentatives	74	35%

Concerning land area (table 5), the property addresses mentioned in all submissions were cross-referenced with the Land Information New Zealand’s (LINZ) database, with a specific focus on private land area and properties. Notably, 20 submissions were excluded as they could not be associated with any properties. Additionally, 7 per cent of privately-owned land (125 ha) did not make a submission and was consequently excluded from the analysis. Therefore, the analysis was conducted solely for the land area that made a submission.

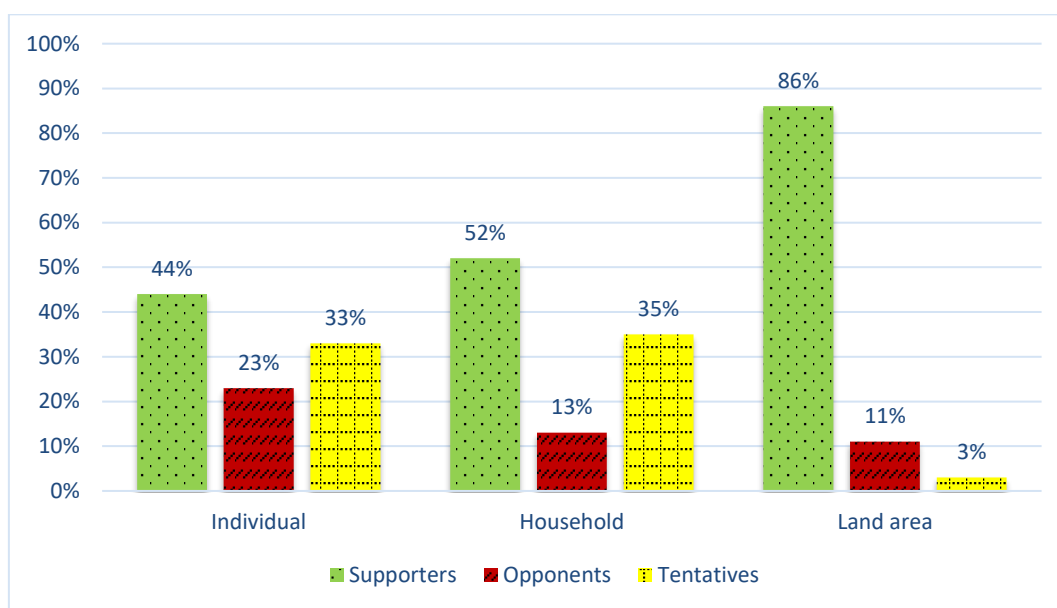
**Table 5: Submissions aggregated for land area**

<b>Total land area</b>	<b>Overall (ha)</b>	1631	100%
	Supporters	1395	86%
	Opponents	178	11%
	Tentatives	58	3%

It is worth mentioning that 12% of the island's land (333 ha) is publicly owned, with the Department of Conservation possessing 286 ha (constituting 86% of the public land) and Auckland Council holding 47 ha (14% of the public land), both entities supporting the eradication proposal. When incorporating these figures into the calculation presented in Table 5, the percentages alter to 88% in support, 9% in opposition, and 3% expressing tentative views.

Figure 1 compares the results of analyses for individuals, households and land area submissions, showing their support, opposition, or tentative views on the project.

**Figure 1: Comparison between individuals, households and land area**



## Thematic analyses

This section provides comprehensive thematic analyses of the submissions for three distinct groups. Initially, we define each group, followed by an explanation of all themes and their corresponding codes in each paragraph. To facilitate verification, submission numbers are indicated in brackets. It is important to note that, due to privacy concerns, full submissions, which may contain personal information like names and property addresses, will not be included in the report. However, upon request, each person's submission and its number can be provided to them. Furthermore, submissions originating from individuals who have submitted multiple entries are conspicuously highlighted in blue within the text. This serves to underscore the notion



that an abundance of codes within a particular theme does not necessarily correlate with a multitude of unique contributors, thereby providing clarity on submission patterns. The opinions conveyed in this segment exclusively mirror the perspectives of the contributors and do not signify the official stance of the Auckland Council. Additionally, it is crucial to observe that certain comments received and outlined in this report were in response to elements not recommended in the proposal.

**1. Supporters (44 per cent of all submissions):** those who fully support the project in its current form. Four themes emerged for this group which are “support and excitement,” “collaboration,” “benefits” and “concerns.”

**1.1. Support and excitement:** this theme encompasses individuals who wholeheartedly endorse the project (16, 19, 23, 27, 29, 30, 31, 35, 36, 40, 41, 50, 59, 62, 58, 54, 64, 86, 87, 89, 90, 93, 91, 94, 97, 98, 104, 105, 107, 109, 110, 112, 113, 118, 120, 121, 122, 127, 128, 129, 130, 135, 137, 141, 143, 145, 147, 151, 153, 155, 156, 158, 159, 160, 168, 173, 175, 193, 198, 199, 200, 209, 210, 211, 216, 217, 218, 225, 226, 240, 241, 246, 250, 255, 158, 268, 270, 272, 289, 296, 303, 304, 305, 306), think it is fantastic work (2, 6, 9, 18, 21, 61, 178) and eagerly anticipate its successful completion (4, 35, 38, 45, 58, 123, 136). They consider the project long overdue (4, 78, 163) and appreciate its transparent and scientific approach (13).

**1.2. Collaboration:** includes individuals who are willing to provide assistance and support (19, 20, 23, 29, 50, 198) and express a desire for active involvement in the project’s improvement. They highlight the importance of engaging with the community (36, 37, 44), to enhance communication. Additionally, they would like to see pest plants controlled too (19, 20) and emphasise the importance of partnership between the organisations involved (28).

**1.3. Benefits:** pertains to individuals who focus on the enduring advantages of the project. They assert that the long-term benefits outweigh any short-term harm to wildlife (44, 61, 76, 144, 254, 263) and emphasise the enrichment and increased diversity of the environment (25, 56, 119) as well as greater biodiversity and birdlife (38, 212) as the outcomes of the project.

**1.4. Concerns:** involves individuals who have raised specific issues and hope for their resolution within the project. They express concerns about the presence of inaccurate information online (25, 38, 128, 228) shared by others, disappointment regarding their perceived bias in the feedback template provided by KIRRA (91, 94) (attachment B) which potentially led some submissions away from supporting the project, and the possibility of the reintroduction of pests (161, 186). Some individuals advocate for a phased approach to eradicating wallabies due to people’s emotional attachment to them (11, 126). Additionally, they stress the importance of addressing the community’s concerns (44, 99, 108, 144, 183, 190, 209, 218, 224, 233, 269, 277, 301, 302).

**2. Tentatives (33 per cent of all submissions):** those who do not fully support/oppose the project in its current form. They support some aspects of the project while oppose some others. Many of those classified as “tentatives” support the proposal in principle and favour a pest-free Kawau Island (7, 26, 32, 47, 106, 164, 187, 189, 195, 196, 197, 201, 203, 208, 295, 14,

34, 42, 139, 148, 177, 243, 300) and acknowledges that something needs to be done to address the pests on the island (24, 63, 142, 157). Some support various aspects of the proposal, including the eradication of rats, stoats, and possums (65, 96, 100, 257, 261, 267, 274, 291), the complete eradication of wallabies (50, 72, 80, 182, 185, 219, 261, 267, 274, 282, 284, 291) and the use of toxins such as brodifacoum as an eradication method (72, 75, 167, 283, 284, 291). Additionally, they endorse the protection of native birds as delineated in the report (70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 83, 95, 103, 138, 146, 152, 220, 229, 230, 231, 238, 245, 261, 278, 279). However, they also shared reservations about certain facets of the project. These reservations can be categorised into three main themes which are “methods,” “approach” and “concerns.”

**2.1. Methods:** represents individuals who do not entirely oppose the project but have reservations regarding specific proposed eradication methods. They express a lack of support for widespread use of toxins like brodifacoum (14, 27, 34, 39, 65, 47, 49, 66, 73, 74, 80, 83, 95, 96, 100, 103, 106, 138, 139, 142, 146, 148, 149, 152, 154, 157, 162, 164, 165, 167, 169, 177, 182, 187, 189, 195, 201, 204, 207, 219, 231, 238, 245, 248, 267, 275, 278, 279, 282, 283, 284, 287, 294, 307) and prefer alternative methods for controlling wallabies (7, 42, 63, 66, 67, 73, 74, 88, 148, 149, 167, 238, 257, 267, 276). Some individuals endorse the eradication of rats but not wallabies (1, 7, 8, 47, 83, 96, 100, 103, 138, 208, 231, 245, 261, 274) and also do not support the eradication of feral cats<sup>1</sup> (66, 138). Some are open to the use of toxins but only if it is tightly controlled in traps [bait stations] (24, 33, 63, 88, 164, 182). Concerns are raised about the perceived indiscriminate effects of poison on birds, fish, and animals (34, 63, 102, 142, 162, 169, 185, 206, 220, 291, 299, 300) and its potential impact on weka populations (7, 39, 42, 102). Some prefer alternative methods such as shooting and trapping for all pests, not just wallabies (14, 65, 139, 154, 162, 187, 201, 243), while others suggest modern methods like A24 traps (26, 34, 142) and capturing and reintroducing certain species (8). There are also observations regarding the consequences of pest control, including the potential proliferation of bush rats and cockroaches (7) and the correlation between the presence of weka and the disappearance of cockroaches (7). This theme encompasses a range of opinions and suggestions related to the methods proposed for the project.

