
Howick Local Board

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Howick Local Board held in the Howick Local Board Meeting Room, Pakuranga Library Complex, 7 Aylesbury Street, Pakuranga on Thursday, 20 March 2025 at 12.00pm.

TE HUNGA KUA TAE MAI | PRESENT

Chairperson	Damian Light
Deputy Chairperson	Bo Burns
Members	Katrina Bungard
	Bruce Kendall
	John Spiller
	Mike Turinsky
	Adele White, JP
	Peter Young, JP

Via electronic link from 12.16pm

TE HUNGA KĀORE I TAE MAI | ABSENT

Member	David Collings
--------	----------------

1 Nau mai | Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone present.

1.1 Electronic Attendance

Resolution number HW/2025/21

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member A White:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **tuhi tīpoka / note and confirm the request from Member John Spiller to attend the meeting via electronic link to accommodate the Member's illness.**

CARRIED

Note: The Chair gave permission to Chris Harrowell of The Times to record the meeting for journalistic purposes.

2 Ngā Tamōtanga | Apologies

Resolution number HW/2025/22

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member K Bungard:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **whakaae / accept the apology from Member David Collings for absence.**

CARRIED

3 Te Whakapuaki i te Whai Pānga | Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 Te Whakaū i ngā Āmiki | Confirmation of Minutes

Resolution number HW/2025/23

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Deputy Chairperson B Burns:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **whakaū / confirm the ordinary minutes of its meeting, held on Thursday, 20 February 2025, as a true and correct record subject to the following amendment for Item 21 - Auckland Council's Performance Report: Howick Local Board for Quarter Two 2024/2025, to be amended (Resolution no. HW/2025/17) clause a) whiwhi / receive the performance report for quarter two ending 31 December 2024.**

CARRIED

5 He Tamōtanga Motuhake | Leave of Absence

There were no leaves of absence.

6 Te Mihi | Acknowledgements

6.1 Acknowledgement - Pakūranga Library on 30 years of service to the community

Resolution number HW/2025/24

MOVED by Member B Kendall, seconded by Member A White:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **congratulate the Pakūranga Library on 30 years of service as a community library. The first Pakūranga Library was opened where Te Tuhi stands today, and the new building was opened on 11 March 1995. The library and their amazing staff continue to serve the community with a wide range of programmes and activities, responding to local needs with more than 130,000 visitors a year.**

CARRIED

6.2 Acknowledgement - Te Tuhi on 50 years of service to the community

Resolution number HW/2025/25

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Deputy Chairperson B Burns:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **congratulate Te Tuhi on 50 years as a leading contemporary art space and community centre. Its roots lay with the foundation of the Pakuranga Arts Society in 1969 led by Iris Fisher and Nanette Cameron. Many others were instrumental in the establishment of the Pakuranga Community Centre (1975) and the Fisher Gallery (1984), including Lois Perry, Sir Barry Curtis, Vern Avery and Kit Thorpe. In 2001, the Pakuranga Community and Cultural Centre and the Fisher Gallery were amalgamated to become Te Tuhi. Te Tuhi is now operated by the Te Tuhi Contemporary Art Trust and funded by the Contemporary Art Foundation, an Auckland Council CCO. Over five decades they have hosted over 700 exhibitions featuring local, national and internationally significant artists as well as countless community meetings and events.**

CARRIED

6.3 Acknowledgement - The 21 Local Board Chairs

Resolution number HW/2025/26

MOVED by Deputy Chairperson B Burns, seconded by Member A White:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **acknowledges and thanks the 21 Local Board Chairs for their collaborative efforts in addressing collective concerns regarding the significant budget shortfall of \$17.6 million across all boards. The joint letter sent to the Governing Body and Mayor Wayne Brown effectively highlighted the potential impacts on local boards and their communities. The recent response from Mayor Brown, confirming acknowledgment of these concerns and assuring that no budget changes will occur for the 2025/26 financial year, is a positive outcome. This successful initiative demonstrates the importance and effectiveness of local boards working collectively on key community issues.**

CARRIED

7 Ngā Petihana | Petitions

There were no petitions.

