

Date: Wednesday, 23 April 2025
Time: 9:00am
Meeting Room: Local Board Chambers
Venue: 35 Coles Crescent
Papakura
Auckland

Papakura Local Board Workshop

OPEN AGENDA

MEMBERSHIP

Chairperson	Brent Catchpole
Deputy Chairperson	Jan Robinson
Members	Felicity Auva'a George Hawkins Kelvin Hieatt Andrew Webster

Sital Prasad
Democracy Advisor

17 April 2025

Contact Telephone: 273255719
Email: sital.prasad@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz
Website: www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

ITEM	TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
1	Ngā Tamōtanga Apologies	2
2	Te Whakapuaki i te Whai Pānga Declaration of Interest	2
3	Local Board Workshop	3

Agenda items

1 Ngā Tamōtanga | Apologies

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

2 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.

Local Board Workshop

File No.: CP2025/07117

Note 1: This workshop has been called by the chairperson in consultation with the staff.

Note 2: No working party/workshop may reach any decision or adopt any resolution unless specifically delegated to do so.

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

1. To present the Papakura Local Board workshop agenda for 23 April 2025.

Whakarāpopototanga matua **Executive summary**

2. Most workshops are open to the public to attend as observers in person or online, if in person attendance is impractical.
3. Some sessions may not be open to the public. The chairperson and deputy chairperson decide which sessions are open to the public, depending on the sensitivity of the information being discussed. If a session is not open, a reason will be provided below.
4. Local Board workshops provide an opportunity for local boards to carry out their governance role in the following areas:
 - a) accountability to the public
 - b) engagement
 - c) input to regional decision-making
 - d) keeping informed
 - e) local initiative / preparing for specific decisions
 - f) oversight and monitoring
 - g) setting direction / priorities / budget.
5. Workshops do not have decision-making authority.
6. Workshops are used to canvass issues, prepare local board members for upcoming decisions and to enable discussion between elected members and staff.
7. Members are respectfully reminded of their Code of Conduct obligations with respect to conflicts of interest and confidentiality
8. Please note, workshop times are often subject to change.

9. The following will be covered in the workshop:

Item 1 – 9:00-11:00am	
Local Board Annual Planning workshop 7 - Annual Budget consultation feedback plus input and fees and charges	
Presenter/s:	<p>Lee Manaia (Papakura Local Board Advisor, Governance & Engagement)</p> <p>Melissa Bidois (Local Board Engagement Advisor)</p> <p>Faith Smith (Lead Financial Advisor, Local Board Financial Advisory)</p>
Governance role:	Input to regional decision-making
Proposed Outcome/s:	To discuss consultation feedback and finalise input on regional topics to be approved at business meetings 29 April - 1 May 2025.
Attachment/s:	<p>Attachment A – Item1: LBAP 7 - Consultation feedback & LB regional input final 2025</p> <p>Attachment B – Item1: Papakura Annual Plan - Themed Analysis Commentary Final Analysis 14 April 2025</p>
Item 2 – 11:00-12:00pm	
Parks and Community Facilities (P&CF) 2024/2025 work programme monthly update	
Presenter/s:	<p>Alex Overwater-Davis (Manager Area Operations, Parks and Community Facilities)</p> <p>Manuel Raimundo (Work Programme Lead, Parks and Community Facilities)</p>
Governance role:	Oversight and monitoring
Proposed Outcome/s:	To provide a monthly update on the 2024/2025 Parks & Community Facilities (P&CF) work programme.
Attachment/s:	Attachment C – Item 2: Parks and Community Facilities monthly update
Lunch Break (12:00–12.30pm)	
Item 3 – 12:30-1:30pm	
Community Wellbeing Work Programme 2024/2025 Quarter 3 Update	
Presenter/s:	Dany Miller (Kareko, Community Wellbeing Lead & Coach PPK / MNR/ FRN)

	<p>Nansi Thompson (Manager Community Place, Arts – Papakura Art Gallery)</p> <p>Peter Hunt (Manager Community Place, Arts – Hawkins Theatre)</p> <p>Jamie-Lee Kingi (Manager Community Place, Pouturuki – Te Paataka koorero o Takaanini)</p> <p>Sonia Munro (Newly appointed Manager Community Place, Library – Sir Edmund Hillary Library & Integrated Service Centre)</p> <p>Tracey Hainsworth-Faaofu (Tūhono Hapori o Papakura - Community Broker Papakura)</p> <p>Hazel Audain (Librarian Rural Libraries - Drury Library (Regional Community Impact))</p> <p>Jo Brewster (Manager Paataka koorero kaewa - Mobile library & access services (Regional Community Impact))</p> <p>Borni Tukiwaho (Newly appointed Place & Partner Specialist Arts South)</p> <p>Liz Muliaga (Manager Community Programme Delivery South)</p> <p>Emma Helmich (Specialist Advisor, Youth Specialist South)</p> <p>Dominic Lee (Specialist Advisor, Community Delivery (South))</p> <p>Vanitha Subramaniam (Newly appointed Specialist Advisor)</p>
Governance role:	Oversight and monitoring
Proposed Outcome/s:	To provide a quarter 3 update on the Community Wellbeing Work Programme 2024/2025.
Attachment/s:	Attachment D – Item 3: Community Wellbeing Work Programme 2024/2025 Quarter 3 Update

Item 4 – 1:30-2:30pm

Direction Setting

Presenter/s:	Lee Manaia (Papakura Local Board Advisor, Governance & Engagement)
Governance role:	Setting direction / priorities / budget

Proposed Outcome/s:	To inform the board on upcoming events/meetings and seek board's feedback. For members to provide strategic updates related to meetings/briefings they have attended, highlighting opportunities for board decision making or advocacy.
Attachment/s:	Material unavailable at the time of agenda build.

Ngā tāpirihanga Attachments

No.	Title	Page
A	Attachment A – Item1: LBAP 7 - Consultation feedback & LB regional input final 2025	7
B	Attachment B – Item1: Papakura Annual Plan - Themed Analysis Commentary Final Analysis 14 April 2025	51
C	Attachment C – Item 2: Parks and Community Facilities monthly update	59
D	Attachment D – Item 3: Community Wellbeing Work Programme 2024/2025 Quarter 3 Update	95