**2.2. Approach:** represents individuals who believe that the approach adopted by Auckland Council for this project needs re-evaluation or more clarity. They express concerns about the fairness and transparency of the council’s approach in capturing the community’s feedback (66, 73, 67, 70, 71, 75, 83, 95, 96, 100, 103, 138, 167, 220, 245, 278, 279) and seek costed options and alternative strategies instead of outright eradication (8, 26, 42, 88). Some propose a referendum for residents to have a say in decision-making (14, 65), while others point out perceived deficiencies in due diligence and management planning, along with concerns about costs and time wastage (47, 63). Certain individuals suggest involving the community in tasks like pest control and reporting (32, 63) and raise doubts about the feasibility of the project due to the significant number of private crafts accessing the Island (47). There are also criticisms of the project’s competence (24) and suggest the potential use of wallabies as an edible source (63).

---

<sup>1</sup> Note, feral cat eradication is not included within the proposed programme.



**2.3. Concerns:** highlights individuals who express reservations and concerns contributing to their scepticism about the project. They are worried about people entering their property when they are not present (66, 67, 73, 72, 75, 146, 197, 204, 219, 260, 283, 284) and have concerns about human safety and water quality (34, 42, 74, 106, 182, 197, 295). They believe residents' questions and concerns need to be addressed (22, 66, 194, 203, 208, 221, 243, 271, 273, 286, 290, 297). Some express concerns about the potential re-establishment of pests (71, 83, 195, 231, 287, 298) and the financial losses incurred by organisations during the closure period (42). There are worries about the impact of eradicating wallabies on underbrush growth and the resulting fire risk (7, 102). Engaging with the community in good faith to achieve consensus is deemed essential (26), and concerns are raised about the long-term consequences for landowners in terms of rules and property access (26, 148). Additionally, concerns regarding the safety of pine trees near schools and properties are noted (63).

**3. Opponents (23 per cent of all submissions):** those who fully oppose the project in its current form. Three themes emerged for this group which are “methods”, “general project concerns” and “unnecessary”.

**3.1. Methods (toxin):** focuses on individuals who strongly oppose the use of toxins as a method within the project. They raise concerns about the potential impact of toxins on non-target species such as kākā, weka, kiwi, tūi, pets, and humans (5, 10, 12, 55, 51, 57, 79, 82, 68, 101, 125, 132, 133, 150, 171, 172, 174, 180, 188, 215, 222, 227, 234, 235, 236, 239, 247, 252, 253, 259), as well as its effects on the bush (12) and its potential to leak into the beach (55). These individuals express an unequivocal stance against poisoning animals (46, 52, 53, 51, 69, 77, 81, 150, 166, 176, 181, 202, 223, 232, 242, 247, 249, 262, 264, 288, 292) and describe it as barbaric and cruel (57, 92, 125, 170, 232, 235, 236, 288).

**3.2. General project concerns:** encapsulates individuals who express some general concerns about the project. Some think that Auckland Council's approach has not been transparent (191, 193, 232), question the likelihood of project success, and suggest that the allocated funds could have been better utilised (12, 51, 57, 69, 184). Some object to the use of the Biosecurity Act to access properties (10, 57, 77, 101, 150), and propose that pest control should be the responsibility of private landowners (10, 77, 132). Some individuals express their lack of support for the project without specifying a reason (48, 60, 124, 131, 140, 214, 251). Additional concerns revolve around the process, costs, timelines and the imposition of targeted rates on property owners (17, 232, 249, 266). Lastly, some argue that more options are needed (55, 175, 213) and suggest that economic benefits have been misrepresented (12, 171, 251).

**3.3. Unnecessary:** reflects the viewpoint of individuals who consider the project unnecessary. They argue that no discernible threat exists to any species, agriculture, plants, or humans (10, 57, 79, 82, 111, 170, 179, 232) and suggest that the focus should be on eliminating exotic plants, weeds, and trees (5, 12). Some express concerns about the re-establishment of pest animals in the future (51, 69, 171), point to the protection afforded to wildlife by the Reserves Act of 1977 (12) and argue that wallabies play a role in weed control (12). Also, concerns are raised about adverse consequences, including fire risks due to rapid depopulation of grazing animals, combined with a lack of firefighting

capacity, as well as the potential impact on weka populations if wallabies are eradicated (51, 57).

## Community representation in the project structure

There was significant interest in how the Kawau Island community is represented in the project structure, including governance. Reviewing the submissions shows a strong preference for a member or members of the wider Kawau Island residents, landowners, and organisations to represent the community. The feedback on this matter, including the suggested methods for selecting the representative, has been quite diverse.

A significant number of individuals had a general suggestion that a representative should be elected from the residents and ratepayers of Kawau Island and not just someone from KIRRA (64, 65, 68, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 77, 146, 277, 281, 80, 83, 86, 87, 90, 93, 95, 96, 97, 98, 100, 103, 109, 110, 111, 118, 119, 121, 122, 120, 127, 128, 126, 135, 137, 138, 141, 143, 145, 152, 167, 173, 174, 183, 200, 210, 211, 216, 217, 220, 226, 231, 238, 240, 241, 245, 246, 250, 255, 257, 260, 261, 267, 268, 274, 278, 279, 284, 283, 291, 296), possibly due to concerns about KIRRA's appointment structure (269). Conversely, some expressed willingness to nominate KIRRA as their representative or first point of contact (36, 67, 193, 233, 37, 44, 168).

A portion of the residents advocated for the Pohutukawa Trust or someone appointed by them as their preferred representative (282, 294, 78, 89, 91, 94, 107). Some others argued that the community should have majority representation within the project governance, citing their ownership of the majority of land on the island as a strong claim (180, 206, 235).

Various opinions existed regarding the structure of representation on the island. Some advocated for different parts of the island to have their own representatives (44, 269, 273), while others named specific individuals (31, 193, 197) for this role. Additionally, there was a perspective that future decision-making should involve only those with vested interests on the island, such as business or landowners (187, 243).

## Ngā tāpirihanga Attachments

### Attachment A – Pest free Kawau Island feasibility report

[Assessing the feasibility of removing pest animals from Kawau Island](#)

## Attachment B – Kirra Feedback template

### Instructions:

1. Delete the bullet points that you don't want to use
2. Delete any words that you don't want, or add any comments or additional bullet points
3. When you're happy with the content -congratulations you've written your submission!
4. Send it in via email to [kawauislandproject@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:kawauislandproject@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)
5. Before **Thursday 21 September 2023**

<b>Name</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>Phone number</b>	
<b>Email</b>	

**As a Resident/ratepayer of Kawau Island I am writing to provide feedback on the Pest free Kawau Island feasibility report dated 16/08/2023.**

**In reference to the information contained within that plan,**

### **I support:**

- The probability of rodents, stoats, possums and wallabies re-establishing is near zero
- The protection of existing native birds (e.g. weka, dotterel, brown teal duck etc) as outlined in the report
- The protection of waterways and coastline
- The protection of human life
- The protection of domestic pets
- The protection of all birds present on the island
- The eradication of feral cats in addition to rats, stoats, possums and wallabies
- The mitigation of by-kill of all non-target species, whatever the financial cost
- The phasing of eradication as outlined within the report (e.g. wallabies before rodents)
- The complete eradication of wallabies from the island
- The use of property management plans to specific who is able to enter my property when I am not present
- The use of [Pestoff 20R](#) containing brodifacoum, being spread on the island or my property
- The use of [Pestoff 20R](#) containing brodifacoum, as well as the localised use of 1080 and/or Feratox (cyanide) being used within a closed pest receptacle
- The use of [hard and soft jawed Victor traps 3 and 4](#)
- Alternative trapping options be made available (e.g. [A24](#) or other self-resetting pest traps) for those who do not support the manual spread of toxins on their property
- The community of Kawau Island be given first option to fill any required roles, prior to those roles being offered to people outside of the community
- Providing funding to Kawau Island community groups for pest eradication
- That [Pohutukawa Trust,](#) with over 2 decades of experience working on the Island, be nominated as the preferred supplier for implementation, and/or the provision of operational and technical assistance.
- The requirement for the governance group to include representation elected from the residents and ratepayers of Kawau Island (not just members)

- A requirement for feedback received from the residents and ratepayers of Kawau Island be evidenced in all governance decision-making.
- Compensation for commercial operations impacted by project implementation

**I do not support:**

- The probability of rodents, stoats, possums and wallabies re-establishing is near zero
- The protection of existing native birds (e.g. weka, dotterel, brown teal duck etc) as outlined in the report
- The protection of waterways and coastline
- The protection of human life
- The protection of domestic pets
- The protection of all birds present on the island
- The eradication of feral cats in addition to rats, stoats, possums and wallabies
- The mitigation of by-kill of all non-target species, whatever the financial cost
- The phasing of eradication as outlined within the report (e.g. Wallabies before rodents)
- The complete eradication of wallabies from the island
- The use of property management plans to specify who is able to enter my property when I am not present
- The use of [Pestoff 20R](#) containing brodifacoum being spread on the island or my property
- The use of [Pestoff 20R](#) containing brodifacoum, as well as the localized use of 1080 and/or Feratox (cyanide) being used within a closed pest receptacle
- The use of [hard and soft jawed Victor traps 3 and 4](#)
- Alternative trapping options be made available (e.g. [A24](#) or other self-resetting pest traps) for those who do not support the manual spread of toxins on their property
- The community of Kawau Island be given first option to fill any required roles, prior to those roles being offered to people outside of the community
- Providing funding to Kawau Island community groups, for pest eradication
- That Pohutukawa trust, with over 2 decades experience working on the Island, be nominated as the preferred supplier for implementation, and/or the provision of operational and technical assistance.
- The requirement for the governance group to include representation elected from the residents and ratepayers of Kawau Island (not just members)
- A requirement for feedback received from the residents and ratepayers of Kawau Island be evidenced in all governance decision-making
- Compensation for commercial operations impacted by project implementation

**Further comments that I would like to make regarding the consultation process [delete if not relevant and/or add comments]:**

- I support the community engagement and information provided by Island Conservation and/or Auckland Council throughout this process
- The information provided is sufficient for me to inform my feedback/submission
- The time provided to receive my feedback has been sufficient/insufficient
- Both the proposed cost of implementation and the impact on our community makes this a Significant Decision as defined under the [Local Government Act](#)

- I do not believe that Council is undertaking a fair and transparent process on this matter, and request the appointment of an independent commissioner to review all feedback and make the final recommendations.

