

Date: Monday 5 May 2025
Time: 12.00pm
Meeting Room: Room 1, Level 26
Venue: Te Wharau o Tāmaki - Auckland House
135 Albert Street
Auckland

Seniors Advisory Panel

OPEN ATTACHMENTS

ITEM	TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
11	Seniors Advisory Panel Work Tracker	
	A. Seniors Advisory Panel Work Tracker - 5 May 2025	3
12	Information Memoranda	
	A. Tsunami Public Alerting Project Update	17
	B. Elections Cross Panel Working Group Report Back from March and April Meetings.	19

Seniors Advisory Panel Work Tracker

SENIORS ADVISORY PANEL WORK TRACKER 2023 (as at 29 April 2025)	
<p>Priority areas for the Seniors Advisory Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working to implement Tāmaki tauawhi kaumatua / Auckland’s Age Friendly City. • Housing • Safety • Access to services • Transport 	<p>This is intended to be a running record of feedback that the Panel has provided during the term. It will be attached to the public agendas which will be published online.</p>

Council initiative	Date	Description	Panel’s input [new input since last meeting in red]	Next steps	Outcomes
Monitoring implementation of Tāmaki tauawhi kaumatua / Auckland’s Age Friendly City framework.	28 August 2023	<p>This is an omnibus priority, as Age-friendly Auckland covers all matters the Panel is passionate about.</p> <p>Through strong advocacy, previous Seniors Advisory Panels succeeded in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland becoming an age - friendly city and joining the World Health Organisation’s global network of age friendly cities.</p> <p>Auckland Council has now established Te Ropu Whakamana ki te Ao, the Age-friendly Auckland implementation Group and two Panel members sit on this group</p>	<p>Staff updated the Seniors Advisory Panel on the work of Te Rōpū Whakamana ki te Ao the Age Friendly Auckland implementation group – 106 actions under 10 domains. 60 of those actions are for council.</p>	<p>Will seek input and engagement on 1 November 2023 Symposium.</p> <p>To present at 6 November hui.</p>	
	6 November 2023		<p>Staff updated the Seniors Advisory Panel on the work of Te Rōpū Whakamana ki te Ao the Age Friendly Auckland implementation group – 106 actions under 10 domains. 60 of those actions are for council. This included summary and feedback from the Symposium held 1 November, which was held to be an uplifting and connecting event.</p>	To present at the 11 March 2024 hui.	

Seniors Advisory Panel Work Tracker

Item 11

Attachment A

Council initiative	Date	Description	Panel's input [new input since last meeting in red]	Next steps	Outcomes
	28 August 2023	Centre for Co-Created Ageing research	Representatives from the Centre for Co-created Ageing Research presented to the panel on the Centre's work and discussed how the panel could contribute to that work.		
	11 March 2024		Staff updated the Seniors Advisory Panel on the work of Te Rōpū Whakamana ki te Ao the Age Friendly Auckland implementation group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning until late January - Priorities for the year - Social participation hui 10 April. Age Concern leading. Presented on project looking at disaster preparedness, response and recovery for older people.	Staff obtaining GM approval to share disaster preparedness, response and recovery findings and plans for older people	
	22 April 2024		Seniors Advisory Panel representatives on Te Ropu Whakamana ki te Ao The Age Friendly Auckland implementation group reported back on hui from 20 February and concerns around lack of emergency and general housing for seniors.		
	21 May 2024		Seniors Advisory Panel representatives on Te Ropu Whakamana ki te Ao The Age Friendly Auckland implementation group reported back on social hui in April at Western Springs, interaction with Imagine Ageing and the next Age Friendly symposium planned for October/November. AF Action plan is being translated.		
	7 October 2024		Staff updated the Seniors Advisory Panel on the work of Te Rōpū Whakamana ki te Ao the Age Friendly Auckland implementation group, 107 Actions representing 83% progressing or completed. 14% increase on last year. 16% stalled/no further information.	Staff finalising the annual report - full report will go to elected members, then up on to web site. Also annual update to WHO. 5 featured case studies will go on the WHO website	