Annual Plan 2025/2026

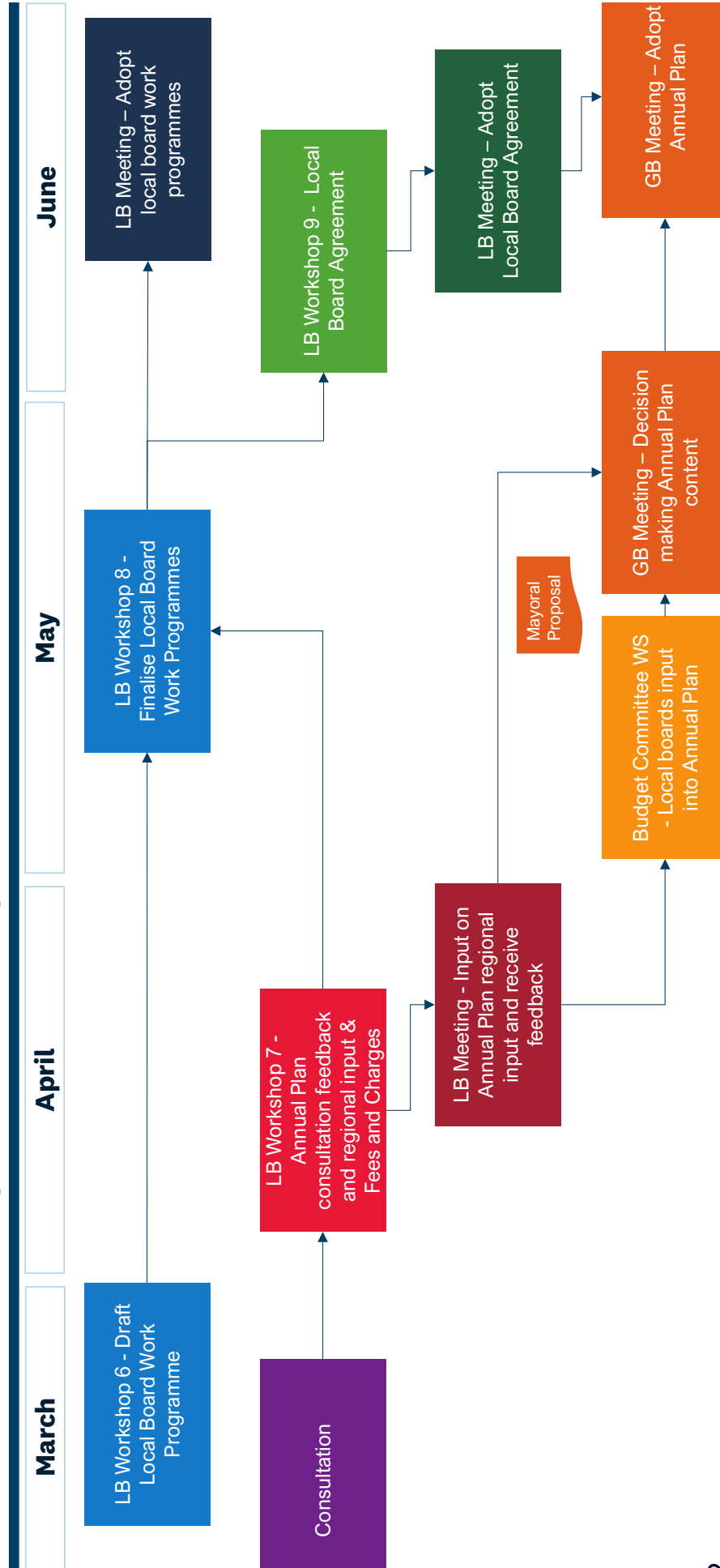
Papakura Local Board

(LBAP 7)

23 April 2025 - Presented by Melissa Bidois and Lee Manaia



Timeline (second half)





Workshop purpose

1. To receive consultation feedback from the Papakura Local board area on:
 - proposed local board priorities for 2025/2026
 - regional topics in the draft Annual Plan 2025/2026
2. Discuss local feedback on regional topics and advocacy initiatives to be formalised at your business meeting on 30 April 2025. These will be considered by the Governing Body when making decisions on the Annual Plan 2025/2026
3. Discuss other local matters that need consideration in Annual Plan



LBA Workshop: agenda

Topic	Time
Topic 1	Consultation feedback on local board priorities for 2025/2026 and advocacy initiatives
Topic 2	Other local matters that need consideration in Annual Plan
Topic 3	Consultation feedback on regional topics in the proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026
Topic 4	Advocacy initiatives to be considered by Governing Body for the Annual Plan 2025/2026
Topic 5	Input on regional topics in the proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026 incl. local matters that need consideration

Topic 1: Consultation feedback on local board priorities for 2025/2026 and advocacy initiatives





Types of feedback

- Online submissions, hard copy forms, emails and letters.
- Have Your Say events, phone surveys.

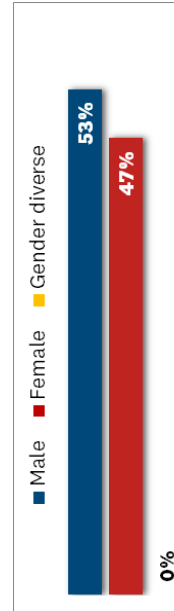
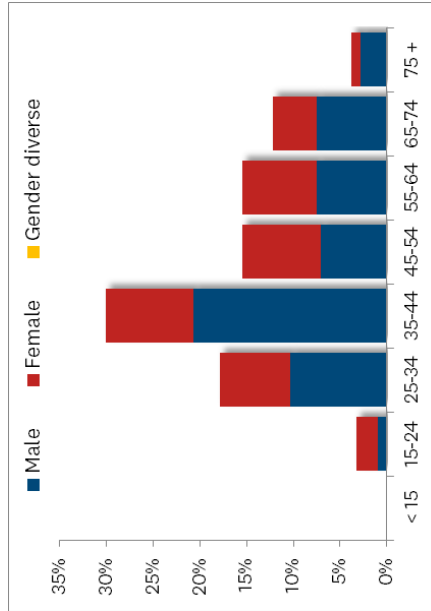
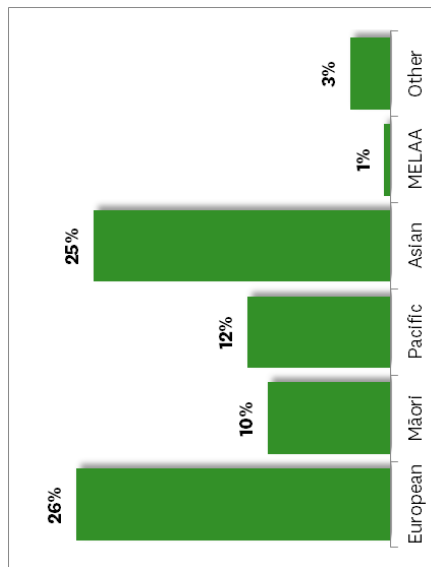
Feedback received

Out of 13,016 pieces of feedback received regionally, 334 were from people living in the Papakura area.



Information on submitters

The tables and graphs below indicate what demographic categories people identified with. This information only relates to those submitters who provided demographic information.

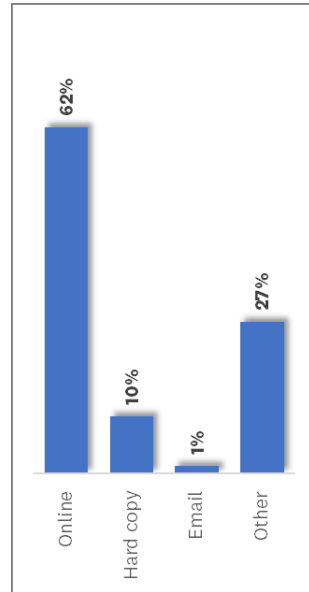




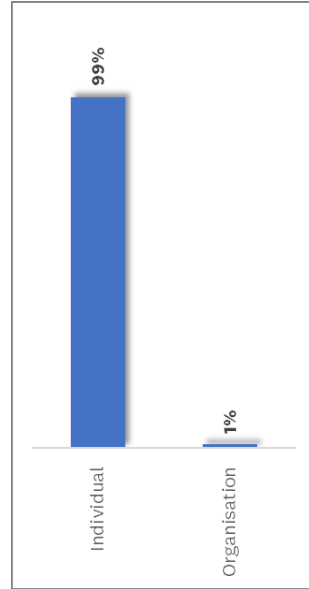
Information on submitters

The tables and graphs below indicate what demographic categories people identified with. This information only relates to those submitters who provided demographic information.

