

**Date:** Monday 28 April 2025  
**Time:** 5:00 pm  
**Meeting Room:** Room 1, Level 26  
**Venue:** Te Wharau o Tāmaki - Auckland House  
135 Albert Street, Auckland

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## Te Rōpū Kaitohutohu Take Taiohi / Youth Advisory Panel

### OPEN ATTACHMENTS

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| ITEM | TABLE OF CONTENTS   | PAGE |
|------|---|------|
| 7    | <b>Information Memoranda</b>  |      |
|      | A. Enhanced Tsunami Resilience Project update                                       | 3    |
|      | B. Report back from March and April meetings of Elections Cross Panel Working Group | 5    |
| 12   | <b>Thriving Rangatahi Implementation</b>  |      |
|      | A. Thriving Rangatahi Implementation Plan   | 9    |
| 13   | <b>Play advocacy update for Youth Advisory Panel</b>                                |      |
|      | A. Attachment A - Hibiscus and Bays Play Plan                                       | 11   |
|      | B. Attachment B - Play Plan supplementary information (Hibiscus and Bays sample)    | 49   |





## Memorandum

7 April 2025

**To:** Demographic Advisory Panels  
**Subject:** Enhanced Tsunami Resilience Project update  
**From:** Irene Bentley-Hawthorne  
**Contact information:** TsunamiAlertingProject@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

### Purpose

1. To inform advisory panel members of an AK Have Your Say survey from 7 April 2025 to 2 May 2025.

### Summary

2. Auckland Emergency Management (AEM) has a long-running programme of work which aims to better understand the region's tsunami risk and help communities make decisions to protect themselves in tsunami emergencies.
3. Recommendations have been developed for the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee that include both physical works and targeted initiatives to enhance tsunami resilience across the region based on effectiveness and value for money of a range of different options.
4. Public consultation will run from 7 April 2025 to 2 May 2025 to gauge community support and feedback on specific recommendations based on local board areas. A booklet outlining the recommendations at the local board level is provided as part of the feedback.
5. Any feedback provided be incorporated into the recommendation report for Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee on 3 September 2025.

### Context

6. The Tsunami Work Programme is a long-running series of projects and initiatives aimed at better understanding the tsunami risk to coastal communities in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland and enhancing tsunami resilience.
7. It has so far delivered:
  - a. a technology pilot of new tsunami public alerting sirens in the Orewa community
  - b. new tsunami flood models based on the latest science and modelling techniques
  - c. updated tsunami evacuation maps for the entire region including offshore islands based on the new models
  - d. a vulnerability assessment for geographic communities in tsunami evacuation zones.
8. The new maps were released in February 2025 and can be found by going to the AEM Hazards Viewer at [www.aem.govt.nz](http://www.aem.govt.nz). From the main page, you can click on the three lines in the top right corner, and the Hazards Viewer can be found under the 'Stay Informed' heading. The Hazards Viewer has different tabs showing the region's exposure to six different hazards, and the tsunami evacuation zone maps can be found under the 'Tsunami' tab. You can search for, or locate your address of interest within the map, and find more information on what tsunamis are and what you can do to prepare for and respond in a

Page 1



tsunami emergency. The map shows the areas inside tsunami evacuation zones as bands of red and yellow. The red zones showing the more common areas needing to be avoided in any tsunami, including small tsunami, which are the coastal and marine areas. The yellow zones are on-land areas which need to be evacuated during the more rare, large land-threat tsunami.

9. As part of this process, a People's Panel survey was conducted in late 2024 to seek information from the public on how they use the coast, how they currently receive emergency warnings and alerts, and how confident they feel to act in tsunami emergencies. This has been incorporated into a Geological and Nuclear Science (GNS) report and a cost-benefit assessment tool that can be used to identify the most effective warning and alerting methodologies.
10. The next step in the programme is to identify recommendations for the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee to build our community's tsunami resilience, ensuring they have the right knowledge and tools to act in a tsunami emergency.
11. Both physical works and targeted community initiatives will be included, with a focus on maximising effectiveness and value for money of any proposed enhancements to the current wider warning, alerting, and information network.
12. To help the CDEM Committee understand community views, feedback on the recommendations will be sought through a public AK Have Your Say campaign and local board business reports.
13. The project team is interested in hearing from a diverse cross section of the community, including those with needs not aligned with traditional information or alerting methodologies currently in use.
14. Advisory panel members may circulate the posts from the Auckland Emergency Management social media pages to their networks or guide them towards the AK Have Your Say platform <https://akhaveyoursay.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/tsunami-resilience>.
15. An MS Word version of the Recommendations Booklet and Response Booklet is available on request. However, if possible, feedback through the AK Have Your Say platform is encouraged. The Recommendations Booklet also contains images of the maps separated by local board area.

### Next Steps

16. The consultation period will end on 2 May 2025.
17. Feedback will be incorporated into Local Board business reports in June.
18. Public and local board feedback will be incorporated into the recommendation report for the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee on 3 September 2025.
19. A follow-up memo will be made to advisory panel members following the decision of the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee in September.
20. Approved activities and initiatives will be scoped and incorporated into work programmes from 2026.



