



Te Poari ā-Rohe o Franklin
Te Rīpoata ā-Tau 2023/2024

Franklin Local Board

Annual Report 2023/2024



Volume
2.4

Mihi

Tēnā, kia hoea e au taku waka mā ngā tai mihi
o ata e uru ake ai au mā te awa o Tāmaki
ki te ūnga o Tainui waka i Ōtāhuhu.
I reira ka toia aku mihi ki te uru ki
te Pūkaki-Tapu-a-Poutūkeka,
i reira ko te Pā i Māngere.
E hoe aku mihi mā te Mānukanuka a Hoturoa
ki te kūrae o te Kūiti o Āwhitu.
I kona ka rere taku haere mā te ākau ki te
puaha o Waikato, te awa tukukiri o ngā tūpuna,
Waikato Taniwharau, he piko he taniwha.
Ka hīkoi anō aku mihi mā te taha whakararo mā
Maioro ki Waiuku ki Mātukureira
kei kona ko ngā Pā o Tahuna me Reretewhioi.
Ka aro whakarunga au kia tau atu ki Pukekohe.
Ka tahuri te haere a taku reo ki te ao
o te tonga e whāriki atu rā mā runga i ngā hiwi,
kia taka atu au ki Te Paina,
ki te Pou o Mangatāwhiri.
Ka titiro whakarunga ki te tāhuhu
o Hūnua kei reira ko Kohukohunui,
me tōna toronga, a Te Wairoa.
Mātika tonu aku mihi ki a koe Kaiāua te whākana atu
rā ō whatu mā
Tikapa Moana ki te maunga tapu o Moehau.
Ka kauhoetia e aku kōrero te moana ki Maraetai kia
hoki ake au ki uta ki Ōhūiarangi,
heteri mō Pakuranga.
I reira ka hoki whakaroto ake anō au
i te awa o Tāmaki ma te taha
whakarunga ki te Puke o Taramainuku,
kei kona ko Ōtara.
Katahi au ka toro atu ki te Manurewa a Tamapohore,
kia whakatau aku mihi mutunga
ki runga o Pukekiwiriki
kei raro ko Papakura ki kona au ka whakatau

Let this vessel that carries my greetings
travel by way of the Tāmaki River
to the landing place of Tainui canoe at Ōtāhuhu.
There, let my salutations be borne across
the isthmus to the Pūkaki lagoon
and the community of Māngere.
Paddling the Manukau Harbour,
we follow the Āwhitu Peninsula to the headland.
From there we fly down coast to the
Waikato river mouth,
sacred waters of our forebears.
Coming ashore on the Northern side at
Maioro we head inland to Waiuku and Mātukureira,
there too is the Pā at Tahuna and Reretewhioi.
Heading southward I come to Pukekohe.
My words turn to follow the ancient ridgelines
along the Southern boundary,
dropping down into Mercer and
Te Pou o Mangatāwhiri.
I look up to the massif of the Hūnua ranges,
locale of Kohukohunui and
its arterial river, Te Wairoa.
My greetings reach you at Kaiāua
who gaze across Tikapa Moana
to the sacred mountain, Moehau.
Taking to the sea, my remarks travel to Maraetai
and then to Ōhūiarangi,
sentinel to Pakuranga.
There we follow again
the Tāmaki River
to Te Puke o Taramainuku,
Ōtara resides there.
From here I reach for Manurewa
until my greetings come to rest on
Pukekiwiriki.
Below lies Papakura and there I rest.

On the cover: Planting initiatives across Franklin, such as this one at Duder Regional Park, have added thousands of trees to the area.

He kōrero mō tēnei rīpoata About this report

This annual report tells the story of how Auckland Council has performed in delivering services in the Franklin Local Board area from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

You can read about our progress, expenditure, service performance and challenges faced in 2023/2024. It's part of the wider annual reporting package for the Auckland Council Group and meets our Local Government Act 2002 obligations to report on our performance against agreed measures. It reports against the council's Long-term Plan 2021-2031 (10-year Budget 2021-2031) and the Franklin Local Board Agreement 2023/2024.