Submitters (detail)	No.	%
Individual	241	68%
via Event	90	25%
Organisation	3	1%
Stakeholder	0	0%
Māori Entities (are flagged as regional organisations)	23	6%
Pro-Forma	0	0%
Total	357	100%



Channel	No.	%
Online	206	62%
Hard copy	34	10%
Email	4	1%
Other	90	27%
Total	334	100%



Submissions from local organisations

Three Submissions were received from the following local businesses/organisations:

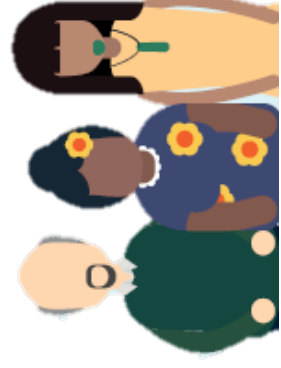
- Orere Point Top 10 Holiday Park
- Papakura Youth Council
- Counties Manukau Sport



Submission from mana whenua iwi

Submissions were received from the following iwi with interests in the local board area:

- Ngāti Tamaterā
- Ngāti Tamaoho
- Ngāti Te Ata Waiohū
- Te Ākitai Waiohū
- Ngāti Maru
- Ngaati Whanaunga
- Ngāti Pāoa





Consultation feedback received on the Papakura Local Board priorities for 2025/2026 and advocacy initiatives

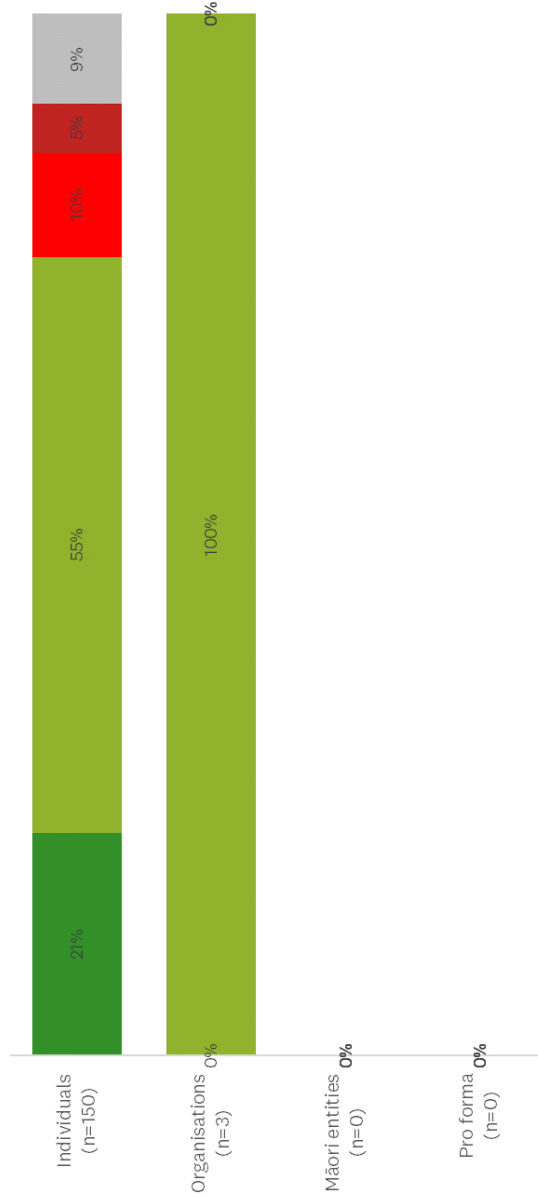
Papakura Local Board consulted on the 4 following local priorities:

- Priority 1: Progressing some of the new Sports and Recreation Plan, economic development, and youth projects identified from the work being completed in 2024/2025
- Priority 2: Requesting strategic assessments to understand needs relating to: Opaheke sports and passive parks, Awakeri Wetlands, Kūhanui Reserve, Karaka, Park Estate Reserve, Park Green, new play facilities at Pulman Park, and the Greenways/Local Paths Plan
- Priority 3: Advocating for access to the legacy parking fund for carparking projects
- Priority 4: Assisting the Takanini Business Association's proposed establishment of a Business Improvement District (BID) programme and BID targeted rate for Takanini

The following graphs and commentary analysis give an overview of the responses from Papakura Local Board area.



What do you think of our proposals for your local Board area in 2025/2026?



■ Support all ■ Support most ■ Do not support most ■ Do not support any ■ I don't know

Category	Count					Total
	Support all	Support most	Do not support most	Do not support any	I don't know	
Individuals (n=)	32	83	15	7	13	150
Organisations (n=)	0	3	0	0	0	3
Māori entities (n=)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pro forma (n=)	0	0	0	0	0	0



What do you think of our proposals for your local Board area in 2025/2026?

- Rates, Affordability & Financial Management
- Infrastructure & Community Facilities
- Safety, Social Issues & Public Wellbeing
- Community Representation & Inclusivity
- Recreation, Parks & Environment
- Transport & Traffic Management
- Governance, Transparency & Trust

The main theme that come across was affordability and cost of living. While support exists for some proposals, especially in sports and youth areas, residents are increasingly critical of the board's focus. They want decisive action on neglected infrastructure, affordable living, community safety, and stronger engagement with underrepresented groups. There is a call for practical delivery over planning and a balanced approach that prioritises basic services and wellbeing across all of Papakura.

Please refer to supplied themed commentary document for more detailed analysis.



How important are these priorities to you? Tell us why?



How important are these priorities to you? Tell us why?

Papakura submitter's top themes:

- Action & Implementation
- Infrastructure & Community Facilities
- Safety & Crime Prevention
- Youth Engagement & Education
- Economic Development & Business Support
- Recreation & Environment
- Affordability & Cost of Living

Papakura residents strongly support the board's priorities, particularly in areas of infrastructure, safety, youth engagement, and local economy. However, they are clear in demanding faster action, more visible outcomes, and smarter investment. Concerns about affordability, urban overdevelopment, and poor planning dominate the discussion, with repeated calls for greater accountability, transparency, and community participation.

There is a strong appetite for investment in youth, sport, safety, and environment, but only if these come with clear, tangible benefits and don't add pressure to already-stretched households. Residents expect the board to act decisively and equitably to meet the urgent needs of a growing and diverse population.

Please refer to supplied themed commentary document for more detailed analysis.