## Memorandum

17 April 2025

**To:** All demographic panel members

**Subject:** Report back from Elections Cross-Panel Working Group Meeting

**From:** Elodie Fontaine, Elections Programme Manager

**Contact information:** Elodie.fontaine@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

## Purpose

1. To: Provide a report back from the Elections Cross-panel working group meetings held on 26 March and 16 April 2025.

## Summary

2. Items covered at the March meeting included: progress update across the E25 programme, an overview of the electoral reform proposal led by LGNZ, an update on community engagement
3. Items covered at the April meeting included: progress update across the E25 programme and a workshop to feedback on prototype of the candidate search tool being developed for VoteAuckland website.

## Context

4. Local elections in New Zealand take place every three years via a postal vote. The next triennial local elections will take place on 11 October 2025.
5. In Auckland, voting determines the mayor, councillors, and local board members who will be making decisions for our city and its people. The elections for Licensing Trusts also take place at the same time in some areas.
6. An election programme team has been set up to plan and deliver the election, with input from the cross-panel elections working group through monthly meetings.

## Discussion

7. See attached the slides that were presented to the working group.
8. Key points from the presentation and from the discussion with working group members that followed are summarised below.

## Elections programme progress update

### March 2025

9. Awareness raising continues at summer events – focus on spreading the word of upcoming election and encourage people to enrol/update their enrolment details
10. Vote Auckland website has been transferred to a new platform which offers more opportunities for improvements with an emphasis on customer journey.

Page 1



11. Website upgrades are being looked into to improve the homepage of VoteAuckland in response user testing feedback saying the homepage currently reads as a 'soup of content. Improved solution could be moving to specific sections i.e., 'I want to vote' to streamline the content in line with users' needs.
12. A series of educational videos have been produced and are available on YouTube. Translation are underway to have the videos subtitled in a number of additional languages + NZSL. YouTube playlist with our educational videos:  
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLNiuqKCzobSxsO3NaPTSxVsb62Z0UieV3>

#### April 2025

13. Awareness raising phase has ended with final summer events early April (Polyfest and Culturefest). Some awareness raising activities will continue, but the focus has now shifted to candidate phase to make sure information is available for people who may want to stand.
14. Candidate nominations open on 4th July. Between now and then we are doing:
  - An info online session, open to anyone interested in becoming a candidate. Held on 30 April, 4.30pm. Link to register:  
<https://ourauckland.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/events/2024/12/free-webinar-become-a-candidate-in-auckland-s-local-elections-2025/>
  - Regular drop-in sessions in libraries starting from early May. These sessions will be manned by local board engagement staff and their purpose is to provide an opportunity for more personal, one-to-one conversations with people who are interested. Schedule for these sessions will be available on Vote Auckland.
  - We are advertising the opportunity to stand as a job on career pages. We are doing comms and publicity, including a piece for Our Auckland which was picked up by NZ Herald and Stuff today, advertising the 170+ elected member, paid positions being 'recruited'. <https://ourauckland.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/media-centre/2025/april/top-jobs-open-up-at-auckland-council/>
15. Community partnerships programme continues. Expressions of interest have closed and we have received 20+ EOIs from diverse community partners. The team is looking through the details and having individual conversation with each potential partner to discuss what they want to deliver, for what specific audience, what budget they need.
16. For the first time this election, Council will run a series of 'Meet-the-candidates' events. This will be in addition to any meet-the-candidate events organized independently by media or community groups e.g. residents or business associations.
  - Safety concerns mean the sessions will be live streamed to the public rather than in-person. Candidates will be invited in person to a council building, so they still have opportunity for real in-person debate. Local media will also be invited to attend.
  - Planning 21 events, one per local board area. Relevant ward councillor candidates will also be invited. We won't be running events for mayoral candidates as they always get lots of media attention and are the focus of most community led events.
  - These events will be promoted and advertised through comms and marketing. We are also giving candidates an early heads-up. Details will be available on Vote Auckland closer to the time.

#### Local electoral reform led by LGNZ



17. LGNZ Electoral Reform Working Group have identified five key themes for improvement and proposed recommendations for reform of local elections – refer to slides for details. The draft paper is open for consultation until 28 April:
  - Electoral reform: [LGNZ\\_ERWG\\_draft\\_position\\_paper.pdf](#)
  - Online submission form: [SurveyMonkey Powered Online Survey](#)
  - Paper feedback form: [LGNZ\\_ERWG\\_draft\\_position\\_paper\\_feedback\\_form.pdf](#)
18. The final recommendations paper will be released in July.