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

▼ Gwen Walker was on hand to share her raranga expertise at the Nga Hau e Wha o Pukekohe Marae whaanau day.



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He kōrero mai i te heamana
From the chairperson

This past year was the final year of delivery on the Franklin Local Board Plan 2020. While not all aspirations have been realised, the board is pleased to have addressed many of the challenges set out in that plan, and progressed work on many others. Our 2023 local board plan picks up on both ongoing and new opportunities, and we have started to make decisions and give direction that will continue to leverage positive outcomes for existing and future communities across Franklin.

Over the last year, we have progressed a number of park and public amenity improvements, in spite of ongoing global supply challenges and domestic inflation. This sort of work cannot be deferred in Franklin as our population grows even faster than anticipated. We are pleased that the Auckland Council Governing Body has approved a shift toward fairer local board funding from 2026 so that we can continue progress in this area.

The restoration of our natural environment has continued in partnership with mana whenua and community organisations, with a focus on Te Ara Hikoi-led pest management programme and various water quality programmes that underpin the health of the Hauraki Gulf and Manukau Harbour.

We have continued to invest in a local economic development broker who has worked with local producers to promote Franklin’s food production story through the Kai Franklin Programme. We continue to promote Franklin’s Economic Development story to attract local investment.

Over the next three years, we will continue to address the challenges of population growth and budget constraints. We will leverage local economic development opportunities, invest our limited capital budgets in areas with the most need, and continue assessing the facilities and services we have and make decisions that support facilities and services we need.

A. Fulljames

Angela Fulljames
 Chairperson,
 Franklin Local Board



Te Poari ā-Rohe o Franklin
Franklin Local Board



▲ (L to R) Amanda Hopkins, Logan Soole, Alan Cole (Deputy Chairperson), Angela Fulljames (Chairperson), Malcolm Bell, Amanda Kinzett, Andrew Kay, Sharlene Druyven, Gary Holmes.

Contact us



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Ngā kaupapa me ngā whakapaipai ake