**Further suggestions/comments I would like to make in relation to the process and/or the proposed feasibility report:**

- 

**Regards,**

*(type your name)*

## Attachment C – 2023 feasibility report engagement letters

23 August 2023

Dear Kawau Islanders / Kia ora koutou,

### Considering a pest free Kawau

#### About the pest free proposal

In 2018, we proposed the concept of a pest free Kawau Island as part of the Regional Pest Management Plan 2020 – 2030 (RPMP). We received considerable positive feedback from Aucklanders during public consultation, and the proposal was included in the final approved RPMP.

#### Assessing the feasibility of a pest free Kawau

Following the RPMP, we began exploring the feasibility, scope, and nature of a pest free Kawau Island. Given the ambitious nature of the proposal and the need for robust community involvement, we contracted Island Conservation to help assess its technical feasibility and social acceptance.

They engaged with the community to discuss:

- potential benefits
- potential risks
- views and values of the community

#### The feasibility report

A report assessing the feasibility of a pest free Kawau has now been completed along with a summary highlighting key findings.

The purpose of this report is to provide information regarding the feasibility of eradicating mammalian pests from Kawau Island. The release of this report marks an interim step in an ongoing assessment of feasibility which will have further review points prior to a decision to proceed to eradication.

You can download a copy of the full feasibility report and summary at our website at this link:

[www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/kawau-island](http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/kawau-island)

The feasibility report was peer reviewed by:

- Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust
- Pohutukawa Trust
- Department of Conservation's Island Eradication Advisory Group
- The Wallaby Technical Advisory Group
- Predator Free New Zealand 2050

Key findings of the report include:

- The majority of landowners and residents support removal of wallabies, rats, possums, and stoats
- Removal of invasive animal species would have a beneficial impact on Kawau Island's ecosystem and lead to significant gains for biodiversity
- Risk to non-target species will require mitigation
- A range of tools and techniques would be required to remove invasive species in a two stage approach
- Preventing reinvasion would require dedicated resourcing to meet biosecurity challenges
- We need to continue engaging with the Kawau Island community about how they want to be represented and involved if the project is to proceed

## **We want to hear from you**

We want to know your thoughts on the proposal for a pest free Kawau Island. Your involvement and feedback are important to the success and direction of this proposal.

We invite your feedback from **today until Thursday 21 September**.

In particular, we would like to know what level of community representation and voice you would like to see incorporated into the project.

### **There are a number of ways to engage with us:**

#### **1. Write to us**

Email your feedback to [kawauislandproject@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:kawauislandproject@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

Or mail your feedback to:

Auckland Council  
Kawau Island Project  
Private Bag 92300  
Victoria Street West  
Auckland 1142

#### **2. Pest Free Kawau Island Webinar**

Join our webinar on the feasibility of a pest free Kawau Island on **30 August at 7pm**.

You can register for the webinar at this link:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_BfDf\\_wdeSEaaqVvJlo7nEg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BfDf_wdeSEaaqVvJlo7nEg)

A panel of experts will discuss the report and answer your questions. The panellists include:

- Emeritus Professor David Towns – Conservation Biologist
- John Mackenzie – Resident and custodian of Rakino Island
- Tony Beauchamp – Department of Conservation, Ornithologist
- Richard Griffiths – Island Conservation, Head of Operations for South & West Pacific
- Lisa Tolich – Auckland Council, Natural Environment Targeted Rate Project Lead

We encourage you to email us questions ahead of the webinar

[kawauislandproject@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:kawauislandproject@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz). You can also ask questions on the evening.

The webinar will be recorded and available on our website if you cannot attend the live session.

#### **3. Visit us at a drop in session**

Come to one of our drop-in sessions and discuss the proposal with Auckland Council and Island Conservation Staff in person.

We will be at Sandspit Wharf Café from 10am to 3pm on:

- Monday 4 September
- Thursday 14 September

## **Next steps**

We will compile your feedback and present this to the proposals governing group.

Based on your feedback and the findings of the feasibility report, the governing group will make a decision on whether to move into the next planning phase of the proposal.

Ngā mihi nui / Kind regards

Kawau Island Project Team



29 August 2023

Dear Kawau Island community / Kia ora koutou,

## **Pest free Kawau Island webinar**

We are looking forward to you joining our webinar on a pest free Kawau Island tomorrow, **Wednesday 30 August at 7pm.**

To join us, please register at this link:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_BfDf\\_wdeSEaaqVvJlo7nEg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BfDf_wdeSEaaqVvJlo7nEg)

We will be discussing the Pest free Kawau Island feasibility report and submitting your questions to a panel of conservation experts including:

- Emeritus Professor David Towns – Conservation Biologist
- John Mackenzie – Resident and custodian of Rakino Island
- Tony Beauchamp – Department of Conservation, Ornithologist
- Richard Griffiths – Island Conservation, Head of Operations for South & West Pacific
- Lisa Tolich – Auckland Council, Natural Environment Targeted Rate Project Lead
- Phil Brown – Auckland Council, Natural Environment Delivery Lead

You can download a copy of the full feasibility report and summary at our website at this link:

[www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/kawau-island](http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/kawau-island)

If you cannot attend the live webinar, it will be recorded and available on our website.

### **How to submit questions**

- You can email us questions ahead of the webinar [kawauislandproject@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:kawauislandproject@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz) . Questions will be accepted until 3pm on Wednesday 30 August.
- You can submit questions during the webinar using the Q&A feature in Zoom.

We have already received a lot of questions and may not be able to answer all of them during the webinar. We will collate any unanswered questions though, ensure they are answered, and share them on our website following the webinar.

Ngā mihi nui / Kind regards

Kawau Island Project Team

1 September 2023

Dear Kawau Island community / Kia ora koutou,

## Considering a pest free Kawau Island

### Webinar

We held a webinar on Wednesday 30 August to discuss the Pest free Kawau Island feasibility report. Thank you to everyone to joined us and submitted questions to the panel.

We weren't able to answer all of your questions on the night, however, we will collate and answer these in a document which will be made available on our webpage [www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/kawau-island](http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/kawau-island)

If you weren't able to join us live, you can watch the full webinar at this link:  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=dhEaddbe13I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dhEaddbe13I)

### We want to hear from you

We want to know your thoughts on the proposal for a pest free Kawau Island and invite your feedback up until **Thursday 21 September**. In particular:

- we would like to know what level of community representation and voice you would like to see incorporated into the project
- how you think community representation should be chosen

### There are a number of ways to reach us:

#### 1. Write to us

Email your feedback to [kawauislandproject@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:kawauislandproject@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

Or mail your feedback to:

Auckland Council  
Kawau Island Project  
Private Bag 92300  
Victoria Street West  
Auckland 1142

#### 2. Visit us at a drop in session

Come to one of our drop-in sessions and discuss the proposal with Auckland Council and Island Conservation Staff in person.

We will be at Sandspit Wharf Café from 10am to 3pm on:

- Monday 4 September
- Thursday 14 September

Ngā mihi nui / Kind regards

Kawau Island Project Team

8 September 2023

Dear Kawau Island community / Kia ora koutou,

## Considering a pest free Kawau Island

### Webinar questions and answers

Thank you to everyone who submitted questions before and during our webinar on the Pest free Kawau Island feasibility report. We received a lot of questions and were not able to answer all of these on the night.

We have compiled your unanswered questions, provided answers, and shared this document on our website.

You can find the 'Pest free Kawau Island webinar questions and answers' document at this link under the 'Pest free Kawau Island webinar' section: [www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/kawau-island](http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/kawau-island)

### We want to hear from you

We want to know your thoughts on the proposal for a pest free Kawau Island and invite your feedback up until **Thursday 21 September**.

In particular, we would like to know:

- what level of community representation and voice you would like to see incorporated into the project
- how you think community representation should be chosen

### You can submit feedback or ask questions by:

#### 1. Visiting us at a drop in session

Come to our second drop-in session at Sandspit Wharf café on Thursday 14 September, 10am – 3pm. You can discuss the proposal with Auckland Council and Island Conservation Staff in person.

#### 2. Writing to us

Email your feedback to [kawauislandproject@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:kawauislandproject@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

Mail your feedback to: Auckland Council, Kawau Island Project, Private Bag 92300, Victoria Street West, Auckland 1142.

### Next steps

We will compile your feedback and present this to the proposals governing group.

Based on your feedback and the findings of the feasibility report, the governing group will decide on whether to move into the next planning phase of the proposal.

If you have questions or feedback after 21 September, we would still like to hear from you. They will not form a part of the formal presentation to the governing group, but we welcome them as part of an ongoing discussion regarding the proposal.

If the proposal is approved, we will schedule further opportunities for engagement and discussion, on and around Kawau Island, and welcome your input on this.

Ngā mihi nui / Kind regards

Kawau Island Project Team

18 September 2023

Dear Kawau Island community / Kia ora koutou,

## **Feedback closes this Thursday 21 September**

We want to know your thoughts on the proposal for a pest free Kawau Island and invite your feedback up until **Thursday 21 September**. Whether you are in favour, have concerns, or are still making up your mind, we want to hear from you.

