

I hereby give notice that an extraordinary meeting of the Whau Local Board will be held on:

**Date:** **Wednesday, 10 May 2023**  
**Time:** **1.00pm**  
**Meeting Room:** **Whau Local Board Office**  
**Venue:** **31 Totara Avenue  
New Lynn**

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## **Whau Local Board OPEN AGENDA**

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### **MEMBERSHIP**

<b>Chairperson</b>	Kay Thomas
<b>Deputy Chairperson</b>	Fasitua Amosa
<b>Members</b>	Ross Clow Catherine Farmer Sarah Paterson-Hamlin Warren Piper Susan Zhu

(Quorum 4 members)

**Claire Bews**  
**Democracy Advisor**

**3 May 2023**

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## 1 Nau mai | Welcome

## 2 Ngā Tamōtanga | Apologies

At the close of the agenda no apologies had been received.

## 3 Te Whakapuaki i te Whai Pānga | Declaration of Interest

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as a member and any private or other external interest they might have.

Specifically, members are asked to identify any new interests they have not previously disclosed, an interest that might be considered as a conflict of interest with a matter on the agenda.

The following are declared interests of elected members of the Whau Local Board:

Member	Organisation	Position
<b>Kay Thomas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New Lynn Citizens Advice Bureau</li> <li>Western Quilters</li> <li>Citizens Advice Bureau Waitākere Board</li> <li>Literacy Waitākere</li> <li>West Auckland Heritage Conference</li> </ul>	Volunteer  Member Chair Board member Committee member
<b>Fasitua Amosa</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Equity NZ</li> <li>Massive Theatre Company</li> <li>Avondale Business Association</li> </ul>	Vice President Board member A family member is the Chair
<b>Ross Clow</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Portage Licensing Trust</li> <li>Te Whau Coastal Walkway Environmental Trust</li> <li>Bay Olympic Sports Club</li> <li>Forest and Bird Society</li> <li>Waitākere Ranges Protection Society</li> <li>New Lynn Heritage Protection Society</li> <li>Karekare Surf Lifesaving Club</li> <li>Libraries</li> </ul>	Trustee Patron  Life Member Member Member  Member Member A family member is a Librarian
<b>Catherine Farmer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avondale-Waterview Historical Society</li> <li>Blockhouse Bay Historical Society</li> <li>Blockhouse Bay Bowls</li> <li>Forest and Bird organisation</li> <li>Grey Power</li> </ul>	Member  Member Patron Member Member

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<b>Sarah Paterson-Hamlin</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New Zealand Down Syndrome Association</li></ul>	Employee
<b>Warren Piper</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New Lynn RSA</li><li>• New Lynn Business Association</li></ul>	Associate member Member
<b>Susan Zhu</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chinese Women Association of New Zealand</li><li>• Chinese Medicine Council of New Zealand</li></ul>	Member / Legal Advisor Member / Deputy Chair

## Local board consultation feedback and input into the Annual Budget 2023/2024

File No.: CP2023/05384

### Te take mō te pūrongo Purpose of the report

1. To receive consultation feedback from the Whau Local Board area on:
  - proposed priorities and activities for the Whau Local Board Agreement 2023/2024.
  - proposed local activities to discontinue, reduce spending on, or increase fees to meet the Governing Body's proposed reduction in local board funding.
  - regional topics and related policies for the Annual Budget 2023/2024.
2. To recommend any local matters to the Governing Body that they will need to consider or make decisions on in the Annual Budget 2023/2024 process.
3. To provide input on the proposed regional topics in the Annual Budget 2023/2024 to the Governing Body.

### Whakarāpopototanga matua Executive summary

4. Local board agreements set out annual funding priorities, activities, budgets, levels of service, performance measures and initiatives for each local board area. Local board agreements for 2023/2024 will be included in Auckland Council's Annual Budget 2023/2024.
5. Auckland Council publicly consulted from 28 February to 28 March 2023 to seek community views on the proposed Annual Budget 2023/2024. This included consultation on the Whau Local Board's proposed priorities for 2023/2024 to be included in their local board agreement and proposed local activities to discontinue, reduce spending on, or increase fees to meet the Governing Body's proposed reduction in local board funding.
6. Auckland Council received 41,147 submissions in total across the region and 1,724 submissions from the Whau local board area. The local consultation feedback received highlights the need to create livable, accessible, equitable, and sustainable communities. Feedback also notes the importance of activities that foster connection, improve health and wellbeing, promote community and economic growth and development, and protect the environment. There is, however, differing opinion on specific priorities as well as a mixed response on how things should be funded.
7. In the Annual Budget process there are financial matters where local boards provide recommendations to the Governing Body, for consideration or decision-making. This includes any local board advocacy initiatives. The Governing Body will consider these items as part of the Annual Budget decision-making process in June 2023.
8. Local boards have a statutory responsibility to provide input into regional strategies, policies, plans, and bylaws. This report provides an opportunity for the local board to provide input on council's proposed Annual Budget 2023/2024.

## Ngā tūtohunga Recommendation/s

That the Whau Local Board:

- a) Receive consultation feedback on the proposed Whau Local Board priorities and activities for 2023/2024 including proposed local activities to discontinue, reduce spending on, or increase fees, to meet the reduction in local board funding proposed by the Governing Body.
- b) Receive consultation feedback on regional topics in the Annual Budget 2023/2024 and related policies from people and organisations based in the Whau Local Board area.
- c) Provide input on regional topics in the proposed Annual Budget 2023/2024 and related policies to the Governing Body.
- d) Provide advocacy on any local initiatives for the Annual Budget 2023/2024 to the Governing Body.

## Horopaki Context

9. Each financial year Auckland Council must have a local board agreement (as agreed between the Governing Body and the local board) for each local board area. The Whau Local Board Agreement sets out how the Council will reflect the priorities in the Whau Local Board Plan 2020 in respect to the local activities to be provided in the local board area. It includes information relating to budgets, levels of service, and performance measures.
10. The local board agreements 2023/2024 will form part of Auckland Council's Annual Budget 2023/2024.
11. Auckland Council publicly consulted from 28 February to 28 March 2023 to seek community views on the proposed Annual Budget 2023/2024, as well as local board priorities and proposed activities to be included in the local board agreement 2023/2024.
12. Auckland Council has faced ongoing budget challenges and recent and rapid increases in inflation and interest rates has placed significant pressure on the council's financial position. A forecast budget deficit of \$295 million needs to be addressed in the council's proposed Annual Budget 2023/2024.