Franklin projects and improvements

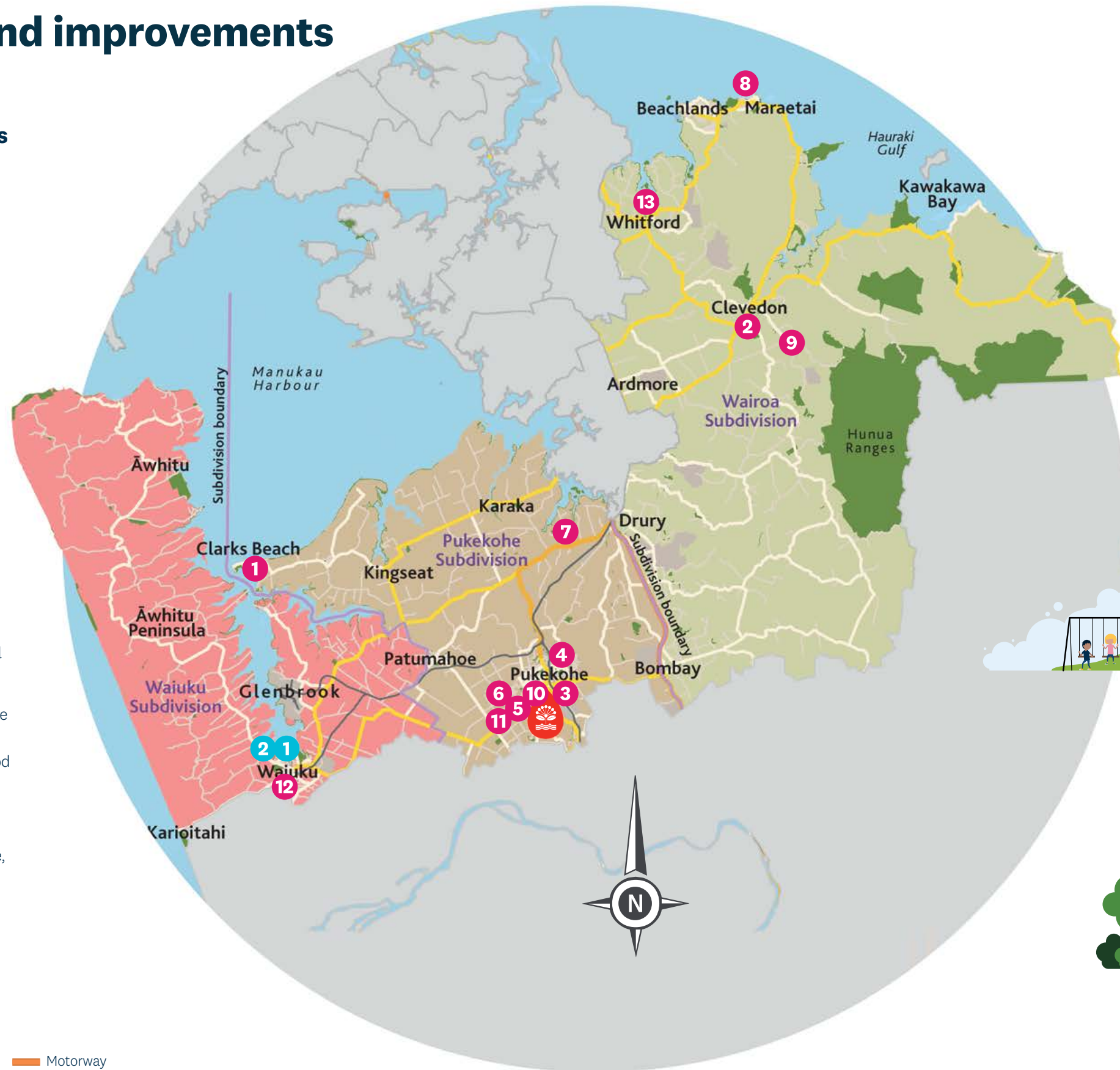
Key to current and planned projects

Delivered projects

- 1 Kevan Lawrence Park - renew play spaces
- 2 Waiomanu Reserve (Magazine Bay) - refurbish amenity block

Current projects

- 1 Clarks Beach Recreation Reserve and Golf Club - upgrade skate park, playground and fixtures
- 2 Clevedon Village Heart Programme - improve public open space and amenities
- 3 Colin Lawrie Reserve - renew playground
- 4 Franklin Pool and Leisure Centre - renew assets (Stage 2)
- 5 Jubilee Pool - renew assets (Stage 2)
- 6 Jutland Road Recreation Reserve - renew play items
- 7 Karaka War Memorial Hall - renew carpark
- 8 Maraetai Beach Boating Club - install retaining wall
- 9 McNicol Homestead Museum - refurbish building
- 10 Pukekohe War Memorial Town Hall - renew heritage assets
- 11 Ray Faussett Reserve - develop new neighbourhood park
- 12 Waiuku War Memorial Town Hall - renew interior and repair roof
- 13 Whitford Community Hall - refurbish roof, drainage, interior, heating

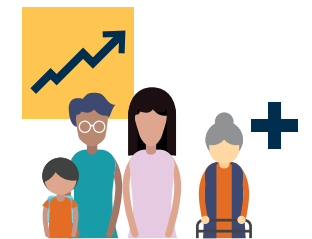


Map legend

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



We are home to more than **230** local parks and sportsfields, **2** libraries and **1** recreation centre and **3** pools



A population of **84,357** expected to increase to **168,685** by 2050



Franklin has just under **20,000ha** of parkland, ranging from small urban parks to large regional parks on the coast



Home to **32** community halls

Data sources: Stats NZ Population Estimates, as at 30 June 2023

Tā mātou pūrongo whakahaere mahi

Our performance report

Local Community Services

We support and fund strong, diverse, and vibrant communities through libraries, arts and culture, parks, sport and recreation, and events delivered by a mix of council services, community group partnerships and volunteers. Our key initiatives this year included youth participation and advisory programmes, continuation of the Franklin Arts Broker role to deliver local arts initiatives and events, and support for local community partners through our community partnership grants. Through local board decision-making around facility maintenance contracts, and to reduce potential litter issues, we rejected the savings initiative predicted for removal of rubbish bins throughout the local parks, by topping up the cost of bin retention through local board funds.