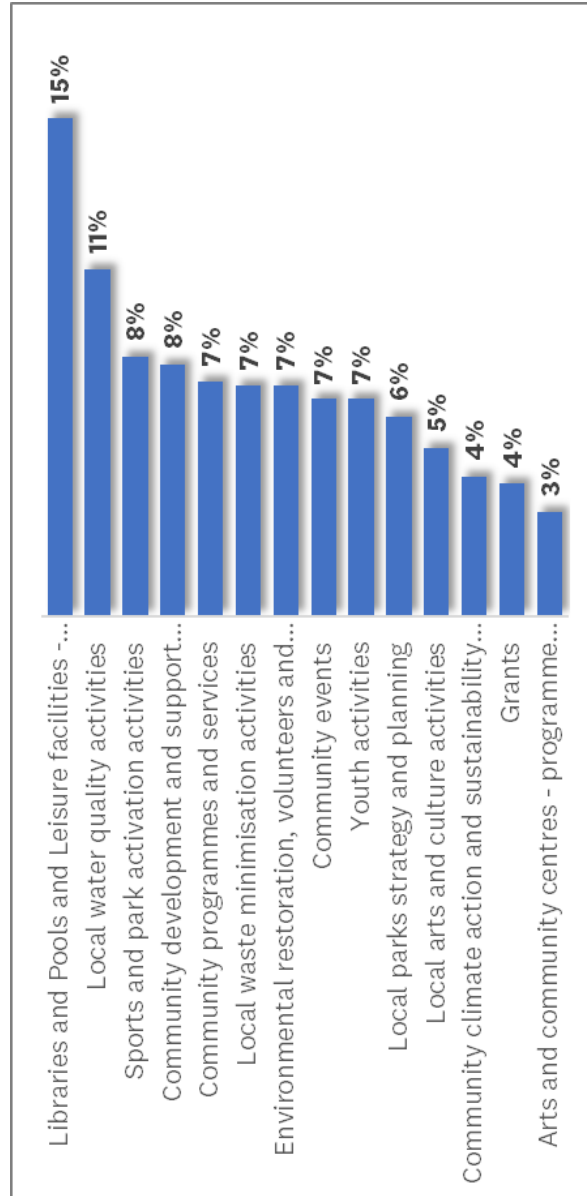
Consultation feedback received on the Papakura Local Board top three services

Papakura Local Board consulted on which 3 services are most important to the Papakura community:

- Local arts and culture activities
- Arts and community centres - programme and activation
- Community climate action and sustainability activities
- Community development and support activities
- Community programmes and services
- Libraries and Pools and Leisure facilities - opening hours and services
- Environmental restoration, volunteers and pest control activities
- Community events
- Grants
- Local parks strategy and planning
- Sports and park activation activities
- Local waste minimisation activities
- Local water quality activities
- Youth activities

The following graphs give an overview of the responses from Papakura Local Board area.

Which three of our services are most important to you?



Papakura		
Category	Count	Percentage
Individuals (n=923)		
Libraries and Pools and Leisure facilities - open	142	15%
Local water quality activities	99	11%
Sports and park activation activities	74	8%
Community development and support activities	72	8%
Community programmes and services	67	7%
Local waste minimisation activities	66	7%
Environmental restoration, volunteers and pest	66	7%
Community events	62	7%
Youth activities	62	7%
Local parks strategy and planning	57	6%
Local arts and culture activities	48	5%
Community climate action and sustainability act	40	4%
Grants	38	4%
Arts and community centres - programme and a	30	3%
TOTAL	923	100%





Consultation feedback received on the Papakura Local Board from Mana Whenua

Mana Whenua iwi with interests in the Papakura local board area submitted the following local priorities via Ara Kōtuiti hui in December 2024 and March 2025:

Ngāti Tamaoho:

- Partner with iwi to deliver a joint work programme to address the strategic priorities for the Manukau Harbour identified by the Manukau Harbour Forum.
- Increase the number and visibility of Matariki events, including opportunities to enable community groups that provide environmental restoration and youth activities to promote initiatives with Matariki related outcomes.

Ngāti Tamaterā

- Would like to see more resource put into Manukau Harbour Forum.
- Support for Matariki and telling the stories of mana whenua
- Priorities around procurement, economic development opportunities, digital tech and innovation and age friendly.

Ngāti Maru

- Has a nursery that can supply plans for Ngāhere programme.
- Importance of equity

Ngāti Te Ata Waiohua

- Support for basics is important eg swimming pools as a basis for learning water safety.

Ngaati Whanaunga

- Local parks are an important place for people in their local communities
- Importance of providing a healthy environment



Requests for local funding

Requests for local funding through the Annual Plan 2025/2026 consultation included:

- Upgrading Bruce Pulman Park – Road widening Walters Road entrances and exits
- Public Transport- should be provided for the students schooling in Park Estate since most of them are having a walk from Rosehill to Mangapikopiko school which can be a hazard at times
- Shade cover over playgrounds
- Speed Camera – Grove Road – outside Army Base
- Walking Bridge Waiata Shores to Conifer Grove
- Policing and security measures in Papakura
- Takanini Hall
- Cycleway Papakura to Clendon
- Extend esplanade Walk around Pahurehure Inlet from badminton courts to Westholm Way
- Bottletop Bay boat ramp

Topic 2: Other local matters that need consideration in Annual Plan





Local targeted rate and business improvement district (BID) targeted rate proposals

Local boards are required to endorse any new or amended local targeted rate proposals or business improvement district (BID) targeted rate proposals in their local board area.

These proposals must have been consulted on before they can be implemented.

The local boards then recommend these proposals to the Governing Body for approval of the targeted rate.

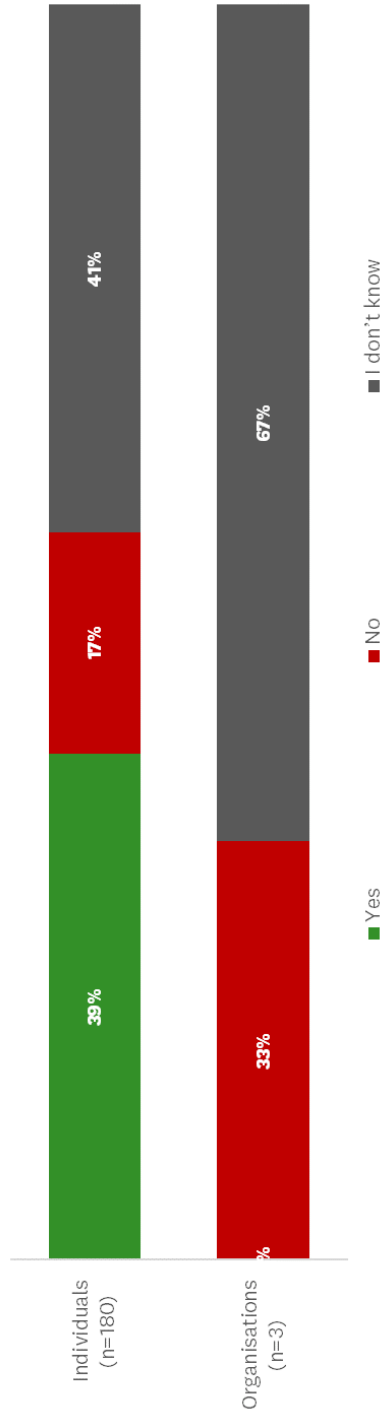
The BID proposal in the Papakura Local Board area for 2025/2026 is:

- establishing Business Improvement Districts (BID) and associated targeted rates in Takanini

Takanini BID failed by vote from Takanini businesses however community feedback received is shown next



Takanini Bid community feedback received



Takanini BID community feedback received

Opposition (Majority View)

- Unfair & Costly: Businesses should fund their own improvements, not ratepayers.
- Ineffective: BID programs elsewhere have failed, with high costs and little benefit.
- Unequal Treatment: Other areas don't receive special funding—why should Takanini?

Support & Limited/Conditional Support

- Potential Benefits: Could attract businesses, jobs, and better planning.
- Businesses Should Pay: Support only if funded by businesses, not residents.
- Needs a Clearer Plan: More transparency on costs and benefits required.

Alternative Priorities

- Infrastructure & Safety First: Focus on roads, crime prevention, and public services.
- Support Community Over Businesses: Invest in schools, parks, and cost-of-living relief.