Seniors Advisory Panel Work Tracker

Council initiative	Date	Description	Panel's input [new input since last meeting in red]	Next steps	Outcomes
	5 November 2024	Age Friendly Auckland Symposium "Creating an inclusive, resilient city"	Members Claire Dale, Zari Fazelnia and Gayle Marshall attended the third symposium which included presentations from Edwina Po on "Belonging as an aging Asian", from council staff on disaster preparedness, a panel discussion about elder abuse prevention and support services and a discussion on the benefits of creative aging. Attendees also enjoyed performances from the South Asian community and elders from the Tongan community in Auckland.		
	2 December 2024	Age Friendly Auckland – update	Update from staff on symposium (very positive feedback), relevant census data, dementia friendly film screening kaupapa. Feedback that not all things happening that could be seen as being age friendly, are being captured (eg Kauri Glen tree top walkway, signage on grades of walks and seating). Panel strongly feel Auckland Transport should have a representative on the AFA Rōpū.	Council staff to follow up with AT re AFA Rōpū representation.	AT have now appointed a new rep to the AFA Rōpū.
	10 March 2025	Age Friendly Auckland – update	Update from staff on membership (new AT member, invitation issued to Health NZ and Centre for Co-created Aging), priority domain identified of Community Support and Health Services. Opportunities for 2025 identified – actions, data/research, awareness, communication with stakeholders.	Staff will ask action holders to review and report back on whether action is still current, progressing or needing updating. Will be holding August in person hui to discuss delivery of actions. Will be conducting an evaluation report from dementia friendly film screenings. Liaising with colleague updating report on older people in the region based on latest census data.	
Housing		As the percentage of people who are seniors increases, so too does the problem of access to and provision of housing for them. Seniors are increasingly locked out of the housing market due to rising costs and trends to large scale retirement villages which are unaffordable for many seniors.		Theme for 11 March 2024 hui.	

Seniors Advisory Panel Work Tracker

Item 11

Attachment A

Council initiative	Date	Description	Panel's input [new input since last meeting in red]	Next steps	Outcomes
		<p>Auckland Council plays a significant role in establishing the planning and policy framework for housing (including social housing) and being a housing provider via its partnership with Haumarū Housing.</p> <p>We want to help Auckland Council better understand the needs of seniors when it comes to housing.</p>			
	11 March 2024		Sam Stubbs from Simplicity Living presented to the panel on their business model, the homes they created and how these could be good for seniors.	No next steps identified.	
	11 March 2024		Staff from Auckland Council Plans and Places presented on how the Unitary Plan has increased the housing supply in Tāmaki Makaurau and took questions and feedback from the Panel. Currently conducting surveys on lessons learned from people living in the new medium density homes.	<p>Staff will report back on findings from survey on medium density home occupiers once the data has been collected and analysed.</p> <p>Potential opportunity to report back once Plan Change 79 has been finalised.</p> <p>September 2024: Staff still surveying impact on disabled and seniors communities</p>	Panel feedback enables staff to ask the right questions in this space.
	11 March 2024		Maxine Stilling from Haumarū Housing presented to the Panel about what Haumarū do, their developments. Interaction with the panel around connectedness, accessibility, safety.	Opportunity for staff to provide further information on how Haumarū budgets for these developments, criteria/strategy around where and how many?	
	22 April 2024	Cr Fairey update on proposed sale of Council's Own Your Own pensioner housing.	Cr Fairey updated the panel on Council's proposed sale of the Own Your Own housing, which has fallen over and Council is urgently reassessing.	Further update to the panel when more information is available.	
	24 June 2024	Cr Alf Filiaina update on the Own Your Own pensioner housing	Update from Eke Panuku to Alf Filiaina 26 April 2024 on proposed sale and circulated to the Panel.		