In particular, we would like to know:

- what level of community representation and voice you would like to see incorporated into the project
- how you think community representation should be chosen

Please email your feedback to [kawauislandproject@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:kawauislandproject@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz) by Thursday 21 September.

## **Resources**

You can find the below information at our webpage, [www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/kawau-island](http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/kawau-island)

- The full feasibility report and a summary of key findings
- The webinar recording with a panel of experts discussing the report and answering your questions
- The webinar questions and answers documents, answering questions we did not have time to cover during the webinar

## **Next steps**

We will compile your feedback and present this to the proposals governing group.

Based on your feedback and the findings of the feasibility report, the governing group will decide on whether to move into the next planning phase of the proposal.

If you have questions or feedback after 21 September, we would still like to hear from you. They will not form a part of the formal presentation to the governing group, but we welcome them as part of an ongoing discussion regarding the proposal.

If the proposal is approved, we will schedule further opportunities for engagement and discussion, on and around Kawau Island, and welcome your input on this.

Ngā mihi nui / Kind regards

Kawau Island Project Team







# **Working towards a Pest Free Kawaitahi Island**

## **Adapting our approach in response to community feedback**



# Purpose of today's meeting

- 1) Provide an update on the amended design, specifically the separation into two stand-alone projects
- 2) Provide an update on proposed project structure, including community representation
- 3) Provide update on key constraints, including securing of funding and property access.

# Feedback summary findings

**Overall, 77% of submitters indicated full or partial support for the proposal.**

Those who are strongly in favour and those who partially support are agreed on the value of Kawau Island becoming pest free, emphasise the importance of conservation work, its long-term benefits and the urgency of the project.

While the concept of a pest free Kawau Island and the need for pest control has widespread support, some residents express reservations about specific eradication methods particularly the use of toxins during the rodent control phase. Some expressed a preference to have toxins contained in a bait station and some would prefer wallabies to be controlled rather than removed.

The feedback summary also highlighted that there was significant interest in how the Kawau Island community is represented in the project structure. Feedback showed a strong preference for a member or members of the wider Kawau Island residents, landowners, and organisations to represent the community





# Adaptative response to community feedback



1

Concept of a pest free Kawau Island and the need for removing introduced pest has widespread support, some residents express reservations about specific eradication methods.

2

Original approach focused on two closely linked phases with inter-dependencies relating to methodology.

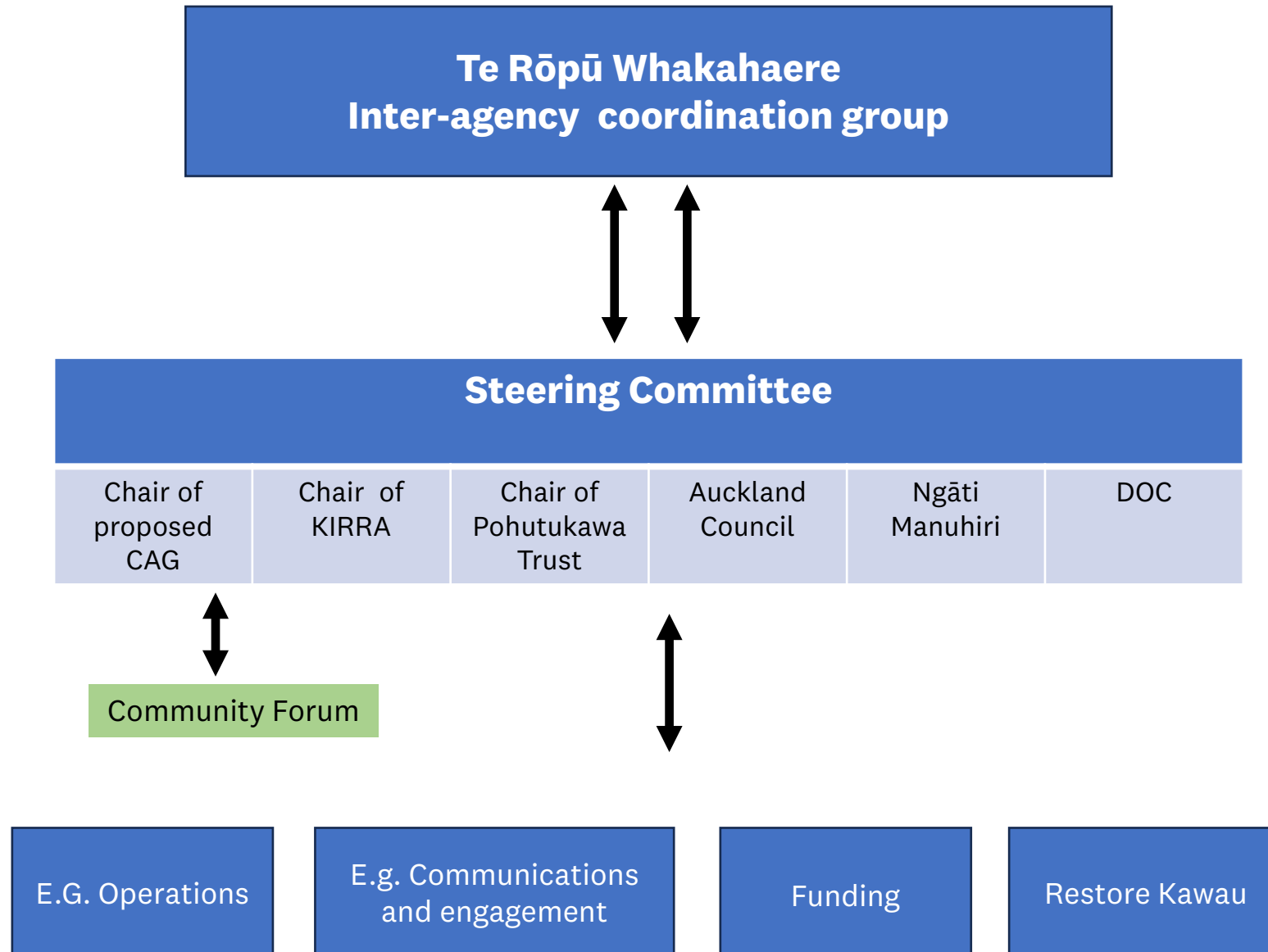
3

Propose to de-couple the programme into two distinct self-contained projects with extended timeframes.

4

First project focus on eradication of wallabies and possums (~24 months)

# Proposed Project Structure: Kawau Island eradication



# Proposed Community Forum



- Community engagement forum for a diverse range of community voices and perspectives led by the community
- Could include business, charitable trusts, conservation groups and residents/ratepayers to get updates and share their views
- The project team has continued to meet with and establish constructive relationships with community members and organisations including the new formed Kawau Community Conservation Trust and Tiaki o Kawau.

# Next steps

## Wallaby and Possum Eradication project

- Establishment of project structure including:
  - Representation on the project steering group
  - Formation of the proposed community forum
  - Operational workstreams
- Progressing detailed operational planning including working with property owners to look at site specific methodology and access requirements
- Securing funding required to undertake the eradication (estimated: \$2.65M for FY 24/25 and FY 25/26)
- Complete monitoring for stoat presence
- Dependent on funding and operational requirements being met, eradication project could commence September 2024.





**Pātai?**

**Questions for the project team?**

# Review of representation arrangements & Local board reorganisation plan

February 2024



# What this is about

- Review of representation arrangements for the 2025 elections:
  - Number of councillors, wards
  - For each local board: number of members, subdivisions, local board name
  - Council is required to do this review
- Reorganisation plan for local boards:
  - Establishing or reorganising local boards
  - Representation arrangements for any changed local boards
  - Council is not required but has the opportunity to do this



# Summary

	Representation review	Reorganisation application
Legislation	Local Electoral Act 2001, s 19H	Local Government Act 2002, sched 3A
Scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total number of councillors</li> <li>• Wards and boundaries</li> <li>• Number of members of local boards</li> <li>• Subdivisions and boundaries</li> <li>• Names of local boards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of local boards</li> <li>• Local board boundaries</li> <li>• Representation arrangements for each local board</li> </ul>
Output	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A proposal for 2025 elections which is publicly notified for submissions</li> <li>• Appeals determined by Local Government Commission</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A local board reorganisation plan which is submitted to the Local Government Commission for approval</li> </ul>
Frequency	At least once every six years	Ad hoc





# Review of representation arrangements

Local boards



# What can be reviewed for each local board

- Total number of members
- Whether members are elected at-large or by subdivision
- If by subdivision:
  - Subdivision names and number of members in each
- Local board name



# Matters to consider

There are two key matters to consider:

- Effective representation of communities of interest
- Fair representation



# Effective representation of communities of interest

- If members are currently elected at-large, is there a case for creating subdivisions to ensure all communities of interest are represented?
- If there are currently subdivisions – do they still provide for effective representation of communities of interest or are there different geographical communities of interest now?



# What does community of interest mean?

## Local Government Commission guidance – three dimensions:

### 1. Perceptual:

- a sense of belonging to an area or locality which can be clearly defined

### 2. Functional:

- the ability to meet with reasonable economy the community's requirements for comprehensive physical and human services

### 3. Political:

- the ability of the elected body to represent the interests and reconcile the conflicts of all its members



# Fair representation (if there are subdivisions)

The + / - 10% rule:

The ratio of population per member within a subdivision must not vary by more than 10 percent from the average across the whole local board.



The council can decide to not comply if complying would compromise effective representation of communities of interest but the Local Government Commission makes the final determination.