Most oppose the BID due to fairness and cost concerns. While some see potential benefits, they believe businesses should fund it, not ratepayers. Infrastructure and community needs should take priority over business-focused initiatives.





Local board specific reserve funds

Local boards have decision making over the allocation of these funds, but need approval from the Governing Body where the release of local board specific reserve funds is requested, which are being held by the council for a specific purpose

- this does not apply to the Papakura Local Board for the 2025/2026 financial year



Changes to work programme for 2025/2026 – Lee

- As a result of this feedback:
 - do you want to make any changes to your draft work programme for 25/26?
 - is there any further advice you need to inform work programme development?

Topic 3: Consultation feedback received on regional topics in the proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026



Papakura Local Board input on regional topics in the Annual Plan 2025/2026

Overall Plan

Bed night visitor levy

Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Any other comments





Q1: Overall Plan

Aucklanders were asked whether they support the overall plan including prioritising investment in transport, water; and fairer funding for local communities.

The consultation document for the Annual Plan 2025/2026 also outlined the proposed funding approach which includes a 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property, consistent with the Long-Term Plan (LTP), and additional debt financing to fund \$4 billion in capital expenditure.

The proposed 5.8 per cent rates increase for the average value residential property for 2025/2026 includes the following proposed rates changes:

- an average general rates increase of 6.40 per cent for existing ratepayers
- an average increase of 3.5 per cent to the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (NETR) and Climate Action Transport Targeted Rate (CATTR) for existing ratepayers, as set out in the LTP
- an average increase of \$2.12 in the Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) to cover the operating and interest costs for the programme, as set out in the LTP
- a 3.3 per cent increase to the overall Waste Management Targeted Rate (WMTR) for the typical household.

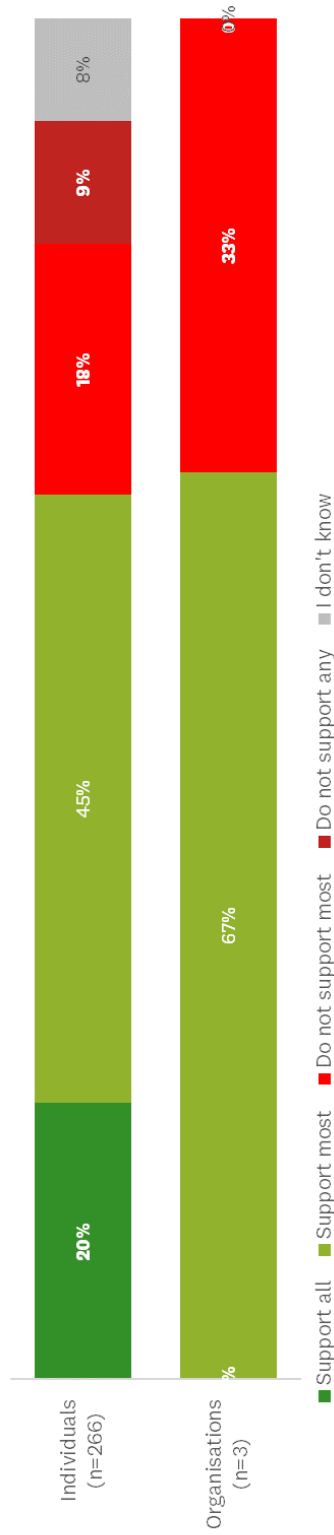
The following graphs give an overview of the responses from Papakura Local Board area.





Q1: Overall Plan

The following graphs give an overview of the responses from Papakura Local Board area.



■ Support all ■ Support most ■ Do not support most ■ Do not support any ■ I don't know



Q1: Overall Plan - Papakura Submitters Feedback

Rates Increases & Affordability - Many oppose the 5.8% rates rise, citing financial hardship, falling property values, and duplication of charges (e.g. water). Some support it if linked to clear community benefits, but overall, there are strong calls for leaner, results-driven budgeting and reduced waste.

Public Transport & Infrastructure - Ongoing frustration with unreliable public transport, poor traffic planning, and lack of parking at stations. Residents want smarter design, safer roads, and better access — particularly in neglected areas like Papakura and Takanini.

Underinvestment in South Auckland - Papakura residents feel overlooked. There's strong demand for fairer investment in local parks, footpaths, community safety, and amenities. Some oppose what they see as overfunding of cultural projects at the expense of essentials.

Spending Priorities & Transparency - Criticism of excessive consultancy, lack of contractor oversight, and a perception of inefficiency. Many want funds focused on essentials (roads, water, waste), not “nice-to-haves.” There's a call for clearer communication on where money goes and why.

Support for Core Investment & Resilience - Many back investment in water, transport, and resilience—if spending is transparent and outcomes are visible. Equity in funding and climate readiness are seen as important, especially by younger voices.

Papakura submitters want fairer, more efficient investment in core services and feel South Auckland is under-prioritised. There's widespread resistance to rate hikes without clearer value, and a strong push for local delivery over bureaucracy.



Q2: Destination management and major events

Aucklanders were asked for feedback on a bed night visitor levy paid by those in short-stay commercial accommodation, to fund destination management, marketing and major events. Without such a levy, a \$7 million budget shortfall for the 2025/2026 financial year could impact the funding for major events that are expected to attract visitor expenditure, such as the ASB Classic, Auckland Marathon, and Auckland Writers Festival.

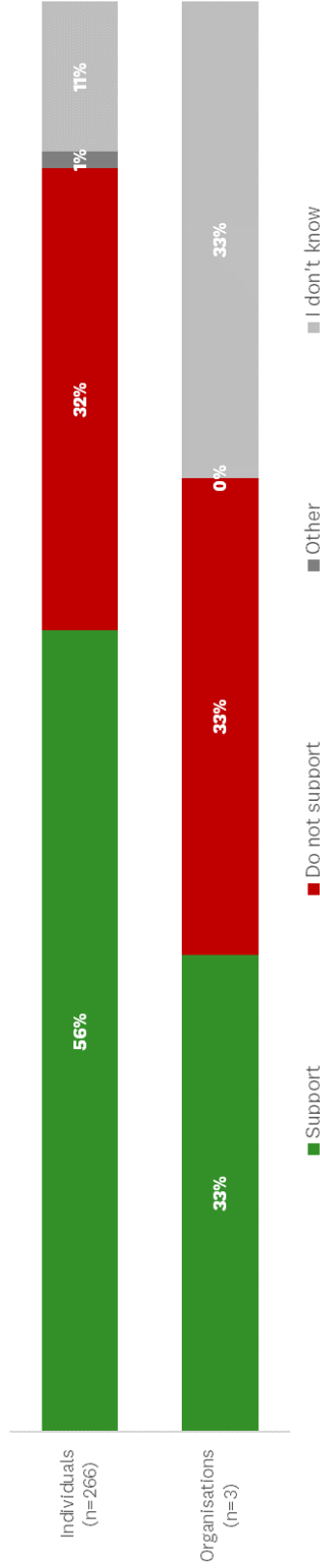
A bed night visitor levy of 2.5 to 3 per cent paid by those in short-stay accommodation would raise around \$27 million annually to fund even more destination management, marketing and major events activities in Auckland. However, this requires central government legislative change. Auckland Council continues to work with central government on this, with public feedback helping to inform this work.

The following graphs give an overview of the responses from Papakura Local Board area.