#### Community engagement update

19. This update was provided by Sonja Tomovska, who recently joined the Elections engagement team as Senior Specialist Engagement.
20. Sonja's update covered:
  - summer events – presence at 25 events to date, engaged with over 2,000 people and collected over 180 enrolments
  - community partnership programme: expressions of interest opened on 24 March, close on 4 April
  - Presentations at community meetings across diverse communities to raise awareness of the elections (e.g. Nepalese community, North Shore Chinese community, etc)
  - Work underway to reach diverse communities beyond our community partnership programme, e.g. partnering with Kāinga Ora, leveraging the Peoples Panel (86,000 subscribers)
  - Work underway to ensure accessibility of election information and participation, including a review of previous elections offering

#### Vote Auckland user feedback – candidate search tool

21. Katie (Kathryn) Williams, Digital UX/UI Designer, presented a mock up of the candidate search tool for VoteAuckland for feedback.
22. The candidate search function will enable voters to find what candidates are standing in their area and view the candidate's profile.
23. This function has been tested with the public, with the UX design team going out to libraries such as Onehunga, Titirangi, and Kumeu.
24. A feature that was tested is the "add to shortlist" option, for voters to add their preferred candidates to a shortlist that they can print or keep handy. This feature didn't receive positive response in user testing so far, but previous feedback did suggest this would be a helpful option. We might need to review how we present this option, e.g. rather than "add to shortlist" simply have a star or heart that voters can click to mark their favourite candidates.
25. Comments and questions from panel members included:
  - is it possible to add a function to add key dates to a digital calendar?
    - o This is a function we are looking into.
  - could there be short video instructions to show how to use the candidate search function and possibly other website functions? A video format could be more accessible for different learner types.



- *The first approach is to make the tool so intuitive it is easy to use and navigate without instructions. But we will look into this.*
- Was the website tested for screen-readers compatibility?
  - *The Digital UX team have done internal checks using 'Site Improve'. We also would like to explore the opportunity to work with Disability Panel members on testing digital accessibility*
- Will the candidate content be reviewed?
  - *Content on our website is subject to terms and conditions. When completing a profile, candidates will be made aware of these. Profiles will be reviewed before publishing to ensure no inappropriate or defamatory comments are included. Content that does not meet our standards will be removed.*
- Will candidates be listed in alphabetical order? Has any thought been given to randomizing the order of candidates?
  - *Before every election, the Governing Body makes a decision on the order of names for election. Each time so far, the decision has been alphabetical. See here for the report that went to governing Body back in June 2024:  
[https://infocouncil.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/Open/2024/06/20240627\\_GB\\_AGN\\_11276\\_WEB.htm](https://infocouncil.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/Open/2024/06/20240627_GB_AGN_11276_WEB.htm)  
A key argument in the balance for alphabetical has been the ease for voters: in some cases people have to look through 30 candidate names; randomised order might make it difficult to find who you are looking for. However, some Councillors have already indicated a desire for a deep-dive look at this ahead of the 2028 elections.*
- Will it be possible for the candidate profiles to include videos?
  - *We are investigating the feasibility of adding video content to the profiles. We are also looking into adding a link to meet-the-candidates so voters can find out everything about the candidates in one place.*
- Will the candidate profiles be promoted to make sure we get voters to this website function?
  - *Yes, it will be widely promoted, as well as the meet-the-candidate events as we know "knowing more about candidates" is important to voters and might help reduce barriers to voting.*