KEY ● Achieved ● Substantially achieved ● Not achieved *Measures favourably/unfavourably impacted by COVID-19
For more information on our service performance judgements and assumptions please refer to pages 166-167 of Volume 1 of the annual report.

Provide safe, reliable and accessible social infrastructure for Aucklanders that contributes to placemaking and thriving communities

Percentage of Aucklanders that feel their local town centre is safe - day time

Residents feel marginally safer in their town centres than last year during the day, but still below the target. Random crime is making shopping or dining increasingly unsafe and there is a need for more local police or professional security presence day and night. The improved town centre crossing and roundabout have been made safer for pedestrians.

Result against target		●
Target 2024		80%
Result	2024	72%
	2023	68%
	2022	69%

Percentage of Aucklanders that feel their local town centre is safe - night time

Town centre safety complaints are higher in Pukekohe than Waiuku. Residents still feel unsafe at night in town centres and organise group rather than solo outings. Shops are robbed with weapons day or night time. More lighting is needed in car parks and alleyways, wider CCTV coverage is needed, it is unsafe to walk from public transport, local community patrol are volunteers and self-funded.

Result against target		●
Target 2024		25%
Result	2024	23%
	2023	23%
	2022	26%

Utilising the Empowered Communities Approach, we support Aucklanders to create thriving, connected and inclusive communities

The percentage of Empowered Communities activities that are community led¹

Minimal activity in the youth sector has significantly affected overall numbers, along with established groups consolidating their efforts and delivery, resulting in a decrease in overall activity.

Result against target		●
Target 2024		70%
Result	2024	62%
	2023	79%
	2022	70%

The percentage of Empowered Communities activities that build capacity and capability to assist local communities to achieve their goals¹

This year, we focused on community emergency preparedness and resilience through channels such as LEAD, Franklin STEM, and Franklin Youth, exceeding target.

Result against target		●
Target 2024		65%
Result	2024	69%
	2023	79%
	2022	70%

We provide safe and accessible parks, reserves, beaches, recreation programmes, opportunities and facilities to get Aucklanders more active, more often

The percentage of park visitors who are satisfied with the overall quality of sportsfields

Budget restrictions have affected investment in playing services and continue to be below past levels and community expectations. From additional Parks Customer Experience survey data, 78 per cent satisfaction was recorded across the region in December 2023. Regionally, there has been an increase of 10 per cent over two years. Dissatisfaction with sportsfields is low at 7 per cent, with the remainder of the survey participants neutral about their sportsfields experience at 15 per cent. Across all cultural demographics, Māori are more likely to visit a sports park to play. Investment in infrastructure is needed in the area. Two notable upgrades from two years ago are: Navigation Homes Stadium #2 had the field upgraded to sandcarpet and Colin Lawrie fields had LED lights installed. Performance has been increasing since.

Result against target		●
Target 2024		74%
Result	2024	69%
	2023	63%
	2022	65%

The customers' Net Promoter Score for Pools and Leisure Centres

While an improvement on last financial year, this result is still well below the modest target of +10. The centre would benefit from improving communication with customers and members with a focus on cleanliness and general tidiness of the centre(s). Feedback about the age of the facility and pool size not being fit for the size of the community are outside our control.

Result against target		●
Target 2024		10
Result	2024	-6
	2023	-16
	2022	-45

The percentage of users who are satisfied with the overall quality of local parks

Satisfaction is significantly below target. With a wet winter in 2023 and a settled period between January-May 2024, visitor numbers have varied.

Result against target		●
Target 2024		71%
Result	2024	59%
	2023	62%
	2022	63%*

The percentage of residents who visited a local park in the last 12 months

The target was exceeded thanks to a slight increase in visitor numbers. The wet 2023 winter and the settled period between January-May 2024 saw visitor numbers vary.

Result against target		
Target 2024		76%
Result	2024	78%
	2023	77%
	2022	76%

We showcase Auckland’s Māori identity and vibrant Māori culture

The percentage of local programmes, grants and activities that respond to Māori aspirations

Franklin was under target. There was a strong result for community empowerment activities that responded to Māori aspirations, however the restrictions of a sole facility for arts delivery has significantly affected the final result. The work programme staff continue to strengthen relationships with mana whenua.