## Tātaritanga me ngā tohutohu Analysis and advice

13. This report includes analysis of consultation feedback, any local matters to be recommended to the Governing Body and seeks input on regional topics in the proposed Annual Budget 2023/2024.

## Consultation feedback overview

14. As part of the public consultation Auckland Council used a variety of methods and channels to reach and engage a broad cross section of Aucklanders to gain their feedback and input into regional and local topics.
15. In total, Auckland Council received feedback from 41,147 people in the consultation period. This feedback was received through:



Channel	No.	%
Online	28805	70%
Hard copy	5006	12%
Email	1909	5%
Other	939	2%
Event	4488	11%
<b>Total</b>	<b>41147</b>	<b>100%</b>

16. The 1,724 submissions from the Whau local board area were a mix of individual and organisational responses as follows:

Submitters	No.	%
Individual	1694	98%
Organisation	30	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1724</b>	<b>100%</b>

17. All feedback will be made available on an Auckland Council webpage called “Submissions on the Annual Budget 2023/2024” in due course.

## Feedback received for the Whau Local Board for 2023/2024

### Key priorities in Whau local board area in 2023/2024

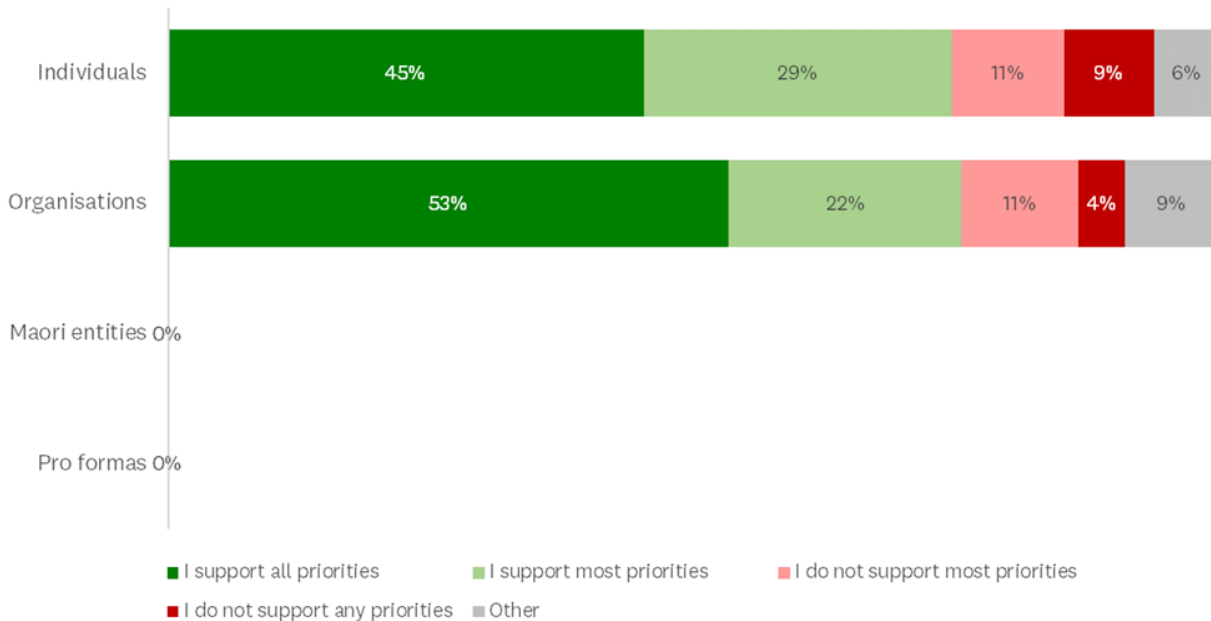
18. The Whau Local Board consulted on the following priorities for 2023/2024:

- Priority 1: We will look for inclusive and accessible ways to engage with our hard to reach communities.
- Priority 2: We will broaden our environmental work to include the Manukau Harbour foreshore and waterway that is within our area.
- Priority 3: We will aim to progress implementation of the Urban Ngahere (forest) Strategy as much as practicable.
- Priority 4: We will undertake more governance-level engagement and collaboration with mana whenua and the other West Auckland local boards.
- Priority 5: We will work with the local BIDs where possible, to support the local economy.

19. 1,464 submissions were received on Whau Local Board’s priorities for 2023/2024. Most local respondents supported all, and most priorities as demonstrated by the table and graph below.

	I support all priorities	I support most priorities	I do not support most priorities	I do not support any priorities	Other	Don't know	Total
<b>Count</b>							
Individuals	643	415	151	122	87	1	1419
Organisations	24	10	5	2	4	0	45
Maori entities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pro formas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Percentage</b>							
Individuals	45%	29%	11%	9%	6%	0%	100%
Organisations	53%	22%	11%	4%	9%	0%	100%
Maori entities	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Pro formas	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Item 4



20. Consultation feedback on local board priorities will be considered by the local board when approving its local board agreement on 21 June 2023.

Key themes

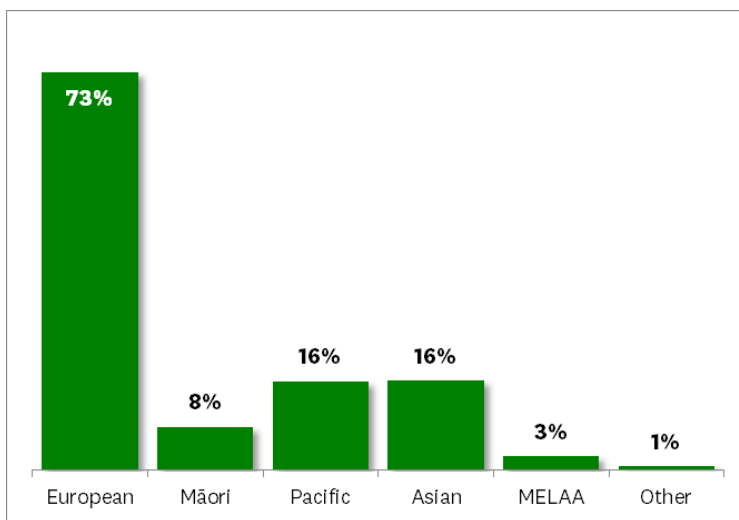
21. Key themes of note across the feedback received included:
- Considerable support for services and activities related to community development, environmental initiatives, and support for youth and families.
  - A focus on community development and engagement, including funding community hubs and centres, as well as community volunteer groups.
  - Support for environmental initiatives as a key priority.
  - Whilst there are varying views on which services and activities for the local board should be prioritised, there is general consensus that services and activities provided by the local board are important and should be maintained or increased, even if it means increasing rates or finding alternative sources of funding.