The rule applies to subdivisions within a local board. There is no rule requiring all local boards to have the same representation ratios.





# Boards with subdivisions – current non-compliance with 10% rule

	Pop	Mbrs	Pop per mbr	Diff from quota	% diff
<b>Rodney Local Board Area</b>					
Wellsford Subdivision	6,960	1	6,960	-2,036	-22.63
Warkworth Subdivision	23,600	3	7,867	-1,129	-12.55
Kumeū Subdivision	40,900	4	10,225	1,229	13.67
Dairy Flat Subdivision	9,500	1	9,500	504	5.61
<b>Total</b>	<b>80,960</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8,996</b>		
<b>Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Area</b>					
Hibiscus Coast Subdivision	64,800	4	16,200	1,563	10.67
East Coast Bays Subdivision	52,300	4	13,075	-1,563	-10.67
<b>Total</b>	<b>117,100</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>14,638</b>		
<b>Albert-Eden Local Board Area</b>					
Ōwairaka Subdivision	50,200	4	12,550	125	1.01
Maungawhau Subdivision	49,200	4	12,300	-125	-1.01
<b>Total</b>	<b>99,400</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12,425</b>		

	Pop	Mbrs	Pop per mbr	Diff from quota	% diff
<b>Maungakiekie-Tamaki Local Board Area</b>					
Maungakiekie Subdivision	32,100	3	10,700	-1,314	-10.94
Tamaki Subdivision	52,000	4	13,000	986	8.20
<b>Total</b>	<b>84,100</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12,014</b>		
<b>Howick Local Board Area</b>					
Pakuranga Subdivision	43,100	3	14,367	-3,144	-17.96
Howick Subdivision	44,000	3	14,667	-2,844	-16.24
Botany Subdivision	70,500	3	23,500	5,989	34.20
<b>Total</b>	<b>157,600</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>17,511</b>		
<b>Otara-Papatoetoe Local Board Area</b>					
Papatoetoe Subdivision	60,700	4	15,175	1,361	9.85
Ōtara Subdivision	36,000	3	12,000	-1,814	-13.13
<b>Total</b>	<b>96,700</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13,814</b>		
<b>Franklin Local Board Area</b>					
Waiuku Subdivision	16,350	2	8,175	-1,308	-13.80
Pukekohe Subdivision	41,800	4	10,450	967	10.19
Wairoa Subdivision	27,200	3	9,067	-417	-4.39
<b>Total</b>	<b>85,350</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9,483</b>		



# Summary of known issues

Local board	Issue	Status	Source
Devonport-Takapuna	Looking at a name change		Advised by Local Area Manager
Devonport-Takapuna	Saunders reserve is split between Devonport-Takapuna and Upper Harbour LB, requiring two different reserve management plans	Investigated. Problem is due to a large meshblock. Solution is to split the meshblock and to undertake a minor boundary change to the local board boundary.	Member George Wood.
Franklin	Looking at a name change		Advised by Senior Māori Outcomes and Engagement Advisor
Franklin	Subdivisions do not comply with 10 percent rule. Largest variance is Waiuku at -13.80%		Current statistics
Hibiscus and Bays	Subdivisions do not comply with 10 percent rule. Variance is 10.67%.		Current statistics.
Howick	Subdivisions do not comply with 10 percent rule. Largest variance is Botany at 34.20%	Staff to attend workshop with Howick Local Board on Thursday 1 February 2024	Current statistics.



Local board	Issue	Status	Source
Maungakiekie-Tāmaki	Maungakiekie subdivision does not comply with 10 percent rule being -10.94%		Current statistics.
Ōtara-Papatoetoe	Ōtara subdivision does not comply with 10 percent rule being -13.13%		Current statistics
Rodney	Rearrange subdivisions to provide better rural representation	NAG convened a workshop with board members 22 November 2023. The local board has not considered its position yet.	Proposal from the Rodney Northern Action Group (NAG)
Rodney	Subdivisions do not comply with 10 percent rule. Largest variance is Wellsford at -22.63%		Current statistics.
Rodney	Subdivision arrangement	A board member has submitted a suggestion	
Upper-Harbour	Create subdivisions	Investigated possible subdivisions for compliance and seems ok. Not yet discussed with local board.	Suggestion from then Councillor Linda Cooper in 2019

# Governing body representation arrangements

Proposal is being developed on basis of 20 councillors to ensure rural areas continue to have distinct representation



Wards not likely to be much different to current arrangements since they must comply with the +/- 10% rule



# Local board reorganisation plan

Number of local boards



# Why consider a local board reorganisation?

- Current arrangements are not dysfunctional but there is the opportunity to consider improvements
- Fewer and more empowered (Mayor Brown)
- Fewer but their voice counts for more (Hon Rodney Hide)
- There are currently:
  - 21 local board plans
  - 21 local board venues
  - 21 local boards for the staff organisation to support
  - 21 local boards for media to deal with
  - 21 local boards for CCOs to liaise with



# Background context

- In 2009 the Royal Commission on Auckland Governance recommended:
  - a unitary authority
  - 6 “local councils” (4 urban and 2 rural)
  - a community board for the CBD
- It had also considered a model of 11 local councils.
- The government decided there should be between 20 and 30 local boards
- The Local Government Commission determined 21 local boards





## Mayor's preference

The Mayor has recommended an option based on the Royal Commission's model of 11 local councils but with each of the islands retaining a separate local board, making a total of:

- 13 local boards



# Joint Governance Working Party (JGWP)

- The JGWP has examined some models for change:
  - Amalgamate two local boards where there are two local boards in one ward, giving 15 local boards
  - Mayor's preference for 13 local boards
  - Models based on current clustering of boards
- The JGWP recommended to the Governing Body to develop the 15 local board model further in comparison to the status quo
- The Governing Body has confirmed this approach by resolution



# Local government size – large territorial authorities and community level

TA	Pop	Members	Com Bds	
Christchurch City	389,400	16	6	
Wellington City	213,090	15	2	
<b>Hamilton City</b>	<b>179,900</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>No community level</b>
Tauranga City	158,300	10	NA	No community level
Dunedin City	130,410	14	6	
Lower Hutt City	112,450	12	NA	No community level
Whangarei District	100,500	13	NA	No community level
Hastings District	90,650	15	1	
Palmerston North City	90,390	15	NA	No community level
Waikato District	88,850	13	6	
New Plymouth District	87,790	14	5	
Note: Tauranga is prior to commissioners				

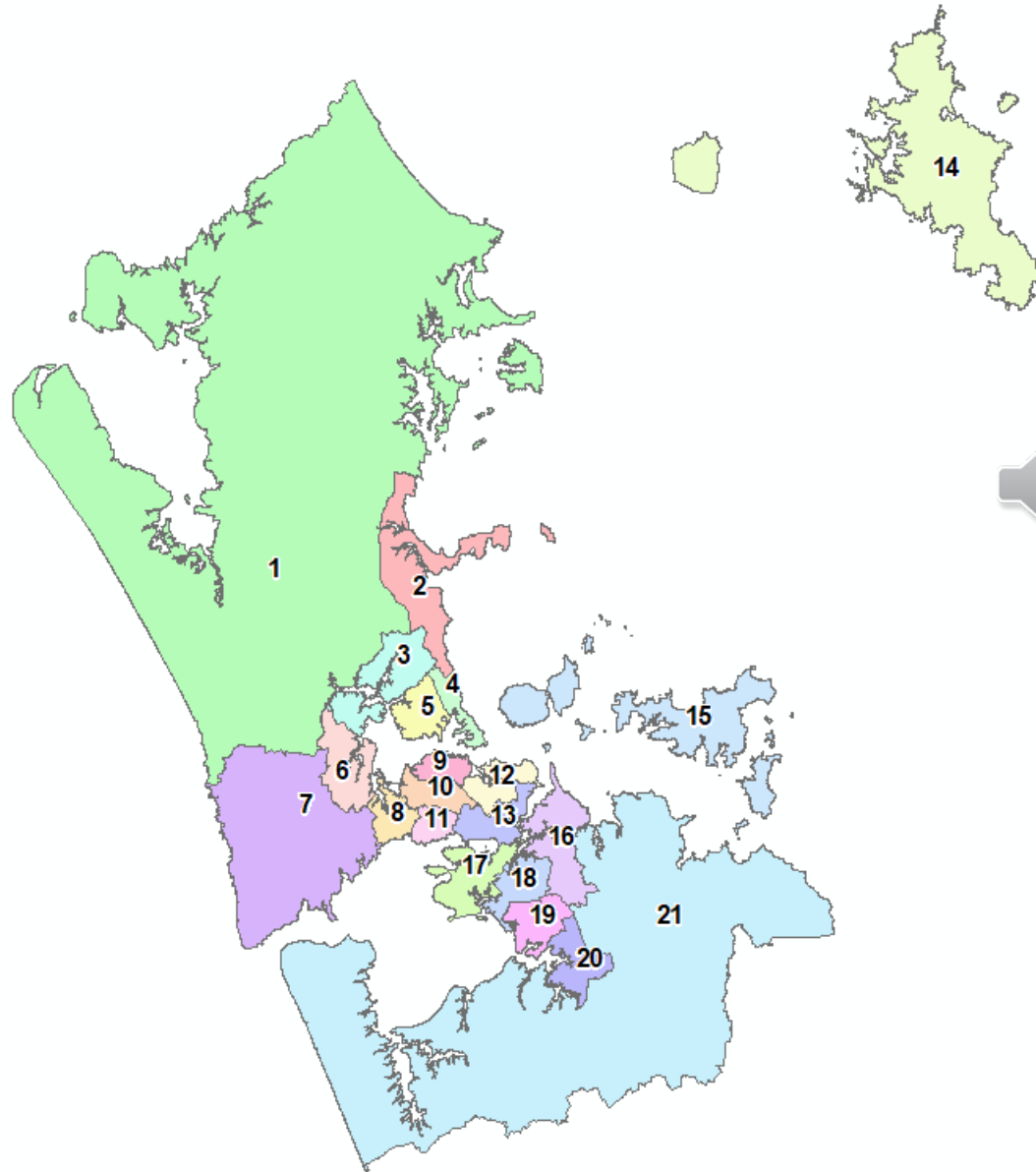
Hamilton is the largest TA without a community level

180,000 pop

Use Hamilton as benchmark for maximum population size??