Result against target		
Target 2024		25%
Result	2024	12%
	2023	25%
	2022	29%

We fund, enable and deliver services, programmes, and facilities (art facilities, community centres, hire venues, and libraries) that enhance identity, connect people, and support Aucklanders to participate in community and civic life

The number of internet sessions at libraries (unique sessions over public computing or public WIFI networks)

Franklin has significantly exceeded target, improving on the strong performance reported at the end of last financial year. Internet sessions have increased further and are 32 per cent higher than last financial year, comfortably exceeding the target.

Result against target		
Target 2024		110,000
Result	2024	145,159
	2023	109,853
	2022	62,411*

The percentage of arts, and culture programmes, grants and activities that are community led

Franklin was slightly under target. The sole facility - the council-led Franklin Arts Centre - delivered almost all of the total programmes and activities, of which 45 per cent were community-led.

Result against target		
Target 2024		47%
Result	2024	45%
	2023	52%
	2022	33%

The local board also funds a community arts broker which is 100 per cent community led.

The percentage of art facilities, community centres and hire venues network that is community led

Ongoing improvements to data quality has led to the inclusion of a community-led facility - Buckland Community Centre - leading to a percentage increase. This target does not reflect the revisions made to community-led facilities, so the increase was to be expected.

The same 11 facilities are council-led as in financial year 2022/2023.

Result against target		
Target 2024		67%
Result	2024	68%
	2023	67%
	2022	67%

The number of attendees at council-led community events

No council-led community events were scheduled by the local board this year.

Result against target		
Target 2024		N/A ²
Result	2024	0
	2023	0
	2022	0*

The number of participants in activities at art facilities, community centres and hire venues

People using community-led centres increased 11 per cent this year. Contributing to this increase was the reopening and growing use of Buckland Hall, which now has average monthly participation of over 380 people. Karaka Hall also continues to be well used and is booked virtually every day of the year. More timely reporting by community-led centres has also contributed to the increase, although some work is still needed in this area.

Council-led facilities, contributing 65 per cent of total participants this financial year, increased by 11 per cent compared with last financial year.

Community-led facilities, contributing 35 per cent of total participants this financial year, increased by 11 per cent compared with last financial year.

Result against target		
Target 2024		245,000
Result	2024	334,359
	2023	279,474
	2022	135,083*

The number of visits to library facilities

Franklin is 2 per cent above target, as expected given their strong performance towards the end of last financial year. Nearly every month, visitor numbers matched the monthly target we expect, while performance in the final quarter was exceptional and 8 per cent above the quarterly target.

Result against target		
Target 2024		226,000
Result	2024	231,426
	2023	222,455
	2022	142,625*

The percentage of attendees satisfied with a nominated local community event

Not measured as there were no suitable events available for surveying.

Result against target		
Target 2024		75%
Result	2024	Not measured ²
	2023	81%
	2022	Not measured*

Percentage of customers satisfied with the quality of library service delivery

Auckland Libraries successfully implemented the Intelligent Materials Management System for more effective collection management at the end of May 2024. Despite the scale and complexity of this project, a focus on the customer experience ensured satisfaction remains above target.

Result against target		
Target 2024		85%
Result	2024	92%
	2023	97%
	2022	94%

1. This financial year, a reporting responsibility change and more diverse community delivery strategy have had an impact on reported results for a number of local boards. Although framework and direction were consistent with previous years, different interpretations have been applied by the new information providers. This has had a varying impact across different local boards, and has led to some variances in the current year results compared to the prior year.
2. The Franklin Local Board do not intend to fund any council led community events for 2023/2024.

Local Planning and Development

We continued funding the Franklin economic broker role to deliver economic opportunities to support local prosperity and employment, and third-party tourism development. We funded the community and iwi-led development of Clevedon and surrounds as a visitor destination. We consulted on, and adopted, a local targeted rate to start in financial year 2024/2025 to accelerate pathway and trail projects throughout the board area over the next 10 years.

