

**Date:** Thursday 15 February 2024  
**Time:** 12.00pm  
**Meeting Room:** Howick Local Board Meeting Room  
**Venue:** Pakuranga Library Complex  
 7 Aylesbury Street  
 Pakuranga

## Howick Local Board

# OPEN ATTACHMENTS

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## Chairperson's Report as of Thursday 8 February 2024

Since our last meeting, we've farewelled 2023 and the new year is well underway. After a challenging year, it was good to be able to celebrate with our community, taking time to acknowledge the many successes and achievements that our hard-working community has delivered. The Howick Youth Council Annual Review and East Auckland Youth Awards were definitely highlights and great showcases of the amazing people we have in our area.

In December, the Howick Santa Parade delivered their 70<sup>th</sup> event, supported by funding from our Event Partnership Fund. It was good to have the Howick Local Board in the parade and special thanks to Member David Collings for providing the vehicle and decorations.

While our first business meeting isn't until Thursday 15 February, our workshops began in late January, and we've been attending community events throughout. Lunar New Year is upon us, with events already underway across the community celebrating this significant event for many cultures. Preparations are well underway for our own Celebrating Cultures event in March, as well as our Music in Parks event.

Behind the scenes there have been some staff changes within the Howick Local Board office, the most significant being our hardworking Personal Assistant and Office Manager Willemien Thom, who has retired after 19 years in Auckland Council (and legacy organisations). We're fortunate to be supported by dedicated and professional staff who enable us to deliver for the community.

We've had significant feedback from local residents regarding the reduction in public litter bins. Approved by the Governing Body as part of the 2023/2024 Annual Budget cost saving initiatives, the 30% region wide reduction was intended to focus on the less utilised bins to save \$9.5 million over eight years. While this wasn't a decision of the Howick Local Board, local residents have asked for assistance and we're working with staff to understand what actions are available.

We're looking forward to the pending opening of the Youth Space in Botany which will provide a dedicated space for our rangatahi (youth). Moving onto the next big challenges, we're hoping to resolve the future of the Howick War Memorial Hall and make progress on the much-needed Flat Bush Community Centre and Library.

Our new Local Board Plan that we consulted on last year takes effect in July, along with continued pressure on our limited budget. In March Auckland Council will be consulting on the Long Term (10-year) Plan and we'll be looking for input into our annual budget for the upcoming year so we can continue to focus on what's important to locals.



**Damian Light**  
Heamana | Chairperson  
Te Poari ā-Rohe o Howick | Howick Local Board

Date	Event/meeting attended
Fri 8 Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Introductory meeting with new chair of Otara Lake and Waterways Trust Tipi Arthur</b> arranged by Chair Damian Light</li> </ul>
Sat 9 Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Meeting with Flat Bush Residents and Ratepayers Association</b> arranged by Chair Damian Light</li> <li>• <b>Ormiston Entwine community meeting</b> attended by Chair Damian Light</li> </ul>
Sun 10 Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Howick Santa Parade</b> attended by Chair Damian Light and Members Adele White, Bruce Kendall, David Collins, Katrina Bungard and Mike Turinsky. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Supported through HLB Event Partnership Fund.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Mon 11 Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Howick Village Association monthly meeting</b> attended by Member Adele White</li> <li>• <b>Local Board Chairs Regional Forum</b> attended by Chair Damian Light</li> </ul>
Tue 12 Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Howick Youth Council annual review</b> attended by Chair Damian Light (who was invited to speak) and Members Bruce Kendall and David Collings.</li> </ul>
Wed 13 Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Watercare Redoubt Road Reservoir Dawn Blessing</b> attended by Chair Damian Light (who spoke) and Councillor Andy Baker.</li> <li>• <b>Howick Youth Council East Auckland Youth Awards</b> attended by Chair Damian Light (judge / guest speaker) and Member Bruce Kendall.</li> </ul>
Thu 14 Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Howick Local Board Business Meeting</b> (refer minutes for attendance and decisions)</li> </ul>
Sat 13 Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Lori Mela Festival 2024</b> attended by Member Adele White</li> </ul>
Thu 18 Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Introductory Meeting with Andrew Peteru, new Senior Community Planning &amp; Readiness Advisor for Auckland Emergency Management</b> arranged by Chair Damian Light</li> </ul>
Sat 20 Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Annual Reunion Dinner at Fo Guang Shan Buddhist Temple</b> attended by Chair Damian Light (who was invited to speak), Member Adele White and Councillor Sharon Stewart (who was invited to speak).</li> </ul>
Thu 25 Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Howick Local Board workshop</b> (refer workshop records for attendance and topics)</li> </ul>
Thu 01-Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Howick Local Board workshop</b> (refer workshop records for attendance and topics)</li> </ul>
Fri 02-Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>New Year Thank You Celebration hosted by Hon Simeon Brown, MP</b> for Pakuranga attended by Chair Damian Light and Councillor Sharon Stewart.</li> <li>• <b>Friends of Mangemangeroa</b> meeting arranged by Chair Damian Light.</li> </ul>
Sun 04-Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chinese New Year Celebration hosted by Howick Chinese Association</b>, attended by Chair Damian Light (who was invited to speak) and Members Bruce Kendall and Peter Young.</li> </ul>
Wed 07-Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Lunar New Year Celebration hosted by Botany Town Centre</b> attended by Chair Damian Light and Member Peter Young.</li> </ul>
Thu 08-Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Howick Local Board workshop</b> (refer workshop records for attendance and topics)</li> </ul>









































































