### Next steps

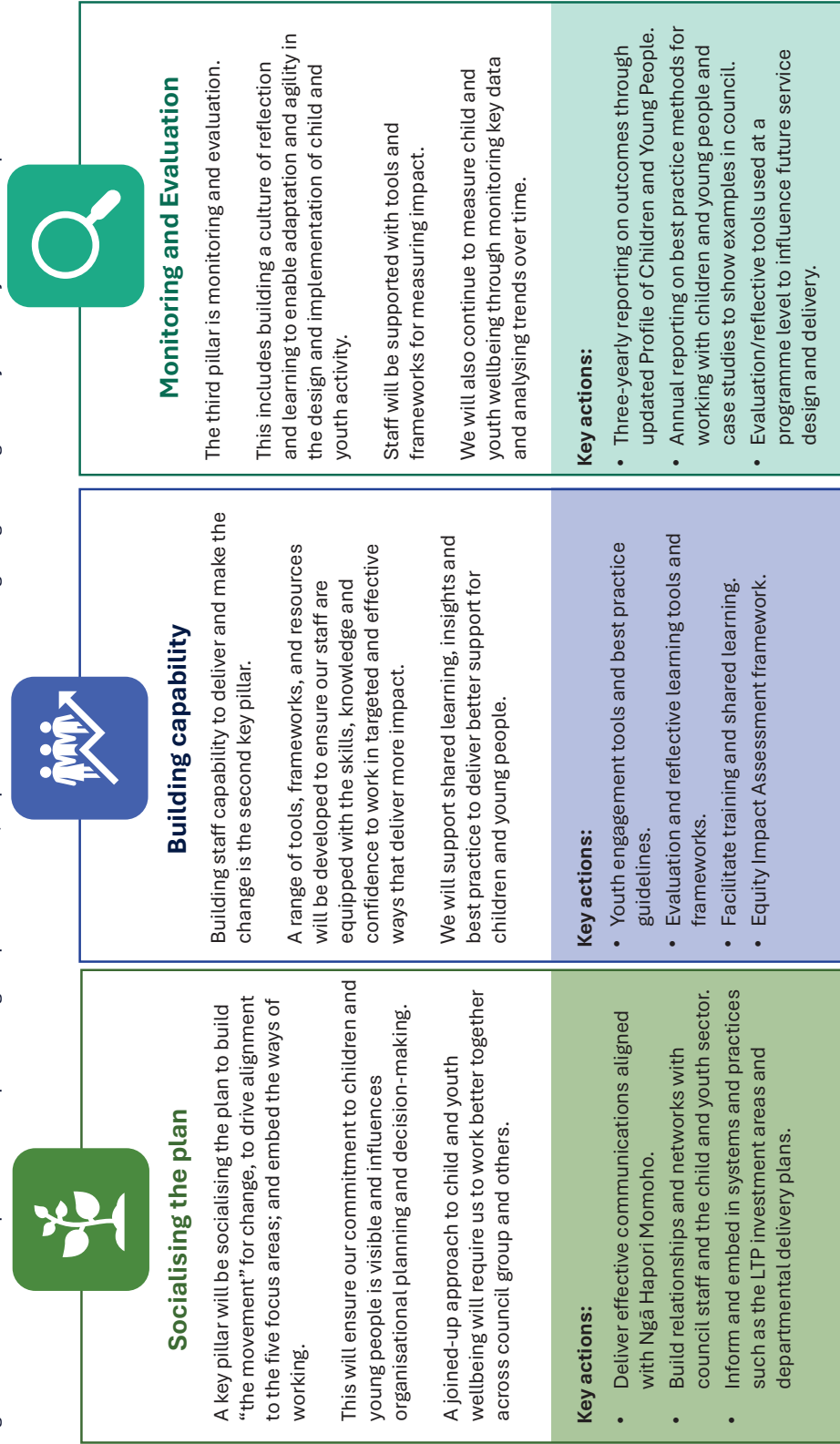
26. The next meeting of the elections cross-panel working group is scheduled for 28 May 2025.
27. Any questions can be directed to Elodie Fontaine, Elections Programme Manager.



## Attachment B Implementing Thriving Rangatahi

Thriving Rangatahi is Auckland Council’s commitment to improve outcomes for children and young people. We will need to work differently, targeting our investment and efforts on what matters most, using our roles and levers effectively and in partnership with others. We also need to be accountable for delivering on our commitments and measuring the impact we are making.

Aligned to the broader implementation plan for Ngā Hapori Momoho, implementation of Thriving Rangatahi is guided by three key workstream pillars:







Item 13

Attachment A

Te Māhere-ā-tākaro o Hibiscus and Bays 2025

## Hibiscus and Bays Play Plan 2025

April 2025

[aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)



Hibiscus and Bays Play Plan 2025

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April 2025

Plan adopted by Hibiscus and Bays Local Board on 29 April 2025.

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# Contents

|   |    |
|---|----|
| From the Chair .....                                  | 4  |
| Introduction.....                                     | 5  |
| Why play matters .....                                | 6  |
| New play opportunities .....                          | 8  |
| Different ways to play .....                          | 8  |
| Sidelines Play Box .....                              | 10 |
| Tree swings.....                                      | 10 |
| On-site adventurous nature spaces.....                | 11 |
| Installed adventurous nature spaces .....             | 11 |
| Play at local board-funded events .....               | 12 |
| Playful street art .....                              | 12 |
| Playful installations.....                            | 13 |
| Play at libraries .....                               | 13 |
| Expanded play activation programme.....               | 14 |
| Expanded beach activation programme.....              | 14 |
| Loose parts play space.....                           | 15 |
| Educational loose parts play programme.....           | 15 |
| Local community play budget.....                      | 16 |
| Partnership funding for rangatahi play projects.....  | 16 |
| Wheeled play in parks .....                           | 17 |
| Play on the way .....                                 | 17 |
| StoryWalks .....                                      | 18 |
| Play advocacy general budget.....                     | 18 |
| Play broker .....                                     | 19 |
| Integrating play into work programmes .....           | 20 |
| Advocacy within the council group.....                | 21 |
| Play Opportunities Through Environmental Design ..... | 21 |
| Play in urban spaces.....                             | 22 |
| Play opportunities in infrastructure projects.....    | 23 |
| Play on local drainage reserves.....                  | 24 |
| Play in council-owned facilities.....                 | 24 |
| Māori outcomes and play .....                         | 25 |
| Bringing Māori identity to life through play.....     | 25 |

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Using play activations to celebrate te ao Māori ..... | 26 |
| Play and accessibility .....                          | 27 |
| How are tamariki affected? .....                      | 27 |
| Disability survey findings .....                      | 28 |
| Planning for accessible play .....                    | 29 |
| Play for everyone.....                                | 30 |
| Who needs to play? .....                              | 30 |
| Five ways to support all-ages play .....              | 31 |
| Play for rangatahi .....                              | 32 |
| Play for older people .....                           | 33 |
| Supporting play in Asian communities.....             | 34 |

## From the Chair

We are pleased to present the Hibiscus and Bays Play Plan 2025 - a first for Hibiscus and Bays Local Board. This play plan will help guide future investment in unique play opportunities for our community.

