

Advocacy initiatives

A key role of the local board is to advocate for initiatives that the local board may not have decision-making responsibilities or funding for this annual plan, but recognise the value it will add to the local community. Key advocacy areas for this local board include:

Initiative	Why is it a priority?	Advocating to	Status
Matiatia Strategic Plan	The board is progressing a strategic plan for council owned land at Matiatia and requests that any future development is guided by this plan and appropriate funding is allocated within the Long-term Plan 2018-2028 (LTP) for both transport and non-transport infrastructure related priorities.	Governing Body Auckland Transport	Underway /Ongoing
Carbon Reduction	The effect of climate change on our environment is becoming more obvious and the board encourage and support carbon reduction initiatives. Electric Island Waiheke aims for an electric vehicle-only island by 2030. In support, the board is advocating for the electrification of Waiheke's public transport and the establishment of clean fuel ferry services, alongside provision of appropriate footpaths and cycleways.	Governing Body Auckland Transport	Underway /Ongoing
Quality roading and infrastructure that supports Waiheke's character and water management needs	The board requests appropriate funding to deliver quality roading, footpaths and a cycling network to a standard consistent with the rest of Auckland (taking into account Waiheke character). This includes effective water management using water sensitive design techniques.	Governing Body Auckland Transport	Underway /Ongoing
Catchment management planning	Funding for the development and implementation of Watershed / Catchment managements plans and progressive upgrade of stormwater infrastructure is essential. This includes flooding and stormwater management, ensuring there is adequate water supply within the aquifer, monitoring of the drainage network and appropriate maintenance and infrastructure development using low impact design.	Governing Body	Underway /Ongoing
Visitor Impact	The board seeks funding for increased services, infrastructure maintenance and improvement projects which address the impact of tourism while also providing local benefit. This could include implementing a visitor levy or advocating to the Governing Body for visitor growth funding.	Governing Body	Underway /Ongoing
Community Swimming Pool	The board requests provision for funding of a Community Swimming Pool within the Long-term Plan 2018-2028 (LTP) as this is a local priority and an identified gap within the Community Facilities Network Plan.	Governing Body	Underway /Ongoing
Marine protected areas	The board supports the creation of a network of marine reserves and other protected areas linking the islands in its area of jurisdiction.	Governing Body Department of Conservation	Underway /Ongoing

Initiative	Why is it a priority?	Advocating to	Status
Devolution of decision-making to Local Boards	The board seeks active support from the Governing Body, Auckland Transport and Panuku for the agreed Waiheke Pilot to provide an increased level of decision-making and greater flexibility on matters such as transport and placeshaping projects; particularly for decisions within the roading corridor and with regards to local acquisition and divestment of Panuku property in the local area, such as at Ostend. The pilot will also provide an opportunity for local policy and planning issues to be advanced and for increased local operations leadership.	Governing Body Auckland Transport Panuku Development Auckland	Underway / Ongoing
Greenways / Pathways Plan	The board wish to secure a regional capital fund to further develop a world class destination greenway network on Waiheke.	Governing Body	Underway / Ongoing
Kauri Preservation	The board will continue to advocate for Kauri preservation on the island and seek the establishment of Kauri Sanctuary status for Waiheke.	Governing Body	Underway / Ongoing
Ecological Restoration and environmental programmes	Waiheke has many unique natural environments which have been neglected over time. Local budgets will not sufficiently enable the continuation of staged ecological restoration and weed management programmes. There needs to be an integrated approach to these programmes across the council, community groups and private landowners. This includes predator and pest management.	Governing Body	Underway / Ongoing
Plant pest management	Invasive weeds are a major threat to Waiheke and other islands' ecosystems. There needs to be greater support for community/council programmes and partnerships which aim to eradicate moth plant, rhamnus and pampas grass from the island, and control pest plants on land buffering Whakanewha Regional Park and other ecologically significant sites such as Te Matuku and Motukaha.	Governing Body	Underway / Ongoing
Pest Plant management in road corridors	Road corridors are major pathways for weeds and failure to manage this issue creates a disincentive for adjoining landowners to manage pest plants on their properties. Auckland Council needs to set an example of good management practice using a 'minimum herbicide' approach and working with volunteers and adjoining landowners.	Governing Body	Underway / Ongoing
Senior and community housing	The number of Waiheke residents aged 65-plus has increased by 53.7 per cent since 2006 and there is a lack of residential care and respite facilities to meet the needs of this aging population. There is also a lack of community housing options. The board are investigating utilising non-service council property at Belgium Street and Waitai Road (managed by Panuku) for this purpose.	Governing Body Panuku Development Auckland	Underway / Ongoing
Artworks complex upgrade	The Artworks complex provides a valuable arts and culture facility for the community and for visitors to the island. The Artworks Needs Assessment report identified a number of areas requiring attention including building condition issues. Governing Body support is required to progress future upgrades of the complex. The board also request the Governing Body address the inequity of legacy funding for art galleries, and develop a policy framework for determining the funding of asset based services which include community art galleries as a priority.	Governing Body	Underway / Ongoing