**Responding to the budget challenge**

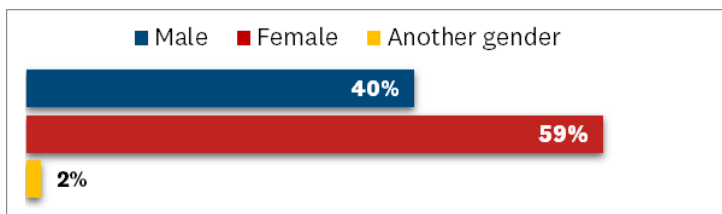
22. The council's proposed response to mitigate the budget pressures for 2023/2024 included a proposed reduction of \$16 million to local board operational funding – this would require the Whau Local Board to reduce its planned operating spend by \$669,000.
23. To do this, local boards would need to make tough decisions, prioritising what they do and where they invest. Aucklanders were asked for their priorities given the proposed reduction would mean some local activities would have to be discontinued, have reduced spending, or increased fees.
24. The table below provides an overview of the responses from the Whau local board area on question 5B: 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?)



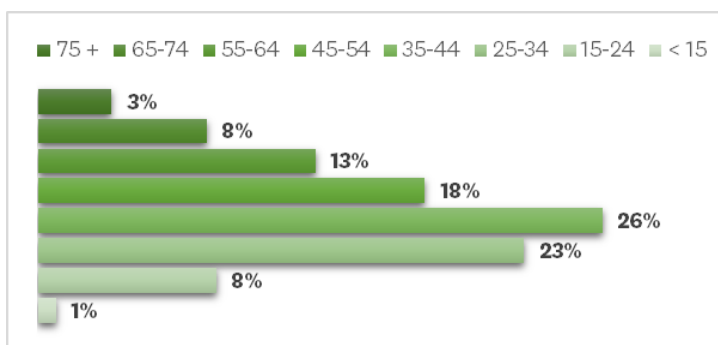
Ethnicity		#	%
<b>European</b>		<b>1165</b>	<b>73%</b>
	Pākehā/NZ European	1018	64%
	Other European	147	9%
<b>Māori</b>		<b>127</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>Pasifika</b>		<b>260</b>	<b>16%</b>
	Samoan	155	10%
	Cook Islands Māori	20	1%
	Tongan	43	3%
	Other Pasifika	42	3%
<b>Asian</b>		<b>261</b>	<b>16%</b>
	Chinese	104	7%
	South east Asian	45	3%
	Korean	8	1%
	Indian	86	5%
	Other Asian	18	1%
<b>African/Middle Eastern/Latin</b>		<b>41</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>Other</b>		<b>11</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>1591</b>	<b>117%</b>



Demographics		Count
Gender		1586
	Male	628
	Female	934
	Another gender	24



Demographics		Count
Age		1560
	Under 15	14
	15-17	24
	18-24	110
	25-34	364
	35-44	423
	45-54	290
	55-64	208
	65-74	127
	75+	55



### Key themes

27. Key themes of note across the feedback received (through written, in-person and other channels) included the need to:
- use a combination of approaches to balance the budget whilst maintaining and growing services, social programs, and infrastructure, as well as protecting future investments. Approaches include finding other ways to increase revenue, to reduce costs through improved efficiencies, and to consider alternative ways to save money instead of reducing funding to key services
  - manage rates and debt in a way that is fair and sustainable for all residents which includes considering the impact on low-income communities
  - prioritise investment in infrastructure and services that benefit the community.
28. Key themes of note across the feedback received from Te Kawerau ā Maki (TKaM), as the iwi of West Auckland (and Upper Harbour) included:
- the importance of maintaining the Māori outcomes budget, the environmental targeted rate, the water quality targeted rate, the budget supporting Waitangi Day and Matariki events, as well as the budget for TKaM to lead Creative Henderson/West project in partnership with Tātaki Auckland Unlimited
  - request for funding for: ongoing support for the establishment of the Te Henga marae; funding for dedicated officer resources for various projects including the Riverhead forest plan, Te Onekiritea, and Waitākere Ranges Kaitiaki Monitoring, as well as to be able to exercise its regulatory functions in a more systematic way, build capacity and capability in TKaM, and to be able to participate in Council processes in genuine partnership; and progressing a relationship agreement and Mana Whakahono document.

### Overview of feedback received on regional topics in the Annual Budget 2023/2024 from the Whau local board area

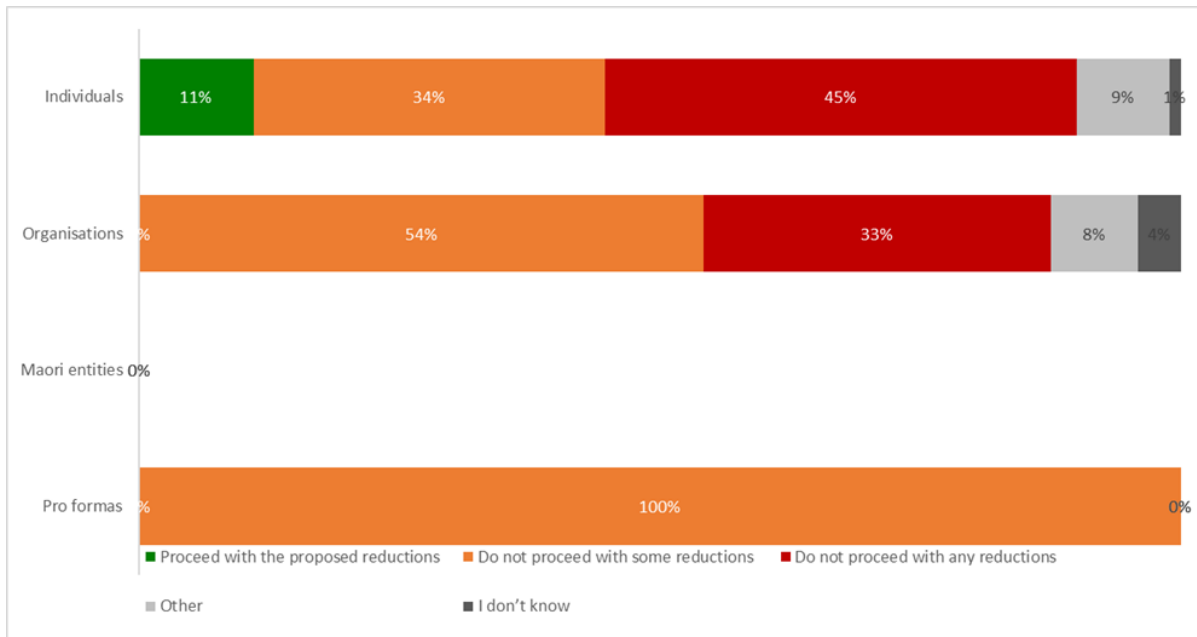
29. The proposed Annual Budget 2023/2024 sets out Auckland Council's priorities and how the Council plans to pay for them. Consultation on the proposed Annual Budget asked submitters to respond to key questions on:
1. operating spending reductions
  2. amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy
  3. managing rates and debt
  4. storm response
  5. local board priorities (covered in 'Feedback received on the Whau Local Board for 2023/2024' section above)
  6. changes to other rates, fees, and charges.