Nearly one in five people in our local board area are under the age of 15 years old. We know there is more we can do to activate our parks and open spaces to encourage fun play opportunities that aren't the typical playground development. These can be unique natural structures that encourage fine motor skills, balance, or creative opportunities to play.

Once you start looking for it, you notice it everywhere - young people make their own fun in our open spaces by climbing trees, swinging on bike racks, or balancing on retaining walls. Play doesn't always have to look like a playground. It can sometimes be as simple as adding interactive footpaths, storyboards, or fairy doors in parks. This plan doesn't seek to replace our neighbourhood playground work, but rather to complement it by growing more play opportunities in more places.

Prior to the publishing of this plan, we had already been working hard on new opportunities to hear directly from our young people and have them design play spaces in our community. Our Kids Panel pilot started in 2024 with three schools who have helped contribute towards play ideas for Mairangi Bay Beach Reserve.

Play isn't just for young people though. This plan ensures we're thinking of active opportunities for older people and for parents and grandparents to play together with their young people.

Our play plan complements and builds on the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Plan 2023 which outlines our commitment to ensuring that there is nowhere better than our local parks and reserves for a picnic, a sports game or meeting friends; and that our parks and open spaces create more opportunities and connections for all to recreate and play.

To deliver on this we need to be innovative and open to new ways of delivering these outcomes. Many of the opportunities identified in this plan shouldn't require intensive project management or large amounts of capital funding, which enables us to deliver more.

Thank you to those who contributed to the creation of this plan. We are very excited to deliver some new and innovative play opportunities soon.

Alexis Poppelbaum

Chairperson, Hibiscus and Bays Local Board





Te Māhere-ā-tākaro o Hibiscus and Bays 2025 / Hibiscus and Bays Play Plan 2025

## Introduction

Te Māhere-ā-tākaro o Hibiscus and Bays 2025 – the Hibiscus and Bays Play Plan 2025 – provides Hibiscus and Bays Local Board with guidance for future investment in play, particularly beyond playgrounds and for the wider community. It reflects the belief that play should be an ‘everywhere activity’, and gives effect to the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Plan 2023. It will be refreshed as new local board plans are published<sup>1</sup>.

The Supplementary Information document contains insights from the community, the council’s Advisory Panels and the wider play sector. These insights have helped to shape staff advice about new ways to support play in Hibiscus and Bays. It also contains information about the ethnicity and age of Hibiscus and Bays residents, and how this may influence play investment.

Hibiscus and Bays Local Board already invests in play, and the Hibiscus and Bays Play Plan 2025 complements that ongoing support. Hibiscus and Bays has fantastic playgrounds with accessible features and wheeled play at several sites. The safe swimming beaches also provide great opportunities for residents and visitors to play and have fun. Its three libraries provide plenty of play, particularly for younger tamariki. The leisure centres in Browns Bay and Stanmore Bay also offer play and recreation for people of all ages.

The local board also invests in the council’s Out and About Auckland programme of park- and beach-based activations, with delivery partners hosting events that encourage the community to have fun in local spaces. Elected members from Hibiscus and Bays Local Board provide leadership in regional play discussions by participating in the council’s informal Play Leadership Group.

The play plan is also complementary to previous staff advice from the Special Operations team. The advice focuses on assessing the current level of playground provision and provides specific recommendations as to how the playground network can be improved<sup>2</sup>. It includes a collection of project proposals for the local board to consider when planning its annual operational expenditure (OPEX) work programme. The plan sits alongside the Special Operations staff advice to help build innovative ways of improving play for all.

Most local boards have a play provision assessment or play gap analysis, and in several cases, these documents are being updated to reflect recent play investment outcomes. Play provision assessments and gap analyses focus primarily on built capital expenditure (CAPEX) play assets. They:

- Assess play space provision at a network and individual play space scale
- Evaluate the current provision and identify any current gaps (for example, gaps in age-group provision)
- Highlight the presence or absence of specialised play experiences
- Reflect the local context of changing population patterns and forecast population growth
- Identify areas of play oversupply in the network and offer guidance for optimisation
- Recommend where further investment in play is required in specific suburbs or neighbourhoods.

Local path studies and greenways plans support local boards to assess existing local path priority routes for cycling and walking, and make recommendations for future work to improve the path network.

<sup>1</sup> As discussed in the Supplementary Information document, this play plan also aligns with several existing strategies

<sup>2</sup> The Supplementary Information document explains how different elements of the Auckland play ecosystem work together



Te Māhere-ā-tākaro o Hibiscus and Bays 2025 / Hibiscus and Bays Play Plan 2025

## Why play matters

Play is self-chosen, self-directed, intrinsically motivated and enjoyable. It's 'stuff we do mostly just for fun', and it brings joy and adds value to the lives of people of all ages. For tamariki, play is a fundamental human right<sup>3</sup>. Active play helps to develop physical literacy, social play supports the building of stronger relationships with peers and the wider community, and creative play enables tamariki to explore and stretch their imaginations.