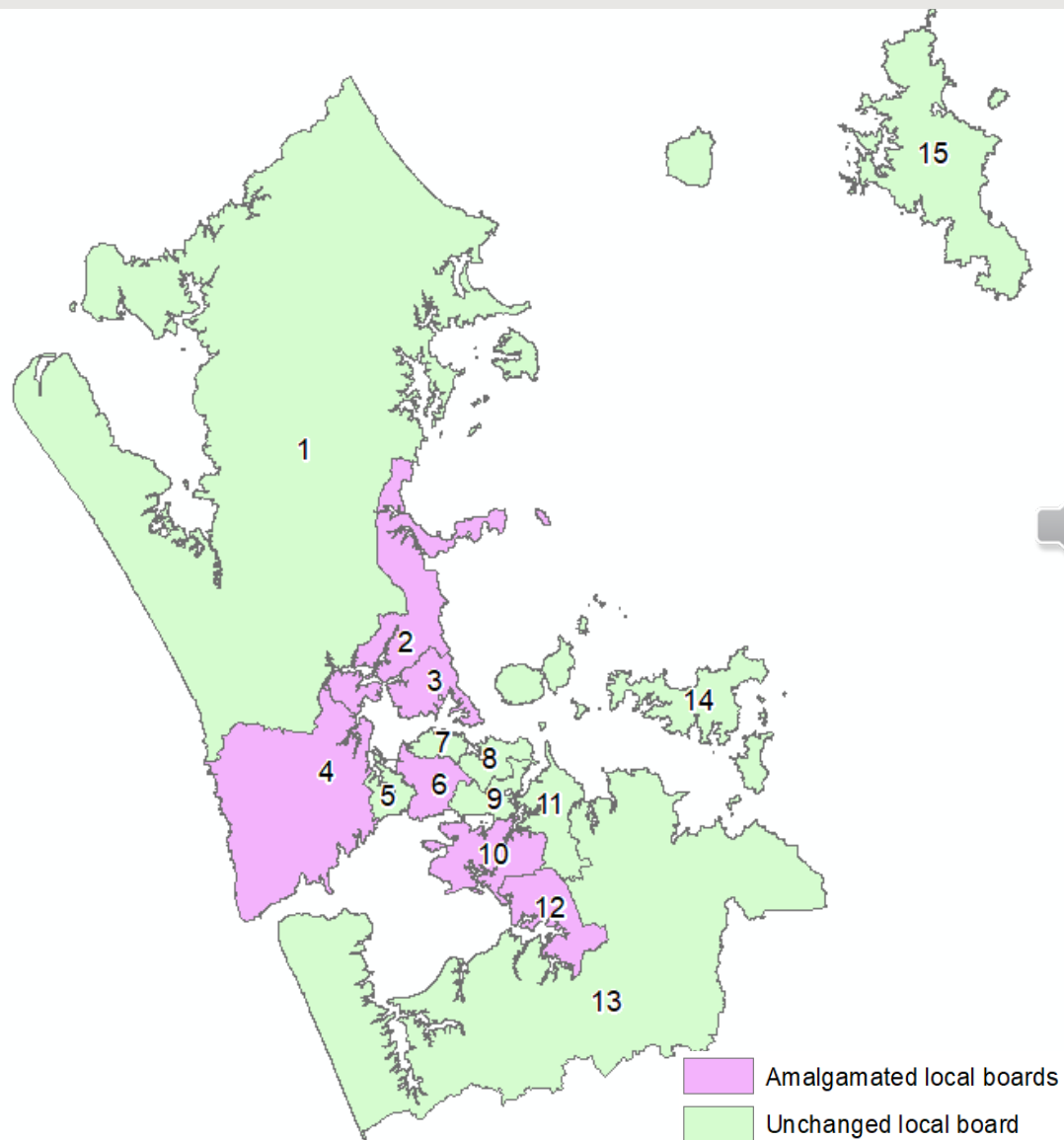
# Status quo



Map ID	Local Board	Pop 2022
16	Howick	152,500
6	Henderson-Massey	128,500
2	Hibiscus and Bays	113,400
19	Manurewa	107,700
10	Albert-Eden	98,000
18	Ōtara-Papatoetoe	93,900
5	Kaipātiki	89,500
17	Māngere-Ōtāhuhu	86,300
12	Ōrākei	85,600
8	Whau	84,000
21	Franklin	83,600
9	Waitematā	83,500
13	Maungakiekie-Tāmaki	81,900
1	Rodney	79,400
20	Papakura	72,900
3	Upper Harbour	71,000
11	Puketāpapa	59,700
4	Devonport-Takapuna	58,100
7	Waitākere Ranges	55,200
15	Waiheke	9,390
14	Aotea / Great Barrier	1,050



# 15 local boards



Map ID	Contributing Local Boards	Pop 2022	Notes
2	Hibiscus & Bays + Upper Harbour	184,400	
4	Henderson-Massey + Waitākere Ranges	183,700	
12	Manurewa + Papakura	180,600	
10	Ōtara-Papatoetoe + Māngere-Ōtāhuhu	180,200	
6	Albert-Eden + Puketāpapa	157,700	
11	Howick	152,500	No change
3	Kaipātiki + Devonport-Takapuna	147,600	
8	Ōrākei	85,600	No change
5	Whau	84,000	No change
13	Franklin	83,600	No change
7	Waitematā	83,500	No change
9	Maungakiekie-Tāmaki	81,900	No change
1	Rodney	79,400	No change
14	Waiheke	9,390	No change
15	Aotea/Great Barrier	1,050	No change

**Affected: 12**

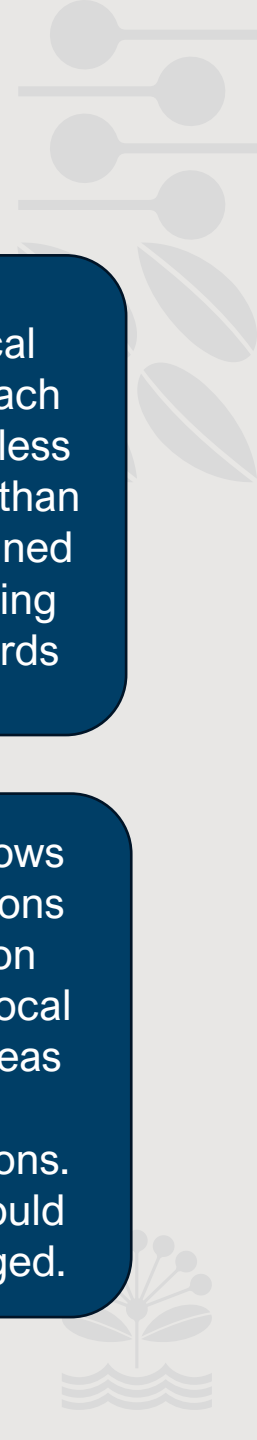
**Unaffected: 9**

# 15 local boards - representation of affected local boards - showing legal maximum of 12 members

Current boards	Subdivisions	Members		New boards	Subdivisions	Members
Hibiscus & Bays	East Coast Bays 4	8	➔	Albany	East Coast Bays	12
	Hibiscus Coast 4				Hibiscus Coast	
Upper Harbour		6			Upper Harbour	
Henderson-Massey		8	➔	Waitākere	Henderson-Massey	12
Waitākere Ranges		6			Waitākere Ranges	
Manurewa		8	➔	Manurewa-Papakura	Manurewa	12
Papakura		6			Papakura	
Māngere-Ōtāhuhu		7	➔	Manukau	Māngere-Ōtāhuhu	12
Ōtara-Papatoetoe	Ōtara 3	7			Ōtara	
	Papatoetoe 4				Papatoetoe	
Albert-Eden	Maungawhau 4	8	➔	Albert-Eden-Puketāpapa	Maungawhau	12
Puketāpapa	Owairaka 4				Owairaka	
			6			
Kaipātiki		8	➔	North Shore	Kaipātiki	12
Devonport -Takapuna		6			Devonport-Takapuna	

New local boards each have two less members than the combined contributing local boards

Table shows subdivisions based on existing local board areas and subdivisions. These could be changed.





# Hypothetical membership – all boards

Local Boards	Pop 2022	Amalgamated?	Proposed Members	Current members
Hibiscus & Bays + Upper Harbour	184,400	Amalgamated	12	14
Henderson-Massey + Waitākere Ranges	183,700	Amalgamated	12	14
Manurewa + Papakura	180,600	Amalgamated	12	14
Ōtara-Papatoetoe + Māngere-Ōtāhuhu	180,200	Amalgamated	12	14
Albert-Eden +Puketāpapa	157,700	Amalgamated	12	14
Howick	152,500	No change	9	9
Kaipātiki + Devonport-Takapuna	147,600	Amalgamated	12	14
Ōrākei	85,600	No change	7	7
Whau	84,000	No change	7	7
Franklin	83,600	No change	9	9
Waitematā	83,500	No change	7	7
Maungakiekie-Tāmaki	81,900	No change	7	7
Rodney	79,400	No change	9	9
Waiheke	9,390	No change	5	5
Aotea/Great Barrier	1,050	No change	5	5
			137	149



# Local board reorganisation plan

What are the legislative requirements?