30. Submitters were also encouraged to give feedback on any of the other matters included in the Annual Budget 2023/2024 consultation document.
31. The submissions received from the Whau local board area on these key issues are summarised below, along with an overview of any other areas of feedback on regional proposals with a local impact.

### Key Question 1: Operating spending reductions

32. Aucklanders were asked for feedback on a proposal to save \$125 million through reductions including:
- maintaining the current reduced number of public transport services for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million
  - reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited to save a further \$27.5 million with effects on service delivery (including economic development and tourism promotion) and pricing at venues it manages such as Auckland Zoo, Auckland Art Gallery and stadiums
  - reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$20 million
  - reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million (feedback received on local impacts of the reduction is outlined in the 'Feedback received for the Whau Local Board for 2023/2024' section above)
  - reducing contestable grants to save \$3 million
  - no longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million.
33. The table and graph below give an overview of the responses to this question from the Whau local board area.

Q1 Operating spending reductions						
Category	Count					
	Proceed with the proposed reductions	Do not proceed with some reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt	Do not proceed with any reductions and instead further increase rates and/or debt	Other	I don't know	Total
Individuals	165	506	680	133	17	1501
Organisations	0	13	8	2	1	24
Maori entities	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pro formas	0	32	0	0	0	32
	Percentage					
	Proceed with the proposed reductions	Do not proceed with some reductions	Do not proceed with any reductions	Other	I don't know	Total
Individuals	11%	34%	45%	9%	1%	100%
Organisations	0%	54%	33%	8%	4%	100%
Maori entities	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Pro formas	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%



### Key themes

34. Respondents were asked why, and which reductions they would not proceed with, if any. Key themes of note across the feedback received included:
- For those respondents who would not proceed with all or some of the reductions, the following were identified as areas where funding should not be reduced because they are seen as important to the community for a range of social, cultural and economic reasons:
    - public transport and investment in new infrastructure
    - early childhood education (impacting both development of our tamariki and the ability of parents to work)
    - arts, culture, and community initiatives including those that contribute to our cultural identity
    - social services including those that support our health and wellbeing
    - various services in Auckland, including regional services, local board activities, contestable grants, and Tātaki Auckland Unlimited.
  - These respondents also suggested finding alternative ways to save money such as:
    - unfreezing the water quality and natural environment targeted rates
    - increasing borrowing
    - investigating different models of revenue generation.

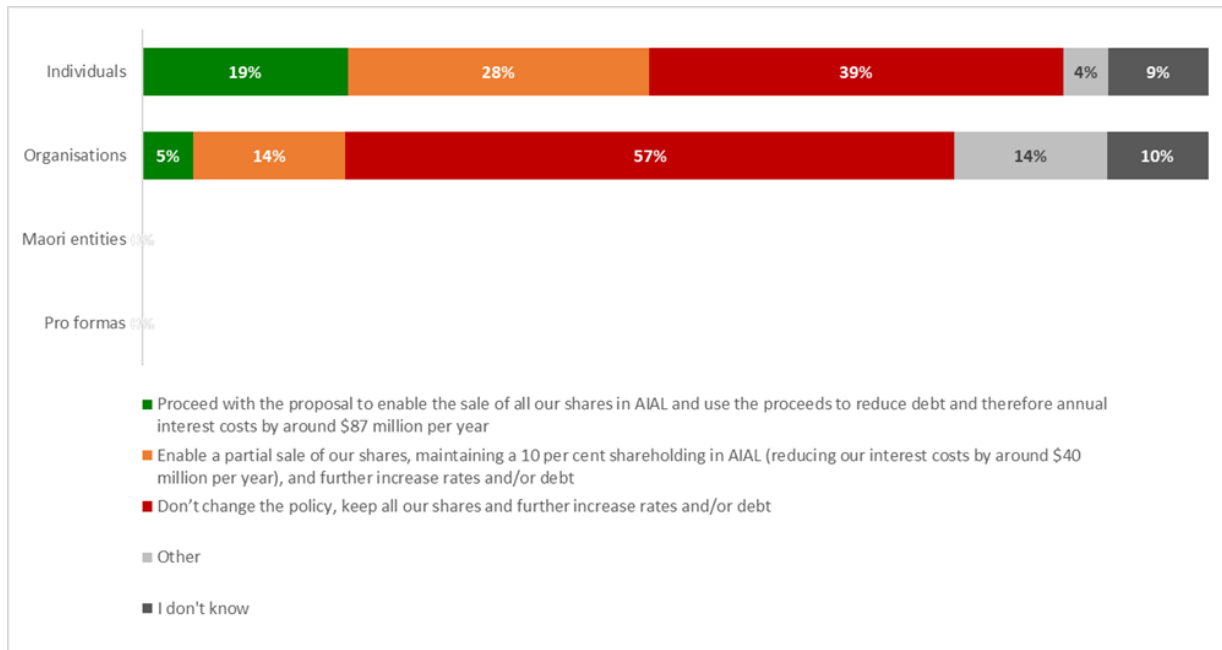
### Key Question 2: Amending Auckland International Airport Limited (AIAL) Shareholding Policy

35. Aucklanders were asked about a planned change to the AIAL Shareholding Policy which will allow the sale of some or all of Auckland Council’s shares in AIAL. The proposal is to sell all the shareholding (currently around 18 per cent of shares in Auckland Airport) which would reduce debt by around \$1.9 billion. This is projected to reduce interest costs by \$87 million per year.
36. Other options were considered, including keeping all the shares or a partial sale. These options would contribute less towards the budget reduction target and require other actions such as further increasing rates or debt.