8 Ngā Tono Whakaaturanga | Deputations

8.1 Deputation - Dr Julie Chambers - Co-Chair Tāmaki Estuary Environmental Forum (TEEF)

Dr Julie Chambers was in attendance to speak to the Board about Tāmaki Estuary Environmental Forum (TEEF), challenges in the Tāmaki Estuary & River.

Resolution number HW/2025/27

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member M Turinsky:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **whakamihi / thank Dr Julie Chambers for her deputation and attendance**
- b) **tono / request staff provide information on the number of sewage overflow events in the Howick Local Board area and what actions are underway to monitor and reduce them.**

CARRIED

8.2 Deputation - Barry Dreyer - President of Howick RSA

Barry Dreyer was in attendance to speak to the Board on matters pertaining to the Howick RSA.

A PowerPoint presentation was given. A copy of the PowerPoint has been placed on the official minutes and is available on the Auckland Council website as a minutes attachment.

Resolution number HW/2025/28

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Deputy Chairperson B Burns:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **whakamihi / thank Barry Dreyer for his deputation and attendance.**

CARRIED

Attachments

- A 20 March 2025 - Howick Local Board - Deputations 8.2 - Barry Dreyer - President of Howick RSA

*Member Peter Young left the room at 1.19pm
Member Peter Young return to the room at 1.25pm*

*Deputy Chair Bo Burns left the room at 1.21pm
Deputy Chair Bo Burns returned to the room at 1.22pm*

8.3 Deputation - Dr Rashi Parker - Birdcare Aotearoa – Immediate concerns for taonga birdlife in biodiversity threats

Dr Rashi Parker Fundraising Manager was in attendance to speak to the Board on biodiversity threats through the Howick rohe.

Resolution number HW/2025/29

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member P Young:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **whakamihi / thank Dr. Rashi Parker for her deputation and attendance.**

CARRIED

Secretarial Note: The Chair with agreement of the meeting requested reconsideration of Deputation item 8.2 Deputation – Barry Dreyer – President of Howick RSA at this time

Member K Bungard moved an amendment to the original motion, as follows

8.2b Deputation - Barry Dreyer - President of Howick RSA

Resolution number HW/2025/30

MOVED by Member K Bungard, seconded by Chairperson D Light:

That the Howick Local Board:

- b) **that the Board adds to its workshop programme consideration of the evidence on the recent OIA of the Howick War Memorial Hall usage, in order to consider best usage of the War Memorial Hall moving forward.**

CARRIED

9 Te Matapaki Tūmatanui | Public Forum

There was no public forum.

Note: The Board adjourned for a break at 1.41pm and reconvened at 1.47pm.

10 Ngā Pakihi Autaia | Extraordinary Business

There was no extraordinary business.

Note: Item 13: Auckland Transport Kōkiri / Local Board Transport Agreement Quarterly Update - March 2025, Item 14: Kōkiri - Setting priorities for Auckland Transport project and programme engagement, Item 15: Proposed new community lease to Pakuranga and Howick Budgeting Service Incorporated at 7 Aylesbury Street, Pakuranga and Item 16: Local board views on draft plan change to add trees and groups of trees to the Auckland Unitary Plan Operative in Part and to the Notable Trees overlay was considered prior to Item 11: Governing Body Members' Update.

13 Auckland Transport Kōkiri / Local Board Transport Agreement Quarterly Update - March 2025

Lorna Stewart – Auckland Transport Elected Member Relationship Manager was in attendance to speak to this item.

Resolution number HW/2025/31

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member A White:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **whiwhi / receive the March 2025 quarterly update on the Kōkiri / Local Board Transport Agreement 2024-2025.**

CARRIED

14 Kōkiri - Setting priorities for Auckland Transport project and programme engagement

Lorna Stewart – Auckland Transport Elected Member Relationship Manager was in attendance to speak to this item.