Q2: Destination management and major events

The following graphs give an overview of the responses from Papakura Local Board area.



Q2: Destination management and major events- Papakura Submitters Feedback



Support for a User-Pays Model - Many agree that visitors should contribute to events and infrastructure they use, easing the burden on local ratepayers. This approach is seen as standard globally and a fair way to fund destination initiatives.

Concerns About Tourism Impact - Some fear the levy could deter domestic and international visitors due to already high accommodation and travel costs. Industry voices warn it could harm recovery for hotels still stabilising post-COVID.

Fairness & Equity Concerns - Submitters raised issues around the levy's potential to disproportionately affect lower-income or Pasifika families hosting relatives, as well as small operators like Airbnb if not applied evenly.

Lack of Trust in Council Spending - There is scepticism about how the levy would be managed. Submitters want transparency, clearer oversight, and potential involvement of private providers to ensure funds are used effectively.

Targeted & Transparent Implementation - Suggestions include limiting the levy to large commercial operators, setting rates carefully, and ensuring all tourism platforms (like Airbnb) are included. Some propose diverting existing council funds instead of introducing a new levy.

While there is broad support in principle for a bed tax as a user-pays tool, there are concerns around fairness, tourism impact, and council accountability. Submitters call for targeted, transparent implementation and better collaboration with the accommodation sector to ensure the levy supports—not harms—Auckland's visitor economy.



Q3: Other rates, fees and charges

Aucklanders were asked to provide feedback on proposed changes to certain targeted rates and some fees and charges as outlined below:

Waste management rates changes

Aucklanders were asked whether they support applying the Refuse Targeted Rate to residential and lifestyle properties in Franklin and Rodney to fund the council's rubbish collection service, replacing the current system of purchasing rubbish bags.

The following graphs give an overview of the responses from Papakura Local Board area.

Changes to fees and charges

Other proposed changes to fees and charges included in the consultation document for the Annual Plan 2025/2026 include:

- changes to some animal management fees including an increase in the dog adoption fee from \$350 to \$450 and an increase vet fee from \$75 to \$150
- fees for some cemetery and cremation services
- realigning bach fees into pricing tiers based on occupancy levels, capacity, and location
- aligning staff charge-out rates with staff pay bands for services in regional parks

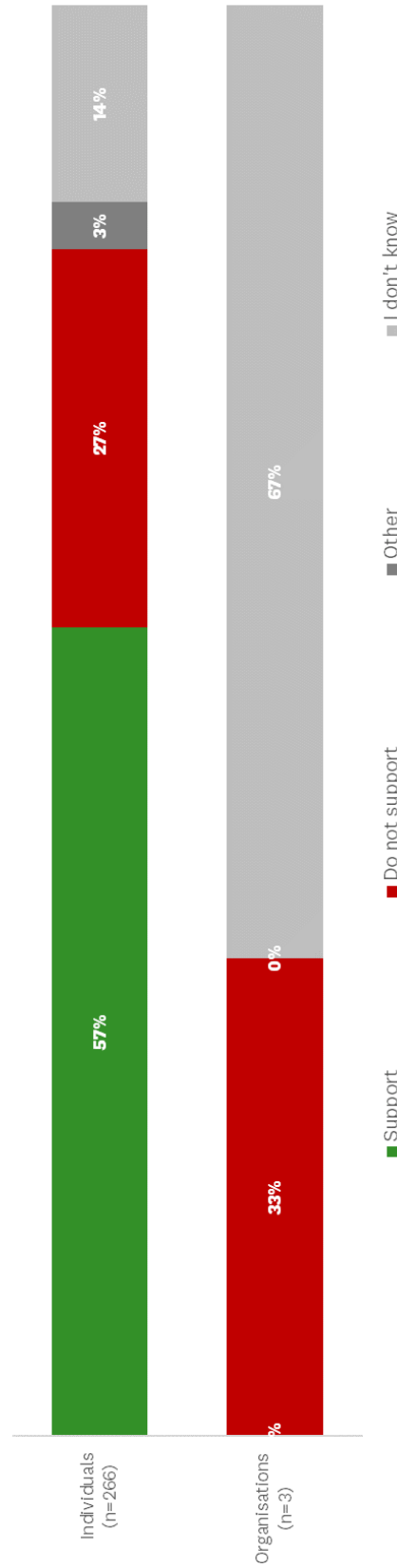
There were no submissions from the Papakura Local Board area which referenced these fees excluding waste management rate charges comments.





Q3: Other rates, fees and charges

The following graphs give an overview of the responses from Papakura Local Board area.





Q3: Other rates, fees and charges - Papakura Submitters Feedback

Support for User-Pays System - Many prefer the current bin tag model, seeing it as fair and cost-effective for low-waste households.

Financial Pressure - Strong opposition to increased rates and fees due to rising living costs, especially among vulnerable groups.

Loss of Waste Reduction Incentives - A flat rate may discourage recycling and composting, as there's no cost benefit for producing less waste.

Fairness and Equity Concerns - Submitters want consistent rules across Auckland but flexibility for smaller or low-waste households. Some feel Papakura is being unfairly treated.

Opposition to Fortnightly Collection Trial - Concerns about health risks, hygiene issues, and illegal dumping due to reduced collection frequency.

Papakura submitters largely reject the proposed changes. They favour the current pay-as-you-go system, citing fairness, affordability, and environmental benefits. There's strong concern over rising costs, reduced incentives to minimise waste, and inequity across Auckland.



Q5: Any Other Comments Annual Plan – Papakura Submitters

Opposition to Rates Increases – Many residents feel the proposed rate hikes are unaffordable and unfair, particularly given the rising cost of living. There is strong resistance to these increases without visible improvements in local services and infrastructure.

Public Safety Concerns – A significant number of submitters expressed concerns about increasing crime and safety in their communities. Calls for better police response, installation of security cameras, and improved lighting in public areas were common.

Neglect of South Auckland – Many submitters feel that Papakura and South Auckland are being neglected, with insufficient investment in infrastructure, amenities, and services compared to other regions of Auckland.

Efficient Spending & Accountability – Residents urged the council to focus on eliminating wasteful spending and ensure value for money. They want the council to prioritize essential services and ensure transparency in how funds are allocated.

Infrastructure & Transport Issues – There were repeated concerns about inadequate public transport, especially in new developments, as well as traffic congestion and poor road maintenance, all of which residents felt the council should address more effectively.

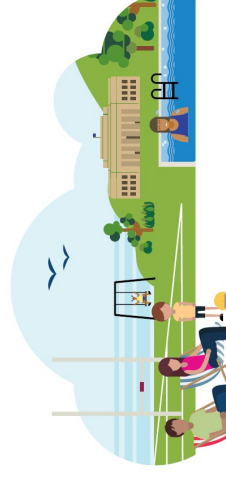
Papakura residents are grappling with high rates, safety concerns, and a lack of local investment. There is a strong call for the council to spend more efficiently, improve infrastructure, and ensure better services in South Auckland.

Other matters

Feedback on any other matters, including local matters for consideration and the draft Tūpuna Maunga Authority (TMA) Operational Plan 2025/2026.