37. The table and graph below give an overview of the responses to this question from the Whau local board area.

Q2 AIAL Shareholding Policy						
Category	Count					Total
	Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year	Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt	Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt	Other	I don't know	
Individuals	283	414	571	61	138	1467
Organisations	1	3	12	3	2	21
Maori entities	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pro formas	0	0	0	0	0	0
Percentage						
	Proceed with the proposal to enable the sale of all our shares in AIAL and use the proceeds to reduce debt and therefore annual interest costs by around \$87 million per year	Enable a partial sale of our shares, maintaining a 10 per cent shareholding in AIAL (reducing our interest costs by around \$40 million per year), and further increase rates and/or debt	Don't change the policy, keep all our shares and further increase rates and/or debt	Other	I don't know	Total
Individuals	19%	28%	39%	4%	9%	100%
Organisations	5%	14%	57%	14%	10%	100%
Maori entities	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Pro formas	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%



### Key themes

38. Respondents were asked whether they agreed with a full sale, a partial sale with an increase to rates and/or debt, or no sale with an increase to rates and/or debt. Key themes of note across the feedback received included:

- For those respondents who agreed with a full or partial sale:
  - selling shares would generate income in the short term to maintain current services and pay down debt. By reducing its debt, the Council would also lower its annual interest costs, freeing up funds for other uses
  - selling shares would provide an immediate cash infusion that could be used to fund other projects.
- For those respondents who did not agree with the sale:

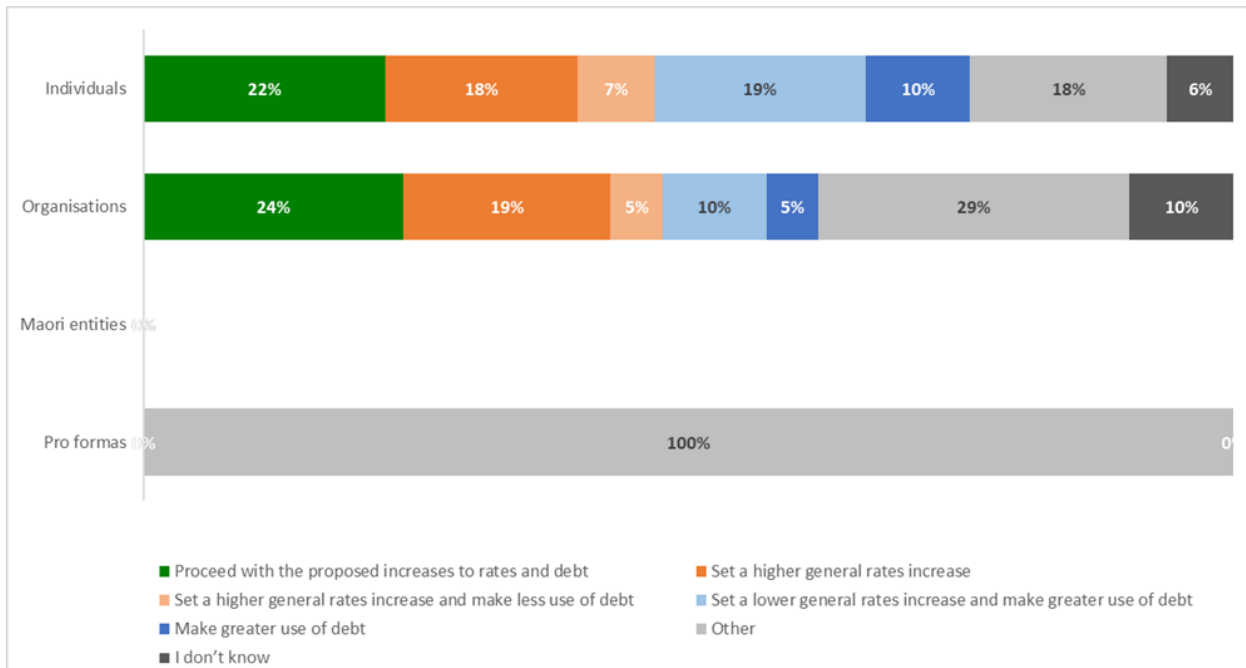


- the council would lose control over a significant asset which could have long-term consequences for the council and the city
- selling shares is a short-term solution to a long-term problem. It may provide immediate relief, but it could limit the council's options in the future
- the airport should remain in public hands to protect consumers and maintain democratic oversight
- Privatisation of the airport could lead to higher landing fees and other associated charges, which could increase the cost of living for Aucklanders.

### Key Question 3: Managing rates and debt

39. Aucklanders were asked to provide feedback on a proposal of a total rates increase for the average value residential property of around 4.66 per cent or \$154 per year. This would be achieved through:
- an average increase in general rates of 7 per cent across all existing properties, including non-residential
  - reducing the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) by around two thirds and using the money already collected from these rates to continue delivering these work programmes as planned in 2023/2024
  - pausing the long-term differential strategy (the split between business and residential rates) for one year. Under the current policy, annual increases to general rates for business properties are less than for non-business properties so that over time the share of general rates paid by business properties is fairer.
40. Aucklanders were also asked about the proposal to increase council's use of debt by up to \$75 million in the 2023/2024 year. The proposal involves using the debt to fund some capital expenditure that is currently planned to be funded by operating revenue.
41. The table and graph below give an overview of the responses to this question from the Whau local board area.

Q3 Managing rates and debt									
Category	Count	Proceed with the proposed increases to rates (4.66 per cent overall for the average value residential property) and debt (up to \$75 million of additional debt)	Set a higher general rates increase	Make greater use of debt	Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt	Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt	Other	I don't know	Total
Individuals	347	277	150	303	110	282	96	1565	
Organisations	5	4	1	2	1	6	2	21	
Maori entities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Pro formas	0	0	0	0	0	32	0	32	
Percentage									
Category	Count	Proceed with the proposed increases to rates and debt	Set a higher general rates increase	Make greater use of debt	Set a lower general rates increase and make greater use of debt	Set a higher general rates increase and make less use of debt	Other	I don't know	Total
Individuals	347	22%	18%	10%	19%	7%	18%	6%	100%
Organisations	5	24%	19%	5%	10%	5%	29%	10%	100%
Maori entities	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Pro formas	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	100%