Resolution number HW/2025/32

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member A White:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **received the Forward Works Programme brief, considered the information provided and the board requests Auckland Transport to apply the following levels of engagement to these projects:**
- i) **Collaborate**
 - **Bradbury Road traffic calming**
 - **Kerrykeel Drive pedestrian improvements**
 - **Flat Bush School Road pedestrian improvements**
 - **Sunnyview Avenue pedestrian improvements**
 - **Stanniland Road pedestrian improvements**
 - ii) **Consult**
 - **Paid parking in metropolitan areas (Botany)**
 - **42 Stancombe Road pedestrian improvement**
 - **Cockle Bay/Churchill Road/Pah Road intersection improvement**
 - iii) **Inform**
 - **Minor public transport infrastructure improvements**
 - **Optimisation projects – Accent Drive Corridor improvements**
 - **Improvements in ferry services and infrastructure at Half Moon Bay.**
- b) **provides any projects or programmes for Auckland Transport to consider for inclusion in future work programmes:**
- **The construction of more commuter focused cycleways into the industrial areas of East Tāmaki and Highbrook to provide another safe transport option for workers and to capitalize on the investment of facilities built as part of the Eastern Busway.**
 - **More ferry services from Half Moon Bay to the city and return, especially on weekends.**

- Improve the frequency of bus services to the Flat Bush and Ormiston areas.
 - Pedestrian improvements on Fencible Drive to provide access across the road from the lower carpark located beneath Rices Mall.
 - Address safety issues at the intersection of Union Road and Wellington Street, Howick
 - Address safety issues at the intersection of Smales Road and Sir William Avenue, East Tāmaki.
- c) provides any projects or programmes for Auckland Transport to review that are not supported by the local community.

CARRIED

15 Proposed new community lease to Pakuranga and Howick Budgeting Service Incorporated at 7 Aylesbury Street, Pakuranga

Tsz Ning Chung – Community Lease Specialist was in attendance virtually to speak to this item.

Resolution number HW/2025/33

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member A White:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) whakaae / grant a new community lease to the Pakuranga and Howick Budgeting Service Incorporated for an area comprising approximately 73m² located at 7 Aylesbury Street, Pakuranga on the land legally described as Lot 5 DP 53672 (Attachment A – Site Plan), subject to the following terms and conditions:
- i) term – two (2) years, commencing 1 April 2025, with one (2) year right of renewal.
 - ii) rent – \$500 for the initial year increasing to \$900 for the second year and \$1300 from the third year onwards (all amounts are plus GST and per annum).
 - iii) Operational expenses – \$3285 plus GST per annum commencing 1 April 2025.
 - iv) community outcomes plan - to be appended to the lease as a schedule of the lease agreement (Attachment B – Community Outcomes Plan).
- b) whakaae / approve all other terms and conditions in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977, Auckland Council Community Occupancy Guidelines 2012 (updated July 2023), and the Auckland Council standard form community lease agreement for a new community lease to the Pakuranga and Howick Budgeting Service Incorporated for an area comprising approximately 73m² located at 7 Aylesbury Street, Pakuranga.
- c) tuhi ā-taipitopito / note that iwi engagement for Auckland Council’s intention to grant a new community lease to Pakuranga and Howick Budgeting Service Incorporated located at 7 Aylesbury Street, Pakuranga, has been undertaken in January 2025. No objections have been received.

CARRIED

16 Local board views on draft plan change to add trees and groups of trees to the Auckland Unitary Plan Operative in Part and to the Notable Trees overlay

Ruth Andrews - Senior Policy Planner and Peri Buckley - Senior Heritage Information Analyst was in attendance virtually to speak to this item.
Resolution number HW/2025/34