Initiative	Why is it a priority?	Advocating to	Status
Sustainable safe transport options including development of cycleways	Safe active transport options such as pedestrian, cycling and bridle path networks are a priority as many Waiheke roads are steep, narrow and not well suited to walking and cycling. Investment will provide low impact tourism options, support an active lifestyle and provide safe options for our community and school children.	Auckland Transport	Underway /Ongoing
Wharf tax	Wharf tax collected from Waiheke ferry services should be transparently allocated to Waiheke facilities	Auckland Transport	Underway /Ongoing
Waste management	That as part of the Waiheke Local Board pilot project, delegations be provided to the board to give effect to The Tikapa-Moana Hauraki Gulf Islands Draft Waste Plan (WMMP) to ensure on-island control of the full waste stream with community participation, including the development of on-island Community Resource Recovery Park within the next tier of funding, a Zero Waste Waiheke strategy and a visitor impact strategy. Commercial waste management including construction and road-building waste is now recognised as a region-wide challenge and is also a focus for us on Waiheke Island.	Governing Body	Underway /Ongoing

Ongoing advocacy areas:

Initiative	Advocate to	Status
Acquisition of more park land to extend the regional network and to provide additional camping facilities for visitors to Waiheke Island.	Governing Body	Underway/ Ongoing
Support local contractors for council projects on the island to improve the community's capacity, and assist with the health, resilience and sustainability of the local economy.	Governing Body	Underway/ Ongoing
Development of catchment management plans for all catchments on Waiheke, with Little Oneroa, Tawaipereira and Blackpool being the first priorities.	Governing Body	Underway/ Ongoing
Septic tanks retrofit scheme – expansion to the rest of the island.	Governing Body	Underway/ Ongoing
Ensure that both Matiatia and Kennedy Point are preserved as transport terminals hubs.	Auckland Transport	Underway/ Ongoing
Prioritise safe walking and cycling to schools and supporting the Travelwise programme for Waiheke's schools.	Auckland Transport	Underway/ Ongoing
Development of cycleways on Waiheke and support for the New Zealand Cycle Trail.	Auckland Transport	Underway/ Ongoing
Waiheke accessible transport plan is developed and implemented.	Auckland Transport	Underway/ Ongoing
Consult, review and advocate to Auckland Transport for implementation of changes to ensure The Esplanade is a useable space which meets community and tourist aspirations.	Auckland Transport	Underway/ Ongoing
Optimise bus routes, including more bus routes and more frequent bus services, as per the high frequency networks on the isthmus, with Park and Ride facilities at Onetangi, Rocky Bay, and Ostend and Surfdale, and a bus shuttle from Matiatia to Oneroa via Owhanake carpark.	Auckland Transport	Underway/ Ongoing
Advocate to Auckland Transport to support modern and more environmentally-friendly and accessible buses and bus stops, including kneeling buses and capacity to carry bikes, wheelchairs, pushchairs and luggage.	Auckland Transport	Underway/ Ongoing

Initiative	Advocate to	Status
Implement an integrated ticketing system for Waiheke ferry and bus services, a subsidy or equity on routes, and to maintain off-island bus travel for Fullers monthly pass holders at no additional cost.	Auckland Transport	Underway/ Ongoing
Auckland Transport to support ferries from both wharves being incorporated into the Public Transport Operation Model (PTOM) system.	Auckland Transport	Underway/ Ongoing
Ensure any regional cycle training programmes/initiatives are to be included on Waiheke.	Auckland Transport	Underway/ Ongoing
Auckland Transport to support a Rakino and inner island ferry from Matiatia.	Auckland Transport	Underway/ Ongoing
Ensure the board are provided with all roading projects and footpath design plans and projects, containing sufficient detail and with enough time to provide for meaningful consultation to prioritise the safety of our active transport users and the protection of our waterways.	Auckland Transport	Underway/ Ongoing
Install more scooter / motorbike parking, including charging stations for electric bikes at Matiatia and tyre inflation facilities.	Auckland Transport	Underway/ Ongoing
Install a covered bike shelter and more parking for bikes at Matiatia.	Auckland Transport	Underway/ Ongoing
Advocate for marine sewerage pump out facilities at Matiatia, Kennedy Point and Half Moon Bay.	Auckland Transport	Underway/ Ongoing
Investigate contouring at the Owhanake carpark to ensure maximum capacity is achieved.	Auckland Transport	Underway/ Ongoing
Ensure the board receives prior notification of roading projects on Waiheke, detailing the proposed works, the rationale for these works, the timeframe and consideration of such issues as "low impact" solutions rather than kerb and channelling.	Auckland Transport	Underway/ Ongoing
Improved ferry passenger facilities, in terms of comfort, safety and flow, to meet demands of visitors, commuters and occasional users including those with accessibility issues. This includes enclosed gangways on the Matiatia wharf.	Auckland Transport Panuku Development Auckland	Underway/ Ongoing
Ensure continued accessibility and connectivity from lower Queen Street and Quay Street to the Central Area Wharves, including during major events, with a primary emphasis on seamless connectivity for ferry users to Hospitals and the airport .	Auckland Transport Panuku Development Auckland ATEED	Underway/ Ongoing
Work with local businesses and community groups to encourage visitors in the shoulder and low seasons.	ATEED	Underway/ Ongoing
Ensure that council owned properties are utilised as effectively as possible by the community.	Governing Body Panuku Development Auckland	Underway/ Ongoing