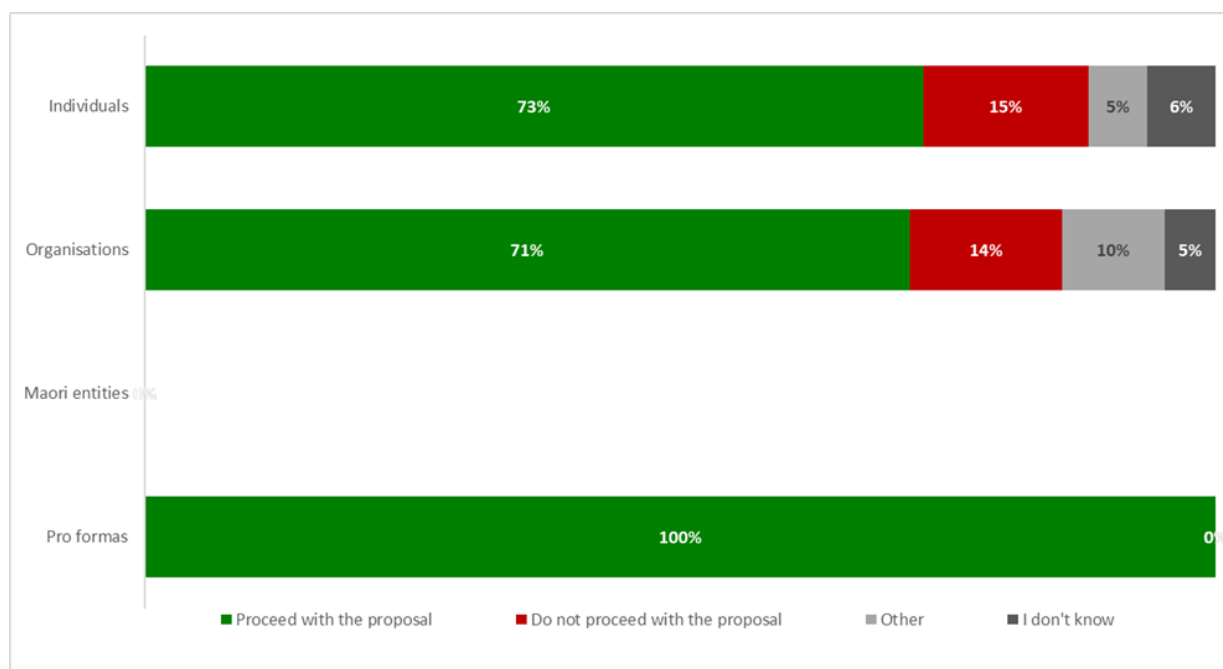
## Key themes

42. Respondents were provided with a range of options to manage rates and debt. Feedback from respondents showed there are varying opinions on the best way to manage rates and debt in Auckland. Key themes of note across the feedback received included:
- When considering the reasons to increase rates and or debt:
    - Auckland requires additional revenue to fund important infrastructure projects and maintain current levels of service. But that increasing rates too much could be detrimental to those on a tight budget, particularly those on low or fixed incomes
    - managing debt and increasing rates can help spread the cost of necessary investments over a longer period, making the burden more manageable for residents and businesses
    - those who can afford to pay more should do so to support those who are less fortunate
    - protecting the environment is a factor in managing rates and debt. And that Auckland needs to invest in projects that will help reduce its carbon footprint, such as public transport upgrades and renewable energy.
  - When considering the reasons to not increase rates and or debt:
    - rates and debt are managed poorly and that increasing rates will only exacerbate the issue. More needs to be done to improve efficiencies within the council, and savings should be found elsewhere before increasing rates
    - borrowing more money to fund investment in infrastructure and services may not be a sustainable solution. There needs to be a focus on generating income through other means, such as attracting new businesses to the city
    - the pandemic has created a fiscal crisis for Auckland, which has led to discussions around reducing costs, potentially through cutting services or staff. However, this may not be a viable solution as it could have negative impacts on Aucklanders' quality of life.

### Key Question 4: Storm response

43. Aucklanders were asked about a proposal to increase council’s operating budgets by around \$20 million each year to improve the ability to prepare for and respond to future storms. This would likely require rates to increase for 2023/2024 by around an additional 1 per cent (on top of the 4.66 per cent increase proposed to address the budget shortfall).
44. The table and graph below give an overview of the responses to this question from the Whau local board area.

Q4 Storm response						
Category	Count					Total
	Proceed with the proposal to increase our operating budget by around \$20 million each year	Do not proceed with the proposal	Other	I don't know		
Individuals	1083	230	81	95		1489
Organisations	15	3	2	1		21
Maori entities	0	0	0	0		0
Pro formas	32	0	0	0		32
	Percentage					
	Proceed with the proposal	Do not proceed with the proposal	Other	I don't know		Total
Individuals	73%	15%	5%	6%		100%
Organisations	71%	14%	10%	5%		100%
Maori entities	0%	0%	0%	0%		0%
Pro formas	100%	0%	0%	0%		100%



### Key themes

45. Respondents were asked whether they agreed with proceeding with the proposal or not proceeding with the proposal. Key themes of note across the feedback received included:
- For those respondents who agreed to proceed with the proposal:
    - storms have caused significant damage to property and infrastructure, including homes, businesses, and roads. It has disrupted people’s lives, and posed a risk to human life, particularly for vulnerable populations such as the elderly, young

children, and those with disabilities. There is, therefore, a need to take proactive steps to prevent or mitigate the impact of future storms to ensure that our communities are safe, resilient, and sustainable. This includes investing in better infrastructure, such as drainage systems and flood protection measures

- as the climate continues to warm, storms are likely to become more frequent and severe. This means that the potential damage from storms will only increase over time, making it even more important to prepare and mitigate their impact. Additionally, there is a need to address the underlying causes of climate change, such as greenhouse gas emissions, in order to reduce the frequency and severity of extreme weather events
- carefully planning new development and avoiding areas that are at high risk of flooding. Additionally, this can help to protect natural areas and wildlife habitats from being destroyed by development.

### Key Question 5: Local board priorities

46. Aucklanders were asked for feedback on the local impacts of the Annual Budget, feedback received on this is outlined in the 'Feedback received for the Whau Local Board for 2023/2024' section above.

### Key Question 6: Changes to other rates, fees, and charges

47. Aucklanders were asked for feedback on proposals to increase some targeted rates and other regulatory fees and charges as set out below. If the changes are not made, then general rates may need to be higher than proposed.