Although the importance of play to tamariki development and wellbeing is well understood, opportunities to play have declined in recent decades. Tamariki today have less time, space and permission to play than most adults enjoyed when they were growing up. This is contributing to a rise in poor physical and mental health outcomes. Since 2022 Auckland Council has worked with Sport New Zealand and the regional sports trusts to expand its approach to play. Taking a principles-based approach to support play advocacy and achieves better play outcomes for tamariki in Tāmaki Makaurau. The council is part of a thriving play sector that includes Regional Sports Trusts, Recreation Aotearoa, and membership organisations such as Play Aotearoa<sup>4</sup>.

This new approach can be summarised into seven key messages:

**Play = 'stuff we do mostly just for fun'**

**Access to play is a human right for all children**

**Children need time, space and permission to play every day**

**Play is for everybody, of every age - we're never too old**

**Play is an everywhere activity: all places are playful**

**Playgrounds are the starting place for play - not the only place**

**We can all make Tāmaki Makaurau a playful city**

<sup>3</sup> Refer to the Supplementary Information document to learn about play's protected status under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

<sup>4</sup> The Supplementary Information document includes Sport New Zealand's Principles of Play, which serve as the guiding principles of play advocacy in New Zealand

Te Māhere-ā-tākaro o Hibiscus and Bays 2025 / Hibiscus and Bays Play Plan 2025

Through play, tamariki develop resilience, independence and decision-making skills. Playful experiences help them to manage risk and deal with unpredictable challenges. Access to play contributes to happy childhoods and prepares tamariki to be physically and mentally healthy adults. Given the importance of play in supporting tamariki wellbeing, the goal of increasing access to play fits well with the obligations of local government to support community wellbeing in all forms<sup>5</sup>. Nobody should feel like they're too old to play, and we should ensure that everybody is encouraged to join in, even while we keep tamariki at the centre of play conversations.



Playgrounds are hallowed places for tamariki and whānau, and we must continue to build and maintain them, but they are the starting place for play – not the only place. Our vision is for Tāmaki Makaurau to recognise and celebrate the benefits of play by encouraging playful behaviour in nature, in our urban spaces, in our community spaces, and through events, activations and design. Play helps tamariki to love and appreciate their region as they grow. Through play, they can learn about and celebrate te ao Māori and the many cultures that make up our city and our region. Playing in Tāmaki Makaurau's parks and reserves and at its beautiful beaches also ensures that tamariki love and treasure the outdoor world. This promotes kaitiakitanga and supports future Aucklanders to continue to take care of its wild spaces.

Auckland Council's play advocacy approach empowers elected members and staff to support play as 'an everywhere activity' and to celebrate play as an activity that should be enjoyed from early childhood and beyond.

<sup>5</sup> Refer to the Supplementary Information document to learn about the Local Government Act 2002 and the obligations of councils to support community wellbeing

## New play opportunities

This section of the play plan identifies projects that will increase play in Hibiscus and Bays.

### Different ways to play

The table below lists the proposed projects and how they align with Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Plan 2023 objectives. It is for reference only, and elected members should read the following collection of one-page project proposals to better understand what is being suggested and why.

This list of projects is not prescriptive, and including these play ideas in the play plan is not confirmation that Hibiscus and Bays Local Board will fund any specific project. The project list is provided to demonstrate the many ways that operational funding can support play outcomes. These play projects are all good options for the local board to consider supporting, but elected members, staff and the community will have ideas for many other possible play projects that could also be developed in due course.

| Play project                           | Local Board Plan 2023 objective   |
|--|---|
| Sidelines Play Box                     | 2023HB3.2 – There is nowhere better than our local parks and reserves for a picnic, a sports game or meeting friends  |
| Tree swings                            | 2023HB3.3 – We have more opportunities to connect for recreation, play and to help others in our community than ever before                                     |
| On-site adventurous nature spaces      | 2023HB3.3 – We have more opportunities to connect for recreation, play and to help others in our community than ever before                                     |
| Installed adventurous nature spaces    | 2023HB3.3 – We have more opportunities to connect for recreation, play and to help others in our community than ever before                                     |
| Play at local board-funded events      | 2023HB4.3 – People embrace and enjoy living, working, playing and travelling locally  |
| Playful street art                     | 2023HB4.1 – Town centres feel like a friendly village but operate like a bustling metropolis  |
| Playful installations                  | 2023HB3.4 – A vibrant and thriving community with places to celebrate, learn and enjoy culture and arts   |
| Play at libraries                      | 2023HB3.3 – We have more opportunities to connect for recreation, play and to help others in our community than ever before                                     |
| Expanded play activation programme     | 2023HB3.3 – We have more opportunities to connect for recreation, play and to help others in our community than ever before                                     |
| Expanded beach activation programme    | 2023HB3.3 – We have more opportunities to connect for recreation, play and to help others in our community than ever before                                     |
| Loose parts play space                 | 2023HB3.3 – We have more opportunities to connect for recreation, play and to help others in our community than ever before                                     |
| Educational loose parts play programme | 2023HB3.3 – We have more opportunities to connect for recreation, play and to help others in our community than ever before                                     |
| Local community play budget            | 2023HB1.1 – Hibiscus and Bays: a community of thousands that feels like a village, with strong connections and roots, with easy opportunities for participation |