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member J Spiller:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **tuku / provide the following local board views on draft plan change to add approximately 169 trees and 27 groups of trees across the region to Schedule 10, and to the Notable Trees Overlay in the AUP maps. The Board:**
- i) **tuhi tīpoka / note the Howick Urban Ngahere Action Plan 2021 which includes a goal of increasing tree canopy cover within the local board area boundaries by 3 per cent by 2030 with a longer-term goal of 30 per cent coverage by 2050.**
 - ii) **tautoko / support the proposal to increase the number of trees protected across the city.**
 - iii) **tautoko / support the proposal to add a further 15 additional trees and groups within the Howick Local Board area, subject to the appropriate public consultation process required by a unitary plan change.**
 - iv) **tuhi tīpoka / note that this plan change is intended to incorporate all the nominations received in the past 10-12 years and encourage Auckland Council to take appropriate actions to speed up the process for adding trees to the protection schedule.**
 - v) **tuhi tīpoka / note that since the removal of the tree protections in 2013, there is widespread confusion in the public about what protections exist and encourage Auckland Council to use this opportunity to educate and inform the public.**

CARRIED

Note: Item 13: Auckland Transport Kōkiri / Local Board Transport Agreement Quarterly Update - March 2025, Item 14: Kōkiri - Setting priorities for Auckland Transport project and programme engagement, Item 15: Proposed new community lease to Pakuranga and Howick Budgeting Service Incorporated at 7 Aylesbury Street, Pakuranga and Item 16: Local board views on draft plan change to add trees and groups of trees to the Auckland Unitary Plan Operative in Part and to the Notable Trees overlay was considered prior to Item 11: Governing Body Members' Update.

11 Governing Body Members' Update

There was no Governing Body member's update.

Secretarial Note: At the start of the term, it was agreed that reports from the ward Councillors will be provided when there are board-specific updates to share. No report was received for this meeting.

12 Chairperson's Report

The motion was put in parts.

Resolution number HW/2025/35

MOVED by Deputy Chairperson B Burns, seconded by Member A White:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **whiwhi / receive the Chairperson's verbal update and written report.**

CARRIED

Resolution number HW/2025/36

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Deputy Chairperson B Burns:

That the Howick Local Board:

- b) **ohia / endorse the Local Board Chairs Letter to the Mayor and Councillors dated 11 March 2025 which has led to a positive outcome for all Local Boards.**

CARRIED

Resolution number HW/2025/37

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member A White:

That the Howick Local Board:

- c) **urgently request full transparency over Howick Local Board financial information.**
- i) **tautoko / support the stated intention of Auckland Council to achieve more empowered local boards but note that this requires quality and timely advice to support decision making.**
- A) **tuhi tīpoka / note the Mayor's instruction through the Long-term Plan 2024-2034 to implement disciplines restore Aucklanders' trust and confidence in our ability to spend their money wisely, particularly "Increased transparency and financial accountability: Improved financial and non-financial reporting for each area of the council group, tracking both spending and service delivery."**
- B) **tuhi tīpoka / note the email from CEO Phil Wilson and Group Chief Financial Officer Ross Tucker on 17 March 2025 that "boards will still need to ensure value for money for every dollar spent and continue to work with staff on minimising underlying cost pressures, increasing revenue and finding enduring solutions from 2026/2027." The Howick Local Board is willing to rise to meet these challenges but requires the advice and support to do so.**
- ii) **tono / request full and complete financial information be provided to enable elected representatives to make the required governance decisions. This should include:**
- A) **full visibility of revenue and operational expenditure for all local board facilities (including libraries, and pool and leisure centres) by site.**
- B) **full visibility on all commercial leases within the Howick Local Board area, that may be under the oversight of Eke Panuku, Auckland Transport, or any other part of the Auckland Council Group.**
- C) **full visibility of all other revenue or expenditure that is covered by the local board agreement, regardless of whether the local board has decision-making authority over the item.**

- iii) āhukahuka / acknowledge that some of this information may be sensitive and therefore may need to be treated confidentially, but all information that can be released publicly should be to ensure transparency and accountability.
- iv) tuhi tīpoka / note that without this information it will be extremely difficult to approve the local board agreement and work programmes for FY26.