We help attract investment, businesses and a skilled workforce to Auckland

The percentage of Business Associations meeting their Business Improvement District (BID) Partnership Programme obligations

All BIDs in the Franklin Local Board complied with the BID Policy 2022.

Result against target		●
Target 2024		100%
Result	2024	100%
	2023	100%
	2022	100%

Local Environmental Management

We fund healthy ecosystems and sustainability such as planting, pest control, and waste minimisation projects. Te Korowai o Papatūānuku programme has extensively planted trees to restore awa and areas of cultural significance. Waiuku Zero Waste recycling hub continues to be a recognised successful model. Predator Free Franklin continues to thrive with a greater degree of interest and demand for information and resources from activities including planting, bait and trap supplies, and newsletter subscriptions.

We work with Aucklanders to manage the natural environment and enable low carbon lifestyles to build resilience to the effects of climate change

The percentage of local water quality or natural environment improvement projects that have successfully contributed towards local board plan outcomes

We successfully delivered seven water quality and natural environment improvement projects this year. These projects have contributed towards the board’s environmental objectives as described in its local board plan.

Result against target		●
Target 2024		85%
Result	2024	100%
	2023	86%
	2022	100%

The percentage of local waste minimisation projects that have successfully contributed towards local board plan outcomes

We successfully delivered one project for Franklin this year. This project has contributed to local board’s environmental objectives as described in its local board plan.

Result against target		●
Target 2024		80%
Result	2024	100%
	2023	100%
	2022	100%

He whakamārama mō ā mātou mahi whakahaere

Our performance explained

Franklin – Rural Halls

Use of community centres, hire venues and arts facilities throughout Franklin area increased by 20 per cent this year including community-led centres usage increasing by 11 per cent on last year. Rural halls play a vital role in keeping people across Franklin connected. The vast size of the Franklin Local Board area and its rural nature mean communities are tiny by Auckland measures, and often isolated. Awhitu Peninsula communities in particular rely on coming together at community halls for events as diverse as burger nights to Auckland Council consultations.

The board approved funding for 19 rural halls across Franklin, a significant change on previous years as it altered its funding mechanism. While assigning a total of \$198,000, in a first, the board did not allocate funding to halls with large cash reserves and reduced it for others with lower but still significant reserves.

Local board chair Angela Fulljames says the board resolved in 2020 to base funding on five-year operational plans, taking a phased approach to developing them, with staff working with committees on things like work cost projections and operating costs. The new funding model works towards achieving equity in annual funding to rural halls. “Last year we considered options, supporting a ‘cash in the bank’ limit that results in zero payment for halls with reserves of \$50,000, and 69 per cent funding for hall committees with \$35,000 reserves. We recognise that committees do a great job across our region and salute everyone who volunteers to keep halls at the heart of the community. But no two halls are the same, and with the funds we have available, this is about achieving equity across all halls in

Franklin. Continuing to fund those that have built up large cash reserves, while others struggle, makes little sense.”

The board also received five-year plans for Matakawau, Pollok and Glenbrook Beach halls, which helped set the new policy. Funding for 10 council-owned halls with five-year plans in place saw Glenbrook War Memorial, Waiau Pa, Matakawau,



▲ Te Toro Hall on the Awhitu Peninsula

and Pukekohe East receive no funding, while the halls Karaka War Memorial, Te Toro, Waipipi, Awhitu Central, Hūnua, and Paparimu received a percentage allocation.

The nine community-owned halls which also received funding are at Ararimu, Buckland, Glenbrook Beach, Grahams Beach Settlers, Mauku, Pollok, Pukeoware, Puni and Ramarama.

There are 31 rural halls across Franklin, 23 with local committees and the rest run by Auckland Council venue hire. Four are maintained by council and the other 19 get grants to manage and maintain them, historically based on targeted rates calculations in each area.

Te āhuatanga ā-rohe Local flavour

Kōkako spread their wings

Kōkako have been sighted for the first time near Cossey Dam at Hūnua Falls.