Te Māhere-ā-tākaro o Hibiscus and Bays 2025 / Hibiscus and Bays Play Plan 2025

| Play project                                    | Local Board Plan 2023 objective   |
|---|---|
| Partnership funding for rangatahi play projects | 2023HB1.1 – Hibiscus and Bays: a community of thousands that feels like a village, with strong connections and roots, with easy opportunities for participation |
| Wheeled play in parks                           | 2023HB3.3 – We have more opportunities to connect for recreation, play and to help others in our community than ever before                                     |
| Play on the way                                 | 2023HB3.4 – A vibrant and thriving community with places to celebrate, learn and enjoy culture and arts   |
| StoryWalks                                      | 2023HB3.4 – A vibrant and thriving community with places to celebrate, learn and enjoy culture and arts   |
| Play advocacy general budget                    | 2023HB3.3 – We have more opportunities to connect for recreation, play and to help others in our community than ever before                                     |
| Play broker                                     | 2023HB1.1 – Hibiscus and Bays: a community of thousands that feels like a village, with strong connections and roots, with easy opportunities for participation |

Item 13

Attachment A



## Sidelines Play Box



**What is it?** Gifting a box of local board-branded boxes of loose parts play equipment to sports clubs, to be managed by the club and made available for tamariki to use during training sessions and games.

**How will we manage Sidelines Play Boxes?** A Play Box is a one-off gift from the local board. The sports club will be responsible for looking after its Play Box.

**Why gift a Sidelines Play Box?** Tamariki often spend time at sports fields while family members train or compete, and these spaces don't often provide much

scope for play. Providing play equipment (large-format games, blocks, etc) will give tamariki time, space and permission to have fun while sport takes place. Gifting a Sidelines Play Box to a sports club will strengthen its relationship with the local board and activate a council-owned space for play.

## Tree swings



**What is it?** Installing council-funded swings in trees, providing a play opportunity in parks and reserves without playgrounds. Four swings were installed in trees in Devonport-Takapuna in 2024.

**How will we manage tree swings?** Tree swings will be inspected regularly to ensure they are safe to use. The trees in which they are installed will also be checked regularly to ensure that the swing is causing no damage.

**Why install tree swings?** Aucklanders often install swings into trees in council spaces, and people of all ages enjoy

them. Sometimes the community-installed swings are unsafe, or in unsuitable trees. By installing our own swings, we can ensure that they are fit-for-purpose, will not cause damage to the tree, and comply with our council benefit-risk assessment approach for non-playground play.

## On-site adventurous nature spaces



**What is it?** Pruning or modifying a felled or fallen tree, to leave it in place as a natural play opportunity.

**How will we manage an on-site adventurous nature space?** By adding the space to the council maintenance schedule for the park, to be inspected regularly and modified further if required. The council will take a benefit risk assessment approach for this kind of non-playground play.

**Why leave fallen trees as play spaces?** Leaving a fallen tree in place as an adventurous nature space, and using

signage to show that play is encouraged, activates a park as a location for play. Climbing fallen trees can also offer older tamariki in particular, a chance to enjoy more challenging play than is sometimes available at local playgrounds. This kind of play increases the overall play diversity for a neighbourhood.

## Installed adventurous nature spaces



**What is it?** Bringing felled trees to a site that doesn't contain a formal playground, and using them to create a nature play opportunity.

**How will we manage an installed adventurous nature space?** By adding the space to the council maintenance schedule for the park, to be inspected regularly and modified further if required. The council will take a benefit risk assessment approach for this kind of non-playground play.

**Why use trees to create play?** We can use this kind of play to fill gaps in play provision until a formal playground is built. Appropriate sites will be identified with the Specialist Operations team. Play like this can also sit in spaces where traditional playgrounds can't fit, such as drainage reserves. As well as providing play where there was none, adventurous nature spaces like this give scope for balancing, climbing and dynamic play like 'floor is lava' games. The natural materials provide sensory play experiences, and as the materials change over time, tamariki can learn about natural processes. Creating an adventurous nature space from raw materials enables arborists to be creative and craft a play opportunity that is unique to its site.



## Play at local board-funded events



**What is it?** Increasing budgets for events like Movies in the Park, so the Events team can book play delivery partners to provide play activations as part of the event.

**How would we deliver play at events?** Funding for a play activation could be added to the Events team work programme for the event. The Events team can access play delivery partners through the register of council vendors.

**Why add play to local board events?** Including play at events will entertain and occupy excited tamariki, making the

event more fun for them and giving their parents and care-givers an opportunity to relax and connect with other members of the community.