# When Local Government Commission considers our local board reorganisation plan

- Process is technically a “unitary authority-led reorganisation application”
- Commission must approve it unless:
  - The council does not provide the required documentation
  - The council has not complied with subparts 1 & 2 (next slide)
  - **The council has not considered the views and preferences of affected local boards**
  - **The plan does not have the support of affected communities.**
- Important to document the views and preferences of local boards and that the Governing Body has considered them
- Important to document community support

<https://legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2002/0084/latest/LMS906708.html>



# What council must consider

- the **scale** and **likelihood** of achieving objectives:
  - enabling democratic decision making by, and on behalf of, communities
  - better enabling the purpose of local government
  - efficiencies and cost savings
  - boards have the necessary resources
  - effective responses to opportunities, needs, and circumstances of the area
  - alignment with communities of interest
  - enhanced effectiveness of decision making
  - enhanced ability of local government to meet the changing needs of communities for governance and services into the future
  - co-governance and co-management arrangements



- implementation costs
- consequences of not implementing
- communities of interest
- public support
- views and preferences of affected local boards

<https://legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2002/0084/latest/LMS906710.html>

<https://legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2002/0084/latest/LMS906695.html>



# Objectives - comments

Democratic decision making by, and on behalf of, communities

- one of the purposes of local government
- can be broken into its elements:
  - “democratic decision making”: elected entity is accountable electorally
  - “by communities”: community participation (engagement) in decisions and in the democratic electoral process
  - “on behalf of communities”: representative democracy
- any change must enable **community engagement** and **effective decision-making**



# Objectives - comments

## Purpose of local government:

- includes promoting the four well-beings in the present and for the future

## Efficiencies and cost savings:

- a value-for-money exercise is being carried out
- intuitively 15 local boards is a more efficient arrangement for those who support all local boards

## Boards have the necessary resources:

- will be possible to upscale the level of advice and support

## Effective responses to opportunities, needs and circumstances:

- combined boards will have more resources than they currently have



# Objectives - comments

## Alignment with communities of interest

- all boards will align with wards on one-to-one basis (except islands)

## Enhanced effectiveness of decision making

- empowered boards (separate presentation)
- fewer boundary issues for amalgamated boards

## Enhanced ability to meet the changing needs of communities for governance and services into the future

- reorganisation plan to take account of future development

## Co-governance and co-management arrangements

- reorganisation plan to take account of settlement arrangements





# Next steps



# Your comments are welcome – reorganisation plan

Note there are two options to compare –

- status quo (21 local boards)
- 15 local board model



Use the legislative requirements in previous section to assist you with thinking about this



# Your comments are welcome – representation review

- This is based on the current arrangements (21 local boards)
- Is your board thinking of a name change?
- If your board currently has subdivisions, are they still adequate?
- If your board does not have subdivisions, should it have subdivisions in order to provide more effective representation of communities of interest?
- If subdivisions do not comply with the +/-10% rule, staff will make further contact to discuss options



# Timeline

- March - formal reports to boards
- Joint Governance Working Party considers recommendations to Governing Body
- May – Governing Body:
  - resolves initial proposal for representation arrangements for 2025 (including 21 local boards)
  - agrees on draft local board reorganisation plan for consultation
- June – August - submissions and hearings
- September – Governing Body makes final decisions:
  - Proposal for representation arrangements
  - Local board reorganisation plan



**Questions?**



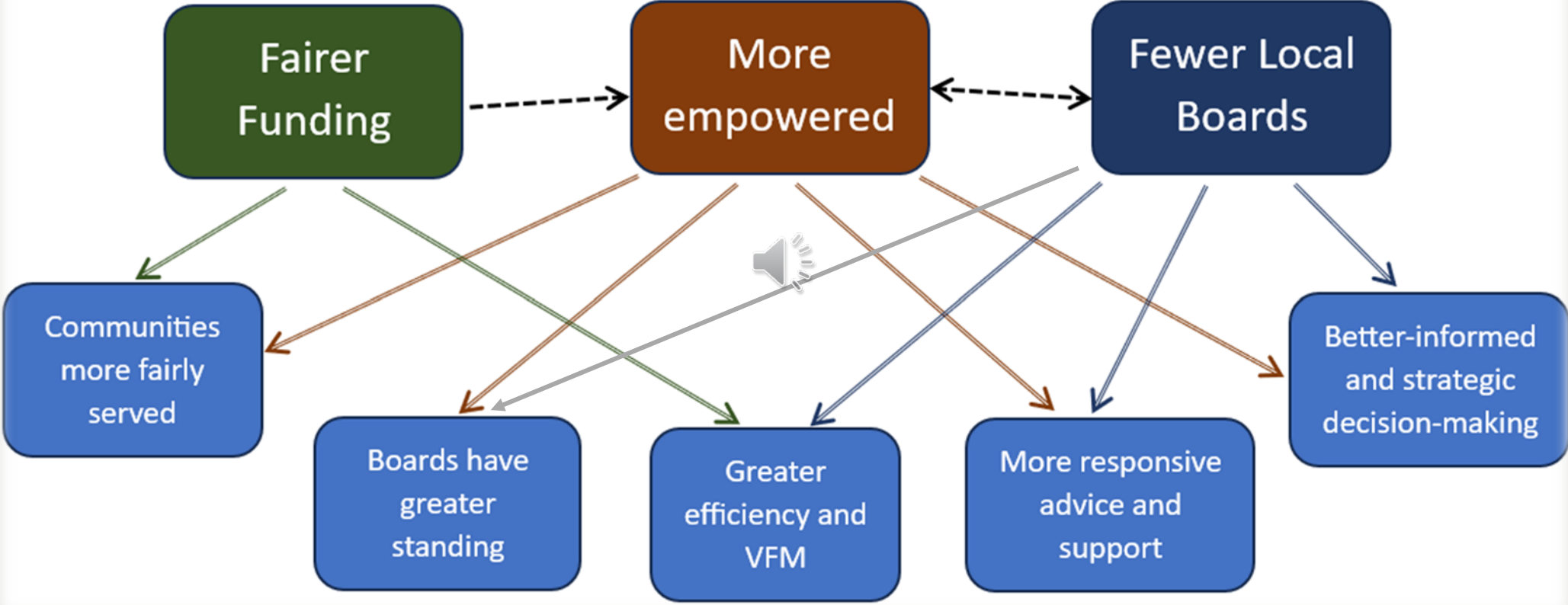
# The Proposal for Fewer and More Empowered Local Boards

Seeking your ideas on proposals for change

Local Board workshops  
February 2024



# Integrating the Mayor's proposals for change

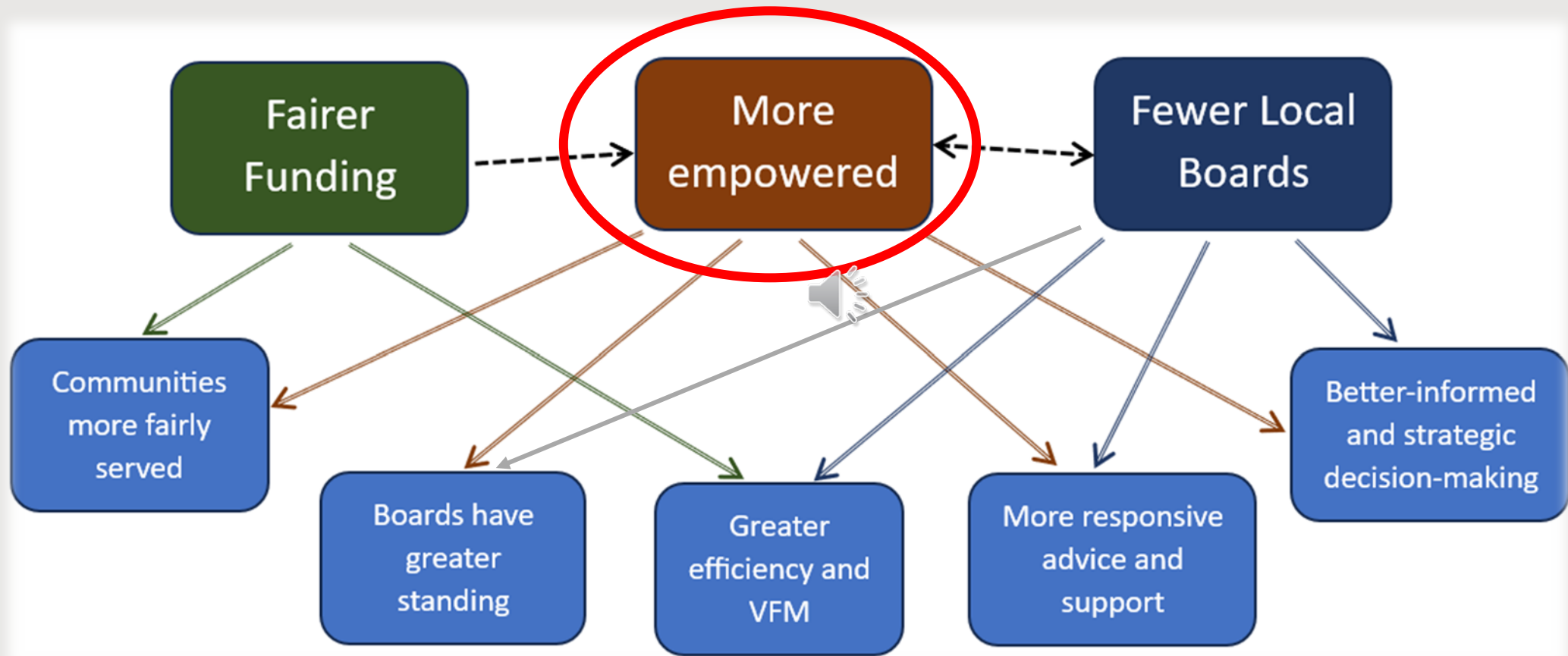




# More Empowered Local Boards



# What are the problems we are trying to solve? What opportunities could this create?



# The change journey

## 2010 - 2015

- - Establish local boards and embed processes

## 2016 - 2022

### GFR made recommendations on:



- - policy
- - funding & finance
- - governance & representation
- - organisational support
- - 2021 Increased Decision-making

## 2023 -

- -Mayoral proposals



# The case for more empowered local boards

why have  
more  
empowered  
boards

what would  
more  
empowered  
boards do

the costs  
& benefits  
of change

what do  
staff need  
to do  
differently



# How well do current local boards represent communities of interest?

**Communities  
of Interest**

- **LGC dimensions that need to be taken into account:**
  - Perceptual
  - Functional
  - Political
- **Linked to increasing LB influence**
- **Current communities of interest**
  - Aotea GB, Waiheke, Rodney, Franklin
  - urban boards?



