

Date: Thursday 9 February 2023
Time: 5.00pm
Venue: Ōrākei Local Board office
25 St Johns Road,
Meadowbank

Ōrākei Local Board

OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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Section X: Local Board Supporting Information

Te Poari ā-Rohe o Ōrākei

X.1 Ōrākei Local Board

He kōrero mai i te Heamana [to change to te reo term for local board]

Message from the Ōrākei Local Board

Houston - we have a problem.

Your city is experiencing a serious bout of long-COVID and the planned budget for the 2023/24 financial year, set in the Long-term Plan, has a shortfall of \$295 million across the city.

The Mayor has proposed a budget for consultation which has been endorsed by the councillors (Governing Body). This proposal can be seen in the regional consultation document. It includes a net 4.66 per cent rates increase, a \$1.9 billion dollar injection from the sale of airport shares which will be used to reduce debt, operational savings made by the council bureaucracy and council-controlled organisations (CCOs), and a \$16 million savings in local board spending among other things.

The Ōrākei Local Board share of this proposed cut is \$650,000. This might seem like a manageable number when you consider the total (\$14 million) of what is allocated to run the board and all the programmes and services it delivers to its community of 90,000 people.

The problem is that the local board is unable to alter the many contracted activities of that budget so the overwhelming majority of that \$650,000 can only come out of the \$1.4 million we have allocated for Local Discretionary Initiatives.

The effect of this 46 per cent cut to this budget, if implemented by the Governing Body, can be found on page X of this document. You can see that we would have to cut environmental programmes, water quality initiatives, sports field maintenance, volunteer support, local board grants, events – some to the extent of 100 per cent. This represents a significant cut to services and the standard of maintenance expected by our community.

We need your input to tell us (so we can tell the Governing Body) what you think of this budget proposal. Do you think there is a better mix of options to cover the \$295 million shortfall and, if this cut to local board spending is approved, where would you like it implemented? What are your priorities for savings or cutting services?

Every board member, whom you elected with sizeable majorities, feels it is an absolute privilege to serve you and we will continue, passionately, to do the best we can with the tools available.

Ngā mihi nui

Ōrākei Local Board Chairperson Scott Milne, Deputy Chairperson Sarah Powrie, and board members Troy Churton, Angus McPhee, Penny Tucker, David Wong, Margaret Voyce

Section X: Local board supporting information
X.1 XXXX Local Board

Introduction

Each year we plan the activities we will deliver in your local board area. These are based on our 2020 Local Board Plan, which sets our three-year direction.

This year the Mayoral Proposal, supported by the Governing Body, to mitigate the budget pressures for 2023/2024 includes a proposed reduction of \$16 million to local board operational funding across the 21 local boards.

This would require the Ōrākei Local Board to reduce its planned operating spend by \$650,000 out of the previously budgeted \$1.4 million (46 per cent) for Local Discretionary Initiatives. This will result in a significant reduction in spending on local services such as arts and culture, environment, pest control, water quality, library services and opening hours, community programmes and facilities, events and youth. To do this we would need to make tough decisions, prioritising what is still possible in the work programme.

We are seeking your input on our proposed priorities for spending for the 2023/2024 financial year.

Key areas of spend	Community Services	Environmental Services	Planning Services	Governance	Total
Planned Operating Spend 2023/2024	\$12.4 million	\$297,000	\$562,000	\$969,000	\$14.2 million*
Planned Capital Spend 2023/2024	\$4.6 million	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4.6 million

*The Governing Body's proposal for public consultation to reduce local board operating funding would mean an overall reduction of \$650,000 to this planned operating spend and would need to come out of the \$1.4 million we have direct influence over for the Ōrākei Local Board for 2023/2024.

We will endeavour to deliver on our key priorities while managing substantial cuts to our budget, should they be imposed after consultation, in a way that allows us to:

- continue to improve water quality, including in Newmarket/Middleton stream, Hobson Bay and Ōrākei Basin
- continue to develop, maintain and enhance our parks and sports fields
- deliver the new Meadowbank Community Centre
- continue advocating for solutions to prevent crime and anti-social behaviour to support our local businesses and community and continue supporting community patrols
- investigate the potential for targeted rates and other sources of funding
- continue to work with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei to progress local initiatives and community development
- continue work to enhance Pourewa Valley and efforts to purchase Kohimarama Forest
- continue to advocate for local transport improvements

Responding to our budget challenge

To reduce our planned operating spend by \$650,000 we will need to discontinue, reduce spending, or increase fees for many of the following activities.

The potential funding reductions below are for illustrative purposes only to show the level of funding cuts that we are facing. No decisions have been made. Your feedback will be considered by the local board and will influence how funding is allocated.