#### Waste management rates changes

- A 10.6 per cent increase to the base rate and targeted rate charges for non-standard refuse bins (in the former Auckland (ACC) and Manukau (MCC) city council areas)
- introduction of a fee for swapping bin sizes
- extension of the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year.

#### Changes to other rates, fees, and charges

- Re-prioritisation of additional bus service expenditure which was planned to be funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate (CATR) for the 2023/2024 year
- Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate: increases to reflect the actual costs of the service, and an increase in the fee for follow up inspections
- amendment to Community Occupancy Guidelines
- changes to the Rodney Drainage District Targeted Rate
- establishment of a Business Improvement District (BID) and BID targeted rate for Silverdale
- animal management fees
- some building and resource consenting fees
- other regulatory fees such as food licensing registration, micro-mobility operator fees and swimming pool inspections
- cemetery fees
- review of fees for bookable spaces in council managed pool and leisure facilities.

48. The tables below give an overview of the responses to this question from the Whau local board area. Responses came from individuals and organisations. There were no responses from Māori entities or pro forma responses.

INDIVIDUALS					
Waste Management Rates Change	Support	Do not support	Other	I don't know	TOTAL
Cost changes in waste management	768	348	50	228	1394
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size	948	280	45	124	1397
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year <sup>2</sup>	912	237	31	211	1391
Changes to other rates	Support	Do not support	Other	I don't know	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate	980	261	33	140	1414
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate	656	387	47	306	1396

ORGANISATIONS					
Waste Management Rates Change	Support	Do not support	Other	I don't know	TOTAL
Cost changes in waste management	9	6	0	4	19
Introduce a one-off fee of \$40 for those residents wishing to change their bin size	12	5	0	3	20
Extend the food scraps targeted rate to the new areas that will receive the service this year <sup>2</sup>	12	3	1	4	20
Changes to other rates	Support	Do not support	Other	I don't know	
Swimming Pool/Spa Pool Fencing Compliance Targeted Rate	11	3	1	3	18
Change which bus services are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate	9	4	1	4	18

### Key themes

49. Respondents were asked if they had any feedback on the proposed changes in the table above, or the other proposed changes to rates, fees, and charges in the consultation document (pages 55,58). Key themes of note across the feedback received included:
- For those respondents who supported the changes, there was some thinking that:
    - increasing rates and charges is necessary to fund essential services such as public transport, climate change initiatives, flood protection, active transport, and waste management initiatives
    - luxury services, such as swimming pools and spas, should be subject to higher rates to ensure that all ratepayers are contributing fairly
    - council should continue to support the climate action targeted rate, but some are concerned about the reprioritisation of the fund
    - there should be more investment in programs to encourage recycling and reduce waste and that the food scraps collection program should be extended to cover all areas of Auckland
    - fees should be consistent across the city and that targeted rates should be subsumed into a general rate.
  - For those respondents who did not support the changes, there was some thinking that:

- fees and rates are already too high and that any further increases will be unfair to lower-income residents exacerbating cost of living pressures
- waste management should be a basic service that is provided free of charge.
- Other themes of note included:
  - introducing more transparency and communication from the council regarding rates, fees, and charges for waste management so residents know exactly what they are paying for and why
  - selling golf courses or cutting the mayor's expenses to save money
  - adding small additional charges on tourists to raise money for economic development.

### Other matters for feedback

50. Aucklanders were asked to feedback on the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2023/2024 which sets out a framework in which the council must carry out the routine management of 14 Tūpuna Maunga.
51. Aucklanders were also asked what else is important to them and if they had any feedback on any other issues.

### Key themes

52. Respondents identified a number of concerns and issues including:
  - Investing in public transport, cycleways, and sidewalks to improve transportation and reduce car dependency
  - focusing on environmental sustainability and reducing emissions
  - maintaining or increasing funding for community services, as well as art and cultural programs
  - reducing spending in a way that does not disproportionately impact socio-economically challenged communities
  - investing in education.
53. Key themes of note across the feedback received included:
  - greater transparency in how the council is spending public funds is needed to address frustrations with what is perceived as a lack of oversight and responsiveness on the part of the council
  - taking action on climate change, investing in renewable energy, and promoting sustainable transport options is necessary to reduce emissions and mitigate the effects of climate change
  - prioritising short-term support for vulnerable populations, such as isolated older people, is required to ensure that all residents have access to essential services and support.
54. The table below breaks down the overall comments into the following themes:

Q7 - Other feedback				
Themes	Individuals	Organisations	Maori entities	Pro forma
Q7 General financial strategy	61	0	0	0
Q7 Other rating policy	8	0	0	0
Q7 APTR (Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate)	1	0	0	0
Q7 Climate Action Targeted Rate (CATR)	1	0	0	0
Q7 Rodney Drainage Districts Targeted Rate	0	0	0	0
Cemetery fees	1	1	0	0
Q7 Changes to other fees and charges	1	0	0	0
Q7 Business Improvements Districts (BIDs)	0	0	0	0
Q7 Strategic assets	25	0	0	0
Q7 Local Board Funding policy	13	1	0	0
Q7 Contributions policy	2	1	0	0
Q7 Grants and Subsidies	6	0	0	0
Q7 Other rating and funding	12	1	0	0
Q7 Transport (roads and footpaths)	36	1	0	0
Q7 Transport (public transport)	107	1	0	0
Q7 Transport (walking and cycling)	40	0	0	0
Q7 Transport (parking and enforcement)	10	0	0	0
Q7 Transport (other)	14	0	0	0
Q7 Water supply	8	1	0	0
Q7 Wastewater	9	1	0	0
Q7 Stormwater	19	1	0	0
Q7 Regional community places and services	159	6	0	0
Q7 Regional libraries	46	1	0	0
Q7 Regional parks, sport and rec	43	0	0	0
Q7 Regional arts, culture and events	116	2	0	0
Q7 Regional planning	15	2	0	0
Q7 Housing	12	0	0	0
Q7 Bylaws	0	0	0	0
Q7 Regulatory services	2	0	0	0
Q7 Cultural and built heritage	3	0	0	0
Q7 Solid waste services	8	2	0	0
Q7 Environmental services	123	1	0	0
Q7 Governance and support	76	1	0	0
Q7 Organisational support	27	0	0	0
Q7 Maori outcomes	9	0	0	0
Q7 Emergency management	3	1	0	0
Q7 Tupuna Maunga	27	0	0	0
Q7 Panuku Development Auckland	0	0	0	0
Q7 Auckland Unlimited	33	0	0	0
Q7 General comments about the plan	86	4	0	0
Q7 General comments about the process	19	1	0	0
Out of scope	35	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL COMMENTS</b>	<b>633</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

## Annual Budget 2023/2024 related policies

The following proposals were consulted on alongside the Annual Budget:

### Revenue and Financing Policy

- The proposal to pause the Long-Term Differential Strategy (LTDS) for one year would require an amendment to the Revenue and Financing Policy.