CARRIED

Note: Item 13: Auckland Transport Kōkiri / Local Board Transport Agreement Quarterly Update - March 2025, Item 14: Kōkiri - Setting priorities for Auckland Transport project and programme engagement, Item 15: Proposed new community lease to Pakuranga and Howick Budgeting Service Incorporated at 7 Aylesbury Street, Pakuranga and Item 16: Local board views on draft plan change to add trees and groups of trees to the Auckland Unitary Plan Operative in Part and to the Notable Trees overlay was considered prior to Item 11: Governing Body Members' Update.

17 Feedback on options to address local board operating cost pressures for Annual Budget 2025/2026

Note: This item was withdrawn.

18 Urgent Decision of the Howick Local Board to Formalise Feedback on the Draft Storm-affected Land Use Policy

Matt Fletcher – Local Board Advisor was in attendance to speak to this item.
Resolution number HW/2025/38

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Deputy Chairperson B Burns:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **tuhi tīpoka / note the urgent decision made on 27 February 2025 to formalise the Howick Local Board's feedback on the Draft Storm-affected Land Use Policy; as follows:**
 - i) **the Board note that the views and preferences of the Howick Local Board have been endorsed by the local board members to be formally adopted at a future meeting.**
 - A) **this position applies in lieu of a formal resolution of the full board, because time constraints have prevented a scheduled meeting in time to meet the deadline for feedback requested by staff.**
 - B) **by signing below, members acknowledge the urgency of this matter, confirm their agreement to proceed and acknowledge this decision will be formally recorded at the next available board meeting.**
 - ii) **tuku / provide the following requests and feedback on the Draft Storm-affected Land Use Policy to the Governing Body, for consideration by the Policy and Planning Committee at its upcoming meeting:**
 - A) **regarding Future Policy development and Statutory Compliance, the Board:**
 - 1) **tuhi tipoka / note with serious concern that local board input was only sought as final comments rather than being integrated from**

- the outset of the policy development process. This process falls short of the statutory requirements set out in Section 48(J) of the Local Government Act 2002 and Section 15 of the Local Government (Auckland Council) Act 2009, which mandate meaningful local board involvement.
- 2) **tono / request strongly that future policy development processes adhere to a more inclusive consultation approach, engaging local boards from the beginning and providing a clear timeline and framework for meaningful participation, in compliance with legislative obligations.**
- B) regarding General matters relating to the policy, the Board:**
- 1) **tono / request that mana whenua are consulted on the Draft Storm-affected Land Use Policy.**
 - 2) **tono / request that the definition of Category (b) includes an explicit reference to Local Board Plans so that other locally determined priorities that go beyond core service needs may be considered**
 - 3) **tono / request that local boards are enabled to acquire Category (a) properties for any local activities or community priorities provided they have a viable funding plan e.g. a service optimisation business case or local rates proposal**
- C) regarding Policy Principles, the Board:**
- 1) **tono / request that the policy principles are strengthened by amending Principle 2 (Make best use of storm-affected land) to include an explicit reference to Local Board Plans or community priorities, thereby broadening and maximising the community value derived from the programme**
- D) regarding decision-Making Roles and Responsibilities, the Board:**
- 1) **tautoko / support further discussion on the management of residual land and land retained for hazard management purposes, acknowledging that all council land within local board areas are vital components of local open space networks and ecological corridors**
 - 2) **tautoko / support the establishment of a clear escalation process when local board views on land use differ from staff recommendations, ensuring such matters are referred for a political decision rather than being resolved through staff delegation**
 - 3) **tuhi tīpoka / note that, alternatively, the policy could enable local boards to present their case to the Storm Recovery Political Advisory Group, in the event that a request is not supported by the staff assessment, before a final decision is made**
- E) regarding Local Board Funding Requirements, the Board:**
- 1) **tautoko / support the removal of the requirement for local boards to commit operational funding (opex) as a precondition for the internal transfer of properties already assessed as meeting a service need by the Auckland Council Group. This requirement creates an unnecessary barrier to addressing service gaps.**
 - 2) **tono / request that if a property meets a service need and local boards support retaining or repurposing it, the Governing Body should expect that the necessary maintenance costs will be incorporated into the local boards existing maintenance**