Auckland Council Annual Budget 2022/2023
Supporting Information

Activity	Detail / Service level and community implications	Potential reductions
Community grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicants will be unable to secure the same amount of funding as before Community groups will need to reduce their activities Alternative sources of funding will need to be sought by community groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$279,000 (100% cut)
Local events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Events with traffic management plans such as Anzac parades and street-based festivals may be moved off road or to alternative locations Where the Ōrākei Local Board has been the sole funder, event organisers would need to look for alternative funding sources Some events may not go ahead at all Events that will be affected: Anzac parade, Carols on the Green, Movies in Parks, local civic events, the Ōrākei Environmental Forum, business and volunteer awards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$137,555 (94% cut)
Community delivery/programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There will be fewer people involved in and benefitting from community programmes Potential for external funding to be lost Pressure on other sources of funding will have a flow-on effect for funding of other community organisations Some community organisations would likely have to cease operations Activities affected: diverse participation, neighbourhood development and business activations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$66,000 (43% cut)
Environmental volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fewer people and groups involved in protecting biodiversity across the local board area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$6,000 (10% cut)
Arts and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local arts programmes will have to be combined, such as Māori arts and culture with the arts broker programme Other programmes supported by the arts broker would have to be reduced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$5,000 (100% cut)
Active communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of parks activations will be reduced combined with delivery of lower cost activations. There may be opportunities to deliver some nature-based programmes run by the Community Programme Ranger team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$10,000 (33% cut)
Environmental education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fewer children / schools supported Fewer teachers supported and upskilled to deliver environmental education Reduced community environmental action Fewer environmental community events / workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$37,000 (90% cut)
Restoration and pest control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced pest control locations / area Increased numbers of pests (most notably in and around significant ecological areas and parks) Reduced support to local groups and community involved in local pest control and ecological restoration Decline in biodiversity No new restoration / planting sites Restored sites may not be adequately maintained Loss of local employment (or reduced hours for our community coordinators) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$91,000 (49% cut)

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Water quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced water quality due to less riparian planting and fencing • No new restoration sites around waterways • Loss of local employment (or reduced hours for our community coordinators) • Reduced community environmental action, awareness and advocacy • Decline in biodiversity • Reduced support to local groups / loss of local employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$18,000 (27% cut)
Reduction in library hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing St Heliers and Remuera libraries opening hours down to six days a week from seven 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0% cut out of \$67,420 potential
Total indicative reductions		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$650,000

We would like to hear from you on your priorities and where reductions can be made and what must have priority for the local board area before we decide on how to reduce spending.

What do you think?

- It is proposed to reduce funding by \$16 million across all local boards which will impact the activities and services delivered by local boards. Given this possible reduction in funding, what do you think of our proposed priorities for services and activities in this local board in 2023/2024?
- If funding for local board activities is reduced, which three of our services do you not want to reduce funding for? (i.e. which are most important to you?)
- In the Mayoral Proposal, agreed by the Governing Body, the proposed reduction in operating costs would require the Ōrākei Local Board to find \$650,000 in savings in 2023/2024 from a budget of \$1.4 million. In our supporting information [link], we have proposed where these savings might come from and how they would effect the activities and services we provide. What do you think of the savings we've proposed across our activities and services?
 - Support
 - Do not support
 - Other
 - I don't know

Please tell us why.

Having seen the full impact of potential cuts in the Ōrākei Local Board area, if you don't agree with cutting local board funding and that there are other areas which council should focus on – please ensure that you have given your feedback on the [regional questions above](#) [\[insert link to return to top of regional questions\]](#).

LB consultation document content template

Te Poari ā-Rohe o Ōrākei

Ōrākei Local Board

Our proposal for the Ōrākei Local Board's operating and capital spend in 2023/2024

Key areas of spend	Community Services	Environmental Services	Planning Services	Governance	Total
Planned Operating Spend 2023/2024	\$12.4 million	\$297,000	\$562,000	\$969,000	\$14.2 million*
Planned Capital Spend 2023/2024	\$4.6 million	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4.6 million

*The Governing Body's proposal for public consultation to reduce local board operating funding would mean an overall reduction of \$650,000 to this planned operating spend for Ōrākei Local Board for 2023/2024.

Our key priorities in your Local Board Area in 2023/2024

Each year we deliver activities and services in your local board area. These are based on our Local Board Plan, which sets our three-year direction for the local board. We will endeavour to deliver on our key priorities while managing substantial cuts to our budget, should they occur, in a way that allows us to:

- continue to improve water quality, including in Newmarket/Middleton stream, Hobson Bay and Ōrākei Basin
- continue to develop, maintain and enhance our parks and sports fields
- deliver the new Meadowbank Community Centre
- continue advocating for solutions to prevent crime and anti-social behaviour to support our local businesses and community and continue supporting community patrols
- investigate the potential for targeted rates and other sources of funding
- continue to work with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei to progress local initiatives and community development
- continue work to enhance Pourewa Valley and efforts to purchase Kohimarama Forest
- continue to advocate for local transport improvements

Responding to our budget challenge

The Mayoral Proposal, supported by the Governing Body, to mitigate the budget pressures for 2023/2024 includes a proposed reduction of \$16 million in local board operational funding – this would require the Ōrākei Local Board to reduce its planned operating spend by \$650,000. This will come out of the previously budgeted \$1.4 million local discretionary spend available to the board to invest in our community. To do this, we will need to make tough decisions, prioritising what we do and where we invest. To meet this reduction, we will likely have to discontinue, reduce spending, or increase fees within some of these activity areas:

- Community grants
- Local events
- Community delivery / programmes
- Environmental volunteers
- Arts and culture
- Active communities
- Environmental education
- Restoration and pest control
- Water quality
- Youth initiatives
- Open space maintenance levels
- Community leasing charges
- Facility hours
- Library hours
- Service levels for community and art centres

To help us make these decisions, we would like to hear from you on your priorities, for more information see page X of the supporting information.