56. Under the current rating policy, businesses pay a greater share of rates than non-business properties. Businesses make more use of council services like transport and stormwater. They also place more demand on these services. Council previously decided that the level of business rates is too high and should be reduced gradually over time. The LTDS currently lowers the total amount of general rates (UAGC and value-based general rate) for businesses in equal steps, from 31 per cent in 2022/2023 to 25.8 per cent by 2037/2038.

#### Feedback

57. 146 submissions were received on the proposal. Of these, 99 supported the proposal and 41 did not support the proposal. A further six either provided another response or did not know. Comments from those in support included businesses being in a position to afford the increase and the impact of rates on residential ratepayers.
58. Responses from those who did not support the proposal included the view that business rates are too high.
59. Eight of the 146 responses were from people who identified as Māori with four in support of the proposal, three not in support and one who did not know.
60. The Property Council did not support the proposal citing concern for increased costs on businesses and business rates being too high.

#### Māori Land Rates Remission and Postponement Policy

61. The Council is proposing to amend the Māori Land Rates Remission and Postponement Policy to provide a partial remission of rates to general title papakāinga, where that land is:
- protected from being sold out of Māori ownership
  - for the sole use of hapū/iwi (tribe).
62. This recognises the similarities between these properties and papakāinga on Māori freehold land. The proposed remission would apply a discount of up to 10 per cent of the rateable land value. This is similar to what is applied to Māori freehold land.

#### Feedback

63. There were 40 submissions from individuals. Of these 20 were in support of the proposal and 20 did not support the proposal. Responses in support included the positive benefits to Māori in retaining land. Responses from those who did not support included Māori not having special treatment, and concern about the costs to other Aucklanders.
64. Eight of the 40 responses were from individuals who identified as Māori, all of who supported the proposal. Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei also submitted in support of the proposal.

#### Local board advocacy

65. Local boards can also provide approved advocacy initiatives which considers the consultation feedback above. This allows the Governing Body to consider these advocacy items when making decisions on the Annual Budget 2023/2024 to the Governing Body in June.
66. The advocacy initiatives approved by the local board will be included as an appendix to the 2023/2024 Local Board Agreement.

#### Local board input on regional topics in the Annual Budget 2023/2024

67. Local boards have a statutory responsibility for identifying and communicating the interests and preferences of the people in its local board area in relation to Auckland Council's strategies, policies, plans, and bylaws, and any proposed changes to be made to them. This report provides an opportunity for the local board to provide input on the council's proposed Annual Budget 2023/2024, proposed changes to the Revenue and Financing Policy and Māori Land Rates Remission and Postponement Policy.



## **Tauākī whakaaweawe āhuarangi** **Climate impact statement**

68. The decisions recommended in this report are part of the Annual Budget 2023/2024 and local board agreement process to approve funding and expenditure over the next year.
69. Projects allocated funding or proposed to have reduced funding through this Annual Budget process will all have varying levels of potential climate impact associated with them. The climate impacts of projects Auckland Council chooses to progress, are all assessed carefully as part of the council's rigorous reporting requirements.

## **Ngā whakaaweawe me ngā tirohanga a te rōpū Kaunihera** **Council group impacts and views**

70. The Annual Budget 2023/2024 is an Auckland Council Group document and will include budgets at a consolidated group level. Consultation items and updates to budgets to reflect decisions and new information may include items from across the group.

## **Ngā whakaaweawe ā-rohe me ngā tirohanga a te poari ā-rohe** **Local impacts and local board views**

71. The local board's decisions and feedback are being sought in this report. The local board has a statutory role in providing its feedback on regional plans and policies.
72. Local boards play an important role in the development of the council's Annual Budget. Local board agreements form part of the Annual Budget. Local board nominees have also attended Governing Body workshops on the Annual Budget.

## **Tauākī whakaaweawe Māori** **Māori impact statement**

73. Many local board decisions are of importance to and impact on Māori. Local board agreements and the Annual Budget are important tools that enable and can demonstrate the council's responsiveness to Māori.
74. Local board plans, developed in 2020 through engagement with the community including Māori, form the basis of local board area priorities. There is a need to continue to build relationships between local boards and iwi, and the wider Māori community.
75. Analysis provided of consultation feedback received on the proposed Annual Budget includes submissions made by mana whenua and the wider Māori community who have interests in the rohe / local board area.
76. Ongoing conversations between local boards and Māori will assist in understanding each other's priorities and issues. This in turn can influence and encourage Māori participation in the council's decision-making processes.
77. Some projects approved for funding could have discernible impacts on Māori. The potential impacts on Māori, as part of any project progressed by Auckland Council, will be assessed appropriately and accordingly as part of relevant reporting requirements.
78. The Annual Budget 2023/2024 and related policies includes a proposed amendment to the Māori Land Rates Remission and Postponement Policy covered in the 'Annual Budget related policies' section above.

## Ngā ritenga ā-pūtea Financial implications

79. This report is seeking the local board's decisions on financial matters in the local board agreement that must then be considered by the Governing Body.
80. The local board also provides input to regional plans and policies. There is information in the council's consultation material for each proposal with the financial implications of each option outlined for consideration.

## Ngā raru tūpono me ngā whakamaurutanga Risks and mitigations

81. The council must adopt its Annual Budget, which includes local board agreements, by 30 June 2023. In order to meet this timeframe, the local board is required to make recommendations on these local matters for the Annual Budget by mid-May 2023 and present to the Governing Body to make decisions on key items to be included in the Annual Budget on 8 June 2023.

## Ngā koringa ā-muri Next steps

82. The local board will approve its local board agreement in June 2023 and corresponding work programmes in July 2023.
83. Recommendations and feedback from the local board will be provided to the Governing Body for consideration in its decision-making.
84. The final Annual Budget 2023/2024 (including local board agreements) will be adopted by the Governing Body on 29 June 2023.

## Ngā tāpirihanga Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

## Ngā kaihaina Signatories

Authors	Zenovia Pappapetros - Local Board Engagement Advisor
Authorisers	Adam Milina - Local Area Manager Louise Mason - General Manager Local Board Services