Two comments were received in the Papakura Local board area regarding the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2025/2026

- The authority should by law be forced to consult with and listen to the needs of the community not solely Māori as to the use of the Maunga. This is especially true for sports clubs existing in the zones
- I support MOST of what the TMA does, e.g. enhancing and protecting the 14 Tāmaki Makaurau Maunga locations. BUT the one major thing that I OPPOSE is their intentions and their actions in removing “inappropriate exotic” trees, i.e. destroying our Urban Ngahere, thus actually helping to CAUSE Climate Change. Do they understand that ALL TREES produce OXYGEN, which is what humans need in order to breathe? By cutting down our largest, best-established trees off our Maunga (or anywhere else), TMA and the Auckland Council are depleting our local (and the world’s) oxygen levels. I am ALL FOR the planting of new, native trees (the more the better, e.g. ten million would be a good number); but planting new trees at the same time as cutting down existing trees is lunacy, as well as being a crime against human life and Planet Earth. (As you can see, even my Whanau name is on the chopping block, being an “inappropriate exotic” species). *NB: Respondent submitted this feedback across all 21 local boards*



Topic 4: Advocacy initiatives to be considered by Governing Body for the Annual Plan 2025/2026





Local board advocacy – Discussion Lee

- Consider advocacy initiatives to include as advocacy to Governing Body as part of the Annual Plan, for example:
 - Growth occurring in neighbouring boards that impact on the Papakura Local Board infrastructure
 - Inflationary pressures for future years
 - Joint board initiatives
 - Drury Sports complex (Papakura)
 - Karaka Sports complex (Franklin)
- Anything else

Topic 5: Input on regional topics in the proposed Annual Plan 2025/2026





Papakura Feedback on Regional topics for Annual Plan 2025/2025

Topic	Support / Do not support	Feedback
Overall plan		
Destination management and major events (bed night visitor levy)		
Other rates, fees and charges		

Key steps: local board input on regional topics in the Annual Plan 2025/2026

**Consider
consultation
feedback
(today)**

**Resolve your
input on regional
topics
(30 April)**

**Present to
Budget
Committee
(14 May)**





Pātai?

Papakura Annual Plan

Final Analysis 14 April

Part 1 – What do you think of our proposals for your local Board area in 2025/2026

Community Feedback on Local Board Proposals for 2025/2026

1. Infrastructure & Community Facilities

- Continued neglect of Takanini Hall, a valued and now deteriorating community facility.
- Lack of investment in urban planning; narrow streets and inadequate parking in new developments.
- Poor event planning at Bruce Pulman Park causing traffic congestion and rubbish issues.
- Calls for upgrades to Bottle Top Bay boat ramp and reserve, which is overused and neglected.
- Advocacy for better and safer cycleways, e.g. Papakura to Clevedon route.
- Requests to extend the esplanade walk and to consider banning dogs from public areas.
- Concerns about poor footpath maintenance and pedestrian safety.

2. Rates, Affordability & Financial Management

- Strong opposition to rate and utility increases due to rising living costs and stagnant incomes.
- Suggestions for alternative funding (offshore investors, sponsorships, private contributions).
- Desire for strict financial prioritisation: “must have” vs “nice to have”.
- Frustration with unaffordable homeownership and pressures on household budgets.

3. Safety, Social Issues & Public Wellbeing

- Growing concern over homelessness, visible drug use, and mental health crises.
- Requests for stronger crime prevention, particularly targeting youth offending.
- Calls for more visible policing and intervention in high-crime areas.
- Concern over roaming and neglected animals, fly-tipping, and environmental degradation.

4. Community Representation & Inclusivity

- Dissatisfaction with board’s ethnic representation; more meaningful engagement wanted.
- Specific calls for support and inclusion of Indian and Tokelau communities.
- Youth (14–24) seek broader engagement beyond parks—arts, academics, careers.
- Support for partnerships and events that reflect the diversity of Papakura’s population.

5. Recreation, Parks & Environment

- Mixed views on prioritising sports and parks; underutilised spaces noted in lower-income areas.
- Continued support for libraries and equitable access to educational facilities.
- Environmental concerns include fly-tipping, tree/heritage protection, and better sustainability planning.
- Calls for better urban design to enhance liveability and attract investment and jobs.

6. Transport & Traffic Management

- Frustration with worsening traffic congestion, especially in key growth areas.
- Residents prefer roundabouts over traffic lights to improve flow.

- Poor planning in new subdivisions causing severe parking issues.
- Desire for proactive infrastructure to match Papakura's rapid growth.

7. Governance, Transparency & Trust

- Widespread disillusionment with the board's responsiveness and delivery.
- Concern that community feedback is ignored or only selectively actioned.
- Strong support for elected members over unelected appointments to committees.
- Requests for more transparent communication and timely action from the board.

The main theme that come across was affordability and cost of living. While support exists for some proposals, especially in sports and youth areas, residents are increasingly critical of the board's focus. They want decisive action on neglected infrastructure, affordable living, community safety, and stronger engagement with underrepresented groups. There is a call for practical delivery over planning and a balanced approach that prioritises basic services and wellbeing across all of Papakura.

Part 2: How important are these priorities to you? Tell us why?

Community Feedback on Local Board Priorities for 2025/2026

1. Action & Implementation

- Strong calls for immediate and visible action.
- Frustration with delays, red tape, and prolonged consultation cycles.
- Residents want the board to move beyond planning and deliver real outcomes.

2. Infrastructure & Community Facilities

- High demand for upgraded and well-maintained parks, reserves, and public spaces, especially in Takanini and Papakura.
- Specific calls for improvements at Bruce Pulman Park, McLennan Memorial Park, Bottle Top Bay boat ramp, and new playgrounds (e.g. Kauri Flats).
- Concerns around poor urban planning, inadequate car parking, old water pipes, and narrow roads.
- Traffic congestion is a major frustration—especially around new housing areas.
- Opposition to expensive bridge projects seen as disruptive to local business.

3. Safety & Crime Prevention

- High concern about rising crime, vandalism, graffiti, and youth delinquency.
- Strong calls for more police presence and patrols.
- Support for community-led safety initiatives, foot patrols, CPNZ, and better lighting (e.g., Bruce Pulman Park).
- Calls for more CCTV cameras and better upkeep of public spaces to improve perceived safety.

4. Youth Engagement & Education

- Ongoing demand for a new high school in Takanini due to dissatisfaction with Papakura High.
- Broad support for youth development beyond sports—more emphasis on arts, career advice, and leadership.
- Successful initiatives like basketball courts at Keri Downs celebrated as a model to replicate.
- Requests for more youth-led programmes, events, and support for groups like scouts and Redhill hip-hop.

5. Economic Development & Business Support

- Support for new business development and economic revitalisation of Papakura town centre.

- Interest in large-scale developments like malls, hospitals, or upgraded retail zones.
- Desire for more balance in business investment, some say the Takanini BID focuses too narrowly.
- Opposition to continued council spending on events or groups seen as self-sustaining.
- Local businesses want help with street cleaning, safety, and carpark improvements.

6. Recreation & Environment

- Strong support for sport and active recreation planning, especially around Opaheke, Karaka Park Estate, Greenways, and Bruce Pulman Park.
- Need for more cycleways, walkways, and active transport connections.
- Residents emphasise access, cleanliness, and safety in parks e.g. upgraded lighting and equipment, especially in under-served areas like Wilencote Place and Survila Street.
- Concerns over litter, estuary pollution, and declining street cleaning services.

7. Affordability & Cost of Living

- Strong resistance to rate increases during a cost-of-living crisis from those who opposed increases.
- Widespread concern that financial pressure is harming family wellbeing and mental health.
- Calls for more transparency in spending and better prioritisation of core services.
- Suggestions for alternative funding that doesn't burden residents (e.g. development contributions).

