

Section six: Glossary



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Active travel. Walking and cycling

Activity or service. The services the council provides to the community. This includes things like running buses, collecting rubbish and maintaining parks.

AIAL. Auckland International Airport Limited

Annual Plan, Annual Budget. The plan that sets out what the council seeks to achieve in a financial year, the services we will provide, how much money will be spent and where that money will come from.

Asset. An item of value, usually something of a physical nature that you can reach out and touch, that will last for more than one year. Infrastructure assets are physical items such as roads, pipes and council buildings that are needed to provide basic services.

Asset portfolio. A collection of a wide range of assets that are owned by investors.

Asset rationalisation. The process of reorganising a company's assets in order to improve operating efficiencies and boost the bottom line.

Asset recycling. This means letting go of some of our less well used assets to help pay for new ones that will help us deliver better services to the community. Usually this means selling assets to somebody else, but sometimes it is possible to instead agree that someone else will use the asset for a period of time before handing it back to us in the future.

Auckland Council or the council. The local government of Auckland established on 1 November 2010. The council is made up of the governing body, 21 local boards, and the council organisation (operational staff).

Auckland Transport. The organisation that delivers transport services on behalf on the council.

Auckland Unlimited. The organisation that manages Auckland Zoo and the Auckland Art Gallery along with venues used for conventions, shows, concerts and major sporting events. Auckland Unlimited also delivers major events for council and provides tourism promotion and economic development services on the council's behalf.

Base renewal. Continue maintenance and base renewal of our portfolio of assets with a focus on de-carbonisation of heritage assets and other de-carbonisation initiatives. Blue-green networks Interconnected system of water [blue] and green spaces like parks and gardens.

Bed night visitor levy. This is a charge for each night that a person stays in a hotel or other accommodation. It's also known as a "bed tax".

Capex. Capital investment, capital expenditure or capital programme. Building (or buying) assets such as roads, pipes and buildings that are used to provide services to Aucklanders.

Category 3 homes/properties. These are properties which, as a result of severe weather events, are assessed by Auckland Council to represent an intolerable risk to life with land instability or flooding and for which there are no feasible mitigation solutions. Residential properties assessed as category 3 are eligible for a buy-out.

Category 2P homes/properties. These are properties where there is assessed to be an intolerable risk to life from a future storm event for which there is a feasible mitigation at a property level.

CATTR. Climate Action Transport Targeted Rate

Consumer Price Index (CPI). Measure of change in price over time for consumer goods/services, shown as an average.

Council group. Auckland Council and the Council-controlled organisations, along with the council's investments in Port of Auckland and Auckland Airport.

Council-controlled organisation (CCO). A company (or other type of organisation) that is at least 50 per cent owned by the council or for which the council has at least 50 per cent control through voting rights or the right to appoint directors. These organisations each have their own board of directors (or equivalent) and their own staff who manage day- to-day operations.

CRL. City Rail Link

CV (Capital value). The value of an asset or investment (for example property value).

Debt. Using borrowings in a sustainable way to pay for long-life assets.

Deferral. Delaying the building or buying of assets until a later time. Deficit A shortfall of income or assets over expenditure or liabilities in a given period.

Depreciation (costs). A reduction in the value of an asset with the passage of time. The council funds depreciation from the general rates, ensuring we can replace the assets in the future.

Deprivation. Lacking the material benefits considered to be basic necessities in a society.

Development contributions (DC). A charge paid by developers to the council when they build or subdivide property. The council uses this money to help pay for new assets such as roads, pipes and parks that are needed to support the new households or businesses that will occupy the new properties that have been or will be developed.

Diversified investment. The spreading of investments both among and within different asset classes and across geographic areas. This would reduce specific company risks but will remain subject to national and international economic cycles and impacts.

Economic fluctuation. The ups and downs in the levels and/or rates of changes in the economic variables like real national income (gross domestic product (GDP)), inflation rate, and the rate of unemployment.

Equitable funding level. The funding each local board would be entitled to under the funding allocation model.

Existing ratepayers. Rating units that were recorded in Auckland Council's Rating Information Database (RID) as at 30 June 2024, to which the rates set by Auckland Council for the 2024/2025 financial year apply.

Facilities. Buildings or other structures used to provide activities or services to Aucklanders.

Financial year. The year from 1 July to 30 June the following year. The council budgets and sets rates based on these dates rather than calendar years which end on 31 December.

Fiscal rules. A numerical limit or goal in respect of one or more financial areas. Fiscal rules are often expressed as limits on spending, revenue, budget balances, or debt.

Fully funded depreciation. Allowing for 100 per cent of the cost of depreciation in any given year.

GDP. Gross domestic product- a measure of what is produced in the national economy.

General rates. Rates levied on ratepayers across Auckland pay to fund general services.

Governing Body. The Governing Body is made up of the mayor and 20 councillors.

Government funding. Funding from the central government.

Grants and subsidies. Money that someone pays to the council to cover (or help cover) the cost of providing a service to Aucklanders. Sometimes grants also refers to money the council pays to a community organisation to provide activities or services to Aucklanders, rather than council providing those services directly.

GST. Goods and services tax

Local boards. There are 21 local boards They represent their local communities and make decisions on local issues and services.

Mana whenua. The indigenous people (Māori) who have historic and territorial rights over the land. It refers to iwi and hapū who have these rights in Tāmaki Makaurai, Auckland

Mātauranga. Māori knowledge

Mataawaka. Māori living in the Auckland region who are not in a Mana Whenua group.

Maunga. Mountain, mount, peak.

NETR. Natural Environment Targeted Rate.

OCR. Official Cash Rate

Opex. Operating expenditure. Money the council spends on providing services in the current financial year, as opposed to building things that will provide services for years to come. This includes spending money on staff and contractors to do things like process building consents, open libraries, run buses and maintain parks. It also includes things like paying grants to community organisations and paying interest on money the council has borrowed.

Panuku. Panuku Development Auckland, the organisation that provides property management and development services to the council and Aucklanders.

POAL. Port of Auckland Limited

Rates. A tax against the property to help fund activities, services and assets that the council provides.

Rates postponement. Allowing ratepayers to delay paying the rates they owe until a later date.

Revenue or income. Money that the council receives (or is due to receive) to pay for the cost of providing services to Auckland. Cash revenue specifically refers to the money received during the year, and excludes things like postponed rates which will be received later.

Savings. Reducing costs to council perhaps by being more efficient (ways to provide services for reduced costs) or by delivering different or fewer services to the community.

Targeted rates. A rate that is paid by only a particular group of ratepayers or is used to fund only a particular set of activities. (as opposed to spreading the cost across all ratepayers).or where the council wants to make sure that money collected for a particular purpose is only spent for that purpose.

Tātaki Auckland Unlimited. Tātaki Auckland Unlimited refers to two substantive council-controlled organisations: Tātaki Auckland Unlimited Limited and Tātaki Auckland Unlimited Trust.

Time-of-use charges. Charging motorists to enter roads, usually at peak times, as a way of deterring congestion

Transport. Local roading, parking and public transport services provided for Aucklanders. These services are usually provided by Auckland Transport, except for the City Rail Link project which is delivered separately in partnership with central government.

Typical household. An average value residential property with one SUIP (separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit).

WQTR. Water Quality Targeted Rate

Watercare. Watercare Services Limited, the organisation that provides water supply and wastewater services to Aucklanders.