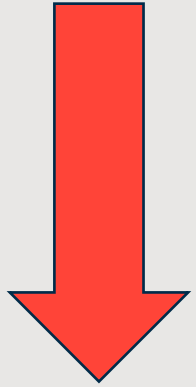
# What is the problem?

**Why  
fewer/more  
empowered?**

- **X 21 makes delivery challenging**
- **Few people engage with their local board**
- **Member satisfaction is low**
- **Local board influence is limited**
- **Systems & processes are complex**
- **Quality advice resources are limited**
- **Focus is too operational**



# What do recent survey results show?



**Quality of life  
surveys  
2012-2022**

- **11% overall decline in feeling the public has influence over Auckland Council decisions**




**Residents  
surveys  
2016-2023**

- **Re Have your Say:**
  - “easy to” from **28% to 33%**
  - “opportunities to” from **28% to 42%**
  - “had their say” from **17% to 20%**



# How are boards feeling?

**Mayoral  
office survey  
2023**

- **More support**
- **Full-time role**
- **More decision-making**
-  **Too much analysis & consultation**
- **Community want them to do more**
- **More autonomy, control over \$**
- **Better quality advice**
- **Respect**





# How do local boards feel about the support and advice they receive? (numbers in brackets are 2021 response)

## Elected member survey 2023

- Number of respondents – **75%** (91%)
- Overall satisfaction with advice & support – **74%** (87%)
- Satisfaction with delivery & timeliness of advice and support:
  - verbal & written – **72%** (82%)
  - responsiveness to requests & queries – **65%** (73%)
  - timeliness of formal advice & information – **65%** (73%)
  - proactiveness of communications – **66%** (68%)
  - communications guidance – **76%** (64%)
  - policy, strategy & planning – **69%** (75%)
  - financial information – **60%** (77%)
  - legal guidance – **63%** (56%)

Decreases in satisfaction are show in red  
Increases are show in green



# What might more empowered local boards look like?

**Sufficient  
strategic  
advice**

**Sufficient  
resourcing &  
accountability**



**Maximum  
powers under  
LGACA**

**LGACA  
Subsidiarity  
test met**



# More empowered local boards will have:

**Sufficient  
strategic  
advice**

**to**

- **operate in ways that meet their communities' needs**
- **develop local policy approaches**
- **support their influence at the GB level**
- **engage effectively with their people**
- **support simple & flexible systems and processes**
- **receive advice not just information**



## More empowered local boards might have:

sufficient  
funding,  
resources &  
accountability

to

- have funded minimum standards
- raise funds for services above these minimums
- have other activities if they fund them
- have more delegations, incl working with AT on local transport delegations
- have the accountability that comes with empowerment



# Supporting more empowered local boards

Suggested  
approach

- **simpler approaches & less duplication**
- **find ways to be more responsive and flexible**
- **develop different processes fit for different communities**
- **lift local board activity to a more governance level**
- **review advice so its led organisation-wide**
- **review plans & policies to fit with local board needs**
- **review the local board support model**
- **improve governance & quality advice skills**



# What's next?

- **Staff are presenting to all 21 local boards during February**
- **Feedback at workshop or throughout Feb to [representationproject@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:representationproject@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz) or via your LB team**
- **Other targeted engagement also underway**
- **Read the 2 Feb JGWP agenda item on the case for more empowered local boards and engage with your rep on the JGWP**
- **Reports on your March business meeting agendas**
- **Feedback will be reported back to the JGWP and GB**
- **A detailed discussion paper on a more empowered approach is being prepared and will be presented to the JGWP in March or April**
- **A value for money assessment is also underway**



**Rodney Local Board**

**Considering AT's Work Programme**

**28 February 2024**

*Let's go there* 



# Our work today

- **Consider AT's quality advice about projects and programmes**
- **Identify projects or programme that the local board wants to:**
  - **'Collaborate' together with AT about and lead building consensus with the community**
  - **Be 'consulted' about by AT**
  - **Stay well-briefed about and expects AT to keep it 'informed' about.**
- **The local board's response will be reported to AT in early-2024.**



# The terms we use

- **Terms are from IAP2 doctrine.**
- **Collaborate:** The local board works closely with AT and leads building consensus with the local community.
- **Consult:** AT will get feedback on the project or programme from the local board. This will include regular updates and reports that the local board can resolve its feedback against.
- **Inform:** The local board will get regular updates and briefings. Members can provide their individual insights about the project.



# Project Kōkiri process plan



AT provides local boards with quality advice about planned work

AT EMRPs support local boards to consider the advice provided and develop their feedback

Local board respond (Report and resolutions)

AT responds

AT EMRPs support local boards to consider response provided and develop their final Kōkiri agreement

Kōkiri Agreement resolved

## Local Board Plans

- Signed off 1 November 2023.
- Provide information that helps Auckland Transport:
  - Provide 'quality advice' for the Annual Local Board Transport Plan/Agreements
  - Develop the Regional Land Transport Plan



*NB: the initiatives and advocacy  
in this slide are straight from the  
LBP2023*

# Summary of Rodney Local Board's transport goals (1/2)

## Objectives and Key Initiatives

- **Pedestrians and non-road users are safe**
  - Deliver safety projects for pedestrians, cyclists and mobility devices appropriate to the rural and semi-rural context
- **Affordable, accessible and frequent public transport**
  - Investigate further increasing the provision and uptake of public transport to reduce congestion, make roads safer and mitigate climate change
- **Safer road surfaces**
  - Investigate available options to deliver improved roading surfaces



*NB: the initiatives and advocacy in this slide are straight from the LBP2023*

# Summary of Rodney Local Board's transport goals (2/2)

## Advocacy to Auckland Transport

- Increase funding in the 10-year budget (long-term plan) for rural roads including \$124 million for the Unsealed Roads Improvement Programme
- Increase funding, ringfenced for maintenance and renewals exclusively, that allows AT to renew and maintain at least 8-9% of Auckland's roads in any given year as per AT's Asset Management Plan
- Work with Waka Kotahi to improve traffic congestion on State Highway 16 by funding the delivery of the North-West Strategic Network to be included in the next Regional Land Transport Plan
- Prioritise enhanced safety and address congestion on key transport corridors and provide feedback on resource consents applications to limit the number of vehicle crossings, such as side roads and driveways, being introduced
- Use the existing rail network to be used for commuter transport to service the North West
- Develop and adopt a Rural Roads Design Guide to set principles for appropriate design standards for rural conditions such as for gravel footpaths and rural bus stops
- Improve and expand Rodney bus services particularly in new development areas including park-and-rides, dedicated bus ways, additional routes and stops, weekend services on busier routes, higher frequency on busy routes and greater safety for bus drivers
- Work together with Auckland Council to support the delivery of walkways, trails and bridleways, as guided by greenways plans, to better connect our rural areas with local villages and recreational spaces, and to increase safety – ensuring that any new developments and subdivisions are also connected to this network.



**Projects or  
programmes  
that AT  
suggests are  
‘Collaborate’**

- Local Board Transport Capital Fund projects
- Rodney Local Board Transport Targeted Rate projects





**Projects or  
programmes  
that AT  
suggests are  
‘Consult’**

- Unsealed Road Improvements Programme
- Matakana Road Pedestrian Improvements
- Rautawhiri Road Pedestrian improvements
- Warkworth Town Centre Safety improvements



**Projects or  
programmes  
that AT  
suggests are  
  
'Inform'**

- South Cove Deck/Joists and piles replacement and Schoolhouse Bay piles replacement
- Warkworth and Kumeū Town Centre Parking reviews



**Projects or  
programmes  
that AT  
suggests  
are**

**‘Advocacy  
issues’**

- Budget increase requests
- Inter-agency cooperation requests  
(Waka Kotahi and Auckland Council)
- North West rail improvements
- Rural Roads design guide
- Increased bus services and  
infrastructure



Contact:

Ben Stallworthy – [Ben.Stallworthy@at.govt.nz](mailto:Ben.Stallworthy@at.govt.nz)

John Gillespie – [John.Gillespie@at.govt.nz](mailto:John.Gillespie@at.govt.nz)

Jane Winterman – [Jane.Winterman@at.govt.nz](mailto:Jane.Winterman@at.govt.nz)

*Let's go there* 