Auckland Council regional park rangers say that's eight kilometres – a long way for a less than perfect flyer - from the current Kōkako Management Area. Kōkako hop across branches and the top of trees before gliding to the next tree, so it would have taken time to reach the dam.

Senior Ranger Miranda Bennett says 30 years of recovery work is paying off. "This is a great reward for volunteers who give thousands of hours every year to pest control. One of our goals has always been to see kōkako spread."

Volunteers have stood behind the project since 1994, dedicating countless hours to ensuring the birds thrive. One stalwart has been Lenny van Heugten, author of 'Stories from the Kōkako Management Area', telling the story of a bird prolific in the 1900s but which by the 1950s had been devastated by habitat loss and predators.

Her fellow volunteer – and father – Willow van Heugten, says having Auckland Council support

remains vital. "But it would be useless without volunteers. I'm humbled to be able to work with them."

Friends of Te Wairoa chair and Te Ara Hikoi / Predator Free Franklin co-chair Glen Richards says the value of volunteering can't be stressed enough. "The management area comprises about 1500 hectares of protected forest, and an adjacent pest control area connecting another 500 hectares, so we always need more people."

Since 1995, the area has been managed through a bait and trapping programme delivered by rangers and volunteers. Franklin Local Board supported Pest Free Te Ara Hikoi to the tune of \$45,000 this financial year through its environmental work programme.

When the project started, records listed just one breeding pair and 23 individuals. Relocations boosted that, and now the population is thought to be 260 pairs – New Zealand's third largest mainland kōkako population.



▲ The kōkako population is bouncing back in the Hūnua Ranges, thanks to the efforts of dedicated volunteers and pest free initiatives keeping a check on predators.

Te tahua pūtea Funding impact statement

Financial year ending 30 June 2024

\$000s	Notes	Actual 2023/2024	Annual Plan 2023/2024	Annual Plan 2022/2023
Sources of operating funding:				
General rates, UAGCs, rates penalties		18,426	18,426	17,243
Targeted rates		626	647	640
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes		29	11	11
Fees and charges		363	357	340
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees and other receipts		188	81	123
Total operating funding		19,632	19,522	18,357
Applications of operating funding:				
Payments to staff and suppliers	1	16,325	15,734	15,002
Finance costs		857	857	951
Internal charges and overheads applied		2,603	2,603	2,077
Other operating funding applications		0	0	0
Total applications of operating funding		19,786	19,195	18,030
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding		(154)	327	327
Sources of capital funding:				
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure		0	0	0
Development and financial contributions		0	0	0
Increase (decrease) in debt	2	11,020	9,430	10,020
Gross proceeds from sale of assets		0	0	0
Lump sum contributions		0	0	0
Other dedicated capital funding		0	0	0
Total sources of capital funding		11,020	9,430	10,020
Applications of capital funding:				
Capital expenditure:	3			
- to meet additional demand		205	481	825
- to improve the level of service		437	266	526
- to replace existing assets		10,224	9,010	8,997
Increase (decrease) in reserves		0	0	0
Increase (decrease) in investments		0	0	0
Total applications of capital funding		10,866	9,757	10,347
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding		154	(327)	(327)
Funding balance		0	0	(0)

Variance explanation Actual 2023/2024 to Annual Plan 2023/2024

1. Payments to staff and suppliers were above annual plan mainly due to continuous repairs and maintenance as a result of severe weather events across the local board area. In particular, reserves, parks' grass areas and sports fields were seriously affected from flooding. Major parks such as Te Puru and Colin Lawrie needed reinstatement in time for summer sports.
2. Capital expenditure and payments to staff and suppliers were higher than planned. This resulted in a funding deficit which meant that more debt funding was required than was planned.
3. Capital expenditure was above plan mainly due to capital projects not included in the local board annual plan. These projects were funded from the Regional Coastal Assets Renewal Programme and the funding was approved by the Governing Body in August 2023, after the annual plan was adopted. The key projects in progress included seawall and coastal renewals at Big Bay Reserve, Tamakae Reserve, Maraetai Wharf, Sunkist Bay Reserve and Sunkist Bay wharf.

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ISSN 2624-1854 (Print)
ISSN 2624-1862 (PDF)