- contracts with any budget top-up requirements to be considered by the local board as part of its work programme process.
- 3) **tono / request that if land is retained to meet a service need and it requires remediation, that the Governing Body, which holds statutory responsibility for the network of facilities and service capacity, should fund the remediation rather than leaving these costs to local boards.**
 - 4) **āhukahuka / acknowledge that where local boards wish to retain land for a community outcome that goes beyond core service needs, it is entirely appropriate to provide upfront assurance of funding availability**
- F) **regarding the Implementation Approach: Service needs assessment, the Board:**
- 1) **tono / request assurance that service needs assessments consider not only Local Board Plans, but any other relevant service needs assessments undertaken by local boards, such as: the Howick Walking and Cycling Network Plan, and Howick Sport and Active Recreation Facilities Plan 2024.**

CARRIED

19 Local board input into Auckland Council's submission on the Term of Parliament (Enabling 4-year Term) Legislation Amendment Bill

Resolution number HW/2025/39

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member B Kendall:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **tuku / provide the following feedback for Auckland Council's submission on the Term of Parliament (Enabling 4-year Term) Legislation Amendment Bill. The Board:**
 - i) **tuhi tīpoka / note the following relevant feedback provided in response to the LGNZ Electoral Reform Working Group Issues Paper in November 2024 (HW/2024/208), as follows, the Board:**
 - A) **āhukahuka / acknowledge that New Zealand has an unusually short electoral term of 3 years, significantly shorter than every other Westminster-based democracy with the UK, and most of Canada with four or more years.**
 - B) **tautoko / support a change to four years to improve members' abilities to make decisions for the long term by providing a longer window to get things done.**
 - C) **tautoko / support central and local government elections being two years apart to avoid central government elections dominating.**
 - ii) **do not support a variable 3- or 4-year cycle**
 - A) **as this would risk "creating uncertainty for the public, local government, businesses and communities in terms of how frequently there may be changes to government policy." (108 Regulatory Impact Statement)**
 - B) **it would make coordinating electoral cycles with local elections impossible.**
 - C) **the Board note the constitutional issues with " Order in Council mechanism to extend the term. This is constitutionally problematic, as in effect it is giving the Executive the power to determine the maximum term of Parliament." (117 Regulatory Impact Statement)**
 - D) **the Board suggest that the term is fixed at 3 or 4 years, making sure that the Local Government elections are on the same cycle.**

- iii) **tautoko / support greater accountability for central government, including having select committees proportional to the party membership in the House of Representatives of the non-executive members (the proportionality requirement).**
- iv) **suggest that additional checks and balances are put in place (regardless of the outcome of this bill) to safeguard democratic outcomes. This should include the entrenchment of the NZ Bill of Rights (currently a simple majority in parliament could repeal it).**
- v) **tautoko / support the issue going to referendum before coming into effect to ensure that the public has a direct say on its outcome.**

CARRIED

20 Howick Local Board views on the draft Contributions Policy 2025

Note: This item was withdrawn.

21 Record of Howick Local Board Open Workshop Notes

Resolution number HW/2025/40

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member P Young:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **tuhi tīpoka / note the workshop record for the workshop held on 27 February, and 6, 13 March.**

CARRIED

22 Hōtaka Kaupapa | Governance Forward Work Calendar

Resolution number HW/2025/41

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Deputy Chairperson B Burns:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **tuhi tīpoka / note the Hōtaka Kaupapa included as Attachment A of the agenda report.**

CARRIED

23 Te Whakaaro ki ngā Take Pūtea e Autaia ana | Consideration of Extraordinary Items

There was no consideration of extraordinary items.

2.38 pm

The chairperson thanked members for their attendance and attention to business and declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD
AT A MEETING OF THE HOWICK LOCAL BOARD
HELD ON

DATE:.....

CHAIRPERSON:.....