8. Community Voice & Accountability

- Residents want to be heard more directly and feel involved in decisions.
- Support for iwi engagement and kaupapa Māori-led health, environmental, and social projects.
- Criticism of strategy overload, requests for fewer plans and faster delivery.
- Desire for fairness and geographic equity in resource distribution across Papakura and Takanini.
- Concerns raised about Papakura CBD being neglected, calls for revitalisation and beautification.

Summary

Papakura residents strongly support the board's priorities, particularly in areas of infrastructure, safety, youth engagement, and local economy. However, they are clear in demanding faster action, more visible outcomes, and smarter investment. Concerns about affordability, urban overdevelopment, and poor planning dominate the discussion, with repeated calls for greater accountability, transparency, and community participation.

There is a strong appetite for investment in youth, sport, safety, and environment, but only if these come with clear, tangible benefits and don't add pressure to already-stretched households. Residents expect the board to act decisively and equitably to meet the urgent needs of a growing and diverse population.

Question 4 – Takanini Bid – FYI – BID failed vote by business owners

Opposition (Majority View)

- **Unfair & Costly:** Businesses should fund their own improvements, not ratepayers.
- **Ineffective:** BID programs elsewhere have failed, with high costs and little benefit.
- **Unequal Treatment:** Other areas don't receive special funding, why should Takanini?

Support & Limited/Conditional Support

- **Potential Benefits:** Could attract businesses, jobs, and better planning.
- **Businesses Should Pay:** Support only if funded by businesses, not residents.
- **Needs a Clearer Plan:** More transparency on costs and benefits required.

Alternative Priorities

- **Infrastructure & Safety First:** Focus on roads, crime prevention, and public services.
- **Support Community Over Businesses:** Invest in schools, parks, and cost-of-living relief.

Summary

Most oppose the BID due to fairness and cost concerns. While some see potential benefits, they believe businesses should fund it, not ratepayers. Infrastructure and community needs should take priority over business-focused initiatives.

Regional Questions

Question 1: Opinion of Proposed Annual Plan

Top 5 Themes from Papakura Submitters on Proposed Annual Plan:

- 1. Rates Increases & Affordability** - Many oppose the 5.8% rates rise, citing financial hardship, falling property values, and duplication of charges (e.g. water). Some support it if linked to clear community benefits, but overall, there are strong calls for leaner, results-driven budgeting and reduced waste.
- 2. Public Transport & Infrastructure** - Ongoing frustration with unreliable public transport, poor traffic planning, and lack of parking at stations. Residents want smarter design, safer roads, and better access, particularly in neglected areas like Papakura and Takanini.
- 3. Underinvestment in South Auckland** - Papakura residents feel overlooked. There's strong demand for fairer investment in local parks, footpaths, community safety, and amenities. Some oppose what they see as overfunding of cultural projects at the expense of essentials.
- 4. Spending Priorities & Transparency** - Criticism of excessive consultancy, lack of contractor oversight, and a perception of inefficiency. Many want funds focused on essentials (roads, water, waste), not "nice-to-haves." There's a call for clearer communication on where money goes and why.
- 5. Support for Core Investment & Resilience** - Many back investments in water, transport, and resilience, if spending is transparent and outcomes are visible. Equity in funding and climate readiness are seen as important, especially by younger voices.

Summary

Papakura submitters want fairer, more efficient investment in core services and feel South Auckland is under-prioritised. There's widespread resistance to rate hikes without clearer value, and a strong push for local delivery over bureaucracy.

Question 2: Bed Night Visitor Levy

Top 5 Themes from Papakura Submitters on the Bed Night Visitor Levy:

- 1. Support for a User-Pays Model** - Many agree that visitors should contribute to events and infrastructure they use, easing the burden on local ratepayers. This approach is seen as standard globally and a fair way to fund destination initiatives.
- 2. Concerns About Tourism Impact** - Some fear the levy could deter domestic and international visitors due to already high accommodation and travel costs. Industry voices warn it could harm recovery for hotels still stabilising post-COVID.
- 3. Fairness & Equity Concerns** - Submitters raised issues around the levy's potential to disproportionately affect lower-income or Pasifika families hosting relatives, as well as small operators like Airbnb if not applied evenly.
- 4. Lack of Trust in Council Spending** - There is scepticism about how the levy would be managed. Submitters want transparency, clearer oversight, and potential involvement of private providers to ensure funds are used effectively.

- 5. Targeted & Transparent Implementation** - Suggestions include limiting the levy to large commercial operators, setting rates carefully, and ensuring all tourism platforms (like Airbnb) are included. Some propose diverting existing council funds instead of introducing a new levy.

Summary

While there is broad support in principle for a bed tax as a user-pays tool, there are concerns around fairness, tourism impact, and council accountability. Submitters call for targeted, transparent implementation and better collaboration with the accommodation sector to ensure the levy supports, not harms, Auckland's visitor economy.

Question 3: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Top 5 Themes from Papakura Submitters on the Changes to other rates, fees and charges

- 1. Support for User-Pays System** - Many prefer the current bin tag model, seeing it as fair and cost-effective for low-waste households.
- 2. Financial Pressure** - Strong opposition to increased rates and fees due to rising living costs, especially among vulnerable groups.
- 3. Loss of Waste Reduction Incentives** - A flat rate may discourage recycling and composting, as there's no cost benefit for producing less waste.
- 4. Fairness and Equity Concerns** - Submitters want consistent rules across Auckland but flexibility for smaller or low-waste households. Some feel Papakura is being unfairly treated.
- 5. Opposition to Fortnightly Collection Trial** - Concerns about health risks, hygiene issues, and illegal dumping due to reduced collection frequency.

Summary

Papakura submitters largely reject the proposed changes. They favour the current pay-as-you-go system, citing fairness, affordability, and environmental benefits. There's strong concern over rising costs, reduced incentives to minimise waste, and inequity across Auckland.

Question 5: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2025/2026?

Top 5 Themes from Papakura Submitters

- 1. Opposition to Rates Increases** – Many residents feel the proposed rate hikes are unaffordable and unfair, particularly given the rising cost of living. There is strong resistance to these increases without visible improvements in local services and infrastructure.
- 2. Public Safety Concerns** – A significant number of submitters expressed concerns about increasing crime and safety in their communities. Calls for better police response, installation of security cameras, and improved lighting in public areas were common.
- 3. Neglect of South Auckland** – Many submitters feel that Papakura and South Auckland are being neglected, with insufficient investment in infrastructure, amenities, and services compared to other regions of Auckland.

4. **Efficient Spending & Accountability** – Residents urged the council to focus on eliminating wasteful spending and ensure value for money. They want the council to prioritise essential services and ensure transparency in how funds are allocated.
5. **Infrastructure & Transport Issues** – There were repeated concerns about inadequate public transport, especially in new developments, as well as traffic congestion and poor road maintenance, all of which residents felt the council should address more effectively.

Summary

Papakura residents are grappling with high rates, safety concerns, and a lack of local investment. There is a strong call for the council to spend more efficiently, improve infrastructure, and ensure better services in South Auckland.

Area Manager update by
Alex Overwater-Davis

Papakura Art Gallery - Exhibition

A Papakura Perspective
Papakura Art Group
29 March – 10 May