## Playful street art



**What is it?** Commissioning professional artists to design and create playful murals in urban spaces, with input from local tamariki and rangatahi.

**How would we create playful street art?** By funding a play advocacy work programme for playful murals. The programme would be commissioned and delivered with support from the council Public Art team, and according to the guidelines in the Murals Toolkit and the Public Art policy.

**How can street art make urban spaces playful?** Art can contribute to a playful

environment, particularly in urban spaces that could benefit from increased colour and design. Street art adds excitement and interest to spaces, attracting visitors and making town centres feel more inclusive.

## Playful installations



a reserve, or allocating a space for tamariki art in a public space. Installations should ideally encourage further additions by tamariki and whānau, increasing a sense of community ownership and making dynamic, ever-changing public spaces.

**What is it?** Creative, playful installations to add joy to a park or an urban landscape.

**How would we create playful installations?** Partnering with community groups and schools, perhaps using council-run facilities such as libraries and community houses to promote the opportunity.

**What's the point of playful installations?** This is a low-cost way to add playfulness in parks or urban spaces. A playful installation can be community-led, with local board seed funding.

Examples include creating a fairy village in

## Play at libraries



younger tamariki, but staff at the branches have identified gaps in provision for older tamariki and rangatahi. Providing opportunities for older children – and adults – to stay and play reinforces the community value of libraries, and can address issues like social isolation for older residents. Libraries can also be a space where people can borrow outdoor games for an hour or two to use on nearby green spaces, as many library branches sit on or near council-owned parks.

**What is it?** Additional funding to library branches, so they can refresh or increase their play provision for people of all ages to play.

**How would we fund play in libraries?** Library staff would identify gaps in play provision and the play team would use its work programme budget to fill them.

**Does play belong in libraries?** Libraries aren't silent book museums anymore – increasingly, they're used by communities as important places to gather. The three libraries in Hibiscus and Bays already provide excellent play sessions for



## Expanded play activation programme



**What is it?** Increased funding for the play activation work programme in Hibiscus and Bays.

**How would we provide more play?** The Activation team would allocate an increased budget to its delivery partners, focusing on specific areas of play if required.

**Do we need more play activations?** Yes! The Out and About Auckland Activation team is skilled at developing great relationships with delivery partners and scheduling activities for local boards. The programme can also respond to specific

priorities for a local board. For Hibiscus and Bays Local Board, this could include tailored play activities for targeted communities, such as Asian families. Out and About can also help local boards to meet Māori Outcomes with Māori play and recreation sessions. A year-round programme could be developed, using community houses for activities in the winter.

## Expanded beach activation programme



**What is it?** Increased funding for the beach activation work programme in Hibiscus and Bays.

**How would we increase beach activations?** The Activation team would allocate an increased budget to its delivery partners, and would promote beach activities as opportunities for rangatahi and adults to have fun.

**Why run beach activations?** Hibiscus and Bays contains some of the region's best beaches. These sites can provide opportunities for fun through recreational activities like waka ama, kayaking and

stand-up paddleboarding. Unfortunately though, not everybody has access to the equipment required or knows how to take part. Facilitated sessions delivered through Out and About Auckland remove barriers to participation, encouraging older tamariki, rangatahi and adults to enjoy themselves.

## Loose parts play space



**What is it?** Creating a dedicated site for loose parts play in Hibiscus and Bays.

**How would we deliver a loose parts play space?** By confirming a suitable site, providing storage if required (for example, a shed for an outdoor play space, or a cupboard or similar for indoor storage), and creating a partnership agreement with a delivery partner to manage the site. Whangaparāoa Community Recycling Centre could be a good site for this initiative.

**Why would we support loose parts play?** This kind of play – also known as

‘junk play’ – encourages tamariki to use their imaginations and create play out of unexpected items. The materials used tend to be sourced from recycling centres and other organisations committed to diverting items from landfill and giving them a new life. At present, there isn’t a permanent site in Tāmaki Makaurau for loose parts play, although Out and About Auckland provides pop-up junk play activities.

## Educational loose parts play programme



**What is it?** Initial funding to enable local primary schools to attend full-day loose parts play sessions at ‘Noughty Wasters’ at Resource Recovery Devonport, and in the longer term creating a facilitated loose parts educational play programme at Whangaparāoa Community Recycling Centre.

**How would we provide this?** Through a grant to ‘Noughty Wasters’ to access the existing provision, which would then be used to provide sessions for nominated Hibiscus and Bays primary schools. The ‘Noughty Wasters’ model could be the

template for a similar project in Hibiscus and Bays. A delivery partner could be recruited to operate the space and deliver play sessions for visiting tamariki and ongoing local support for associated costs.

**What’s so good about Noughty Wasters?** The ‘Noughty Wasters’ educational play programme teaches tamariki about waste minimisation through play. It includes indoor and outdoor spaces, and works with schools to run sessions. Tamariki are encouraged to be creative and play using objects donated to the recycling centre. Funding these sessions supports the ecological education of local tamariki and provides them with a loose parts play opportunity.













































































