Seniors Advisory Panel Work Tracker

Council initiative	Date	Description	Panel's input [new input since last meeting in red]	Next steps	Outcomes
	24 June 2024	Presentation from Kāinga Ora	Staff from Kāinga Ora presented on their mahi, including age friendly Auckland targets and aspects like ensuring at least 15% of all Kāinga Ora public housing new builds are built to Universal Design standards. There are homes in various new developments that are dedicated as being suitable for a variety of needs and targeted to older people, including 52 new homes for older Aucklanders in Northcote through a collaboration with Eke Panuku and Haumarū Housing.	Kāinga Ora happy to feed back results from testing in Avondale to understand whether new housing meet the Universal Design standards.	
Safety		Seniors can feel unsafe in their homes, especially if they live alone as many do, and when out and about in their communities. They can also struggle to get the help they need when safety issues arise. These issues collectively can negatively impact on seniors health and wellbeing.			
	22 April 2024		Cr Alf Filipaina reported on relationship with Superintendent Scott Gemmell and the government liaison for the Assistant Commissioner Sam Hoyle and opportunity to meet with advisory panels.	Investigate opportunities to interact with these senior police on safety and seniors in Auckland. Member Gavin Jones?	
	24 June 2024	Presentation on disaster preparedness, response and recovery for older people – best practice review	Auckland Council staff presented key findings for best practice and intent to work with Te Rōpū Age Friendly Auckland implementation group and council colleagues to implement best practice.		
	24 June 2024	Presentation from Auckland Emergency Management planning unit	Introduction to newly established team, its focus on older Aucklanders and opportunities for this panel to provide perspectives. Panel gave feedback on further opportunities to support older Aucklanders, groups of older Aucklanders' less likely to receive messaging or seek assistance, additional community stakeholders for AEM to support, engagement approaches and feedback on draft Local		

Seniors Advisory Panel Work Tracker

Council initiative	Date	Description	Panel's input [new input since last meeting in red]	Next steps	Outcomes
			Board Emergency Readiness and Response Plan template.		
	12 August 2024	Presentation from Auckland Emergency Management planning unit	Update from staff on progress on emergency readiness actions to address the needs and utilise the experience of older people.		Inclusion now of a pamphlet designed to 'go on the fridge' in response to Panel concerns about length of initial documentation and usefulness of what used to be in the inside of the phone book.
	12 August 2024	Safety and accessibility scenario	Members Gavin Jones and Susanne Tapsell lead the panel through a scenario of getting to and around the CBD to identify safety and accessibility successes and opportunities. The Panel noted recommendations for further action where these are within the mandate of Auckland Council.		
	7 October 2024	Cr Alf Filipaina report on AT response to matters raised in scenario above	Following up with AT and AC re concerns raised about specific footpath surfaces, traffic lights and signage.		
	7 October 2024	Staff presented on proposed changes to dog walking policy and bylaw.	Panel inputted on proposal to limit the number of dogs that may be walked on a leash in an on-leash area, and off a leash in an off leash area.		
	2 December 2024	Staff resented on community safety and harm prevention to seek support from the Seniors Advisory Panel to ensure seniors' aspirations, views and needs are integrated into strategic plans, submissions, policy development and initiatives.	Examples given from panel members of unsafe situations on busses and the need for clear guidance – speak up or get off?	Refreshing assessment of areas impacting seniors (currently falls, transport, drowning and alcohol harm) in early 2025. Staff will endeavour to connect with partners to inform and build on the work of the panel, and share knowledge/data/resources.	

Item 11

Attachment A

Seniors Advisory Panel Work Tracker

Council initiative	Date	Description	Panel's input [new input since last meeting in red]	Next steps	Outcomes
Access to services		<p>Despite seniors being an increasingly larger percentage of the population, decisions on access to services are made mostly by younger people and the needs of seniors can easily be overlooked.</p> <p>It is important to recognise that if something is good for seniors it is good for everyone. We want to make Auckland more accessible and attractive for older persons.</p> <p>Seniors have a huge amount to offer and provided they are supported to engage, they can make a big difference.</p> <p>Libraries and community centres remain the main places where seniors can easily access information in a safe environment and these cannot be allowed to close or be less available.</p>			
	6 November 2023	Open Space policy refresh	<p>Staff presented a draft background paper on the open space, sport and recreation policy refresh for the Panel's feedback, particularly around:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. What the panel loves about existing open spaces and sport and recreation opportunities; ii. How the panel thinks things will change in the future; and iii. What our challenges and opportunities are and how we creatively solve them. 		
	18 June 2024	Open Space policy refresh	Update memo from staff.		Can identify in the feedback mewhere the Panel's input has been taken into account. Going to committee later in 2024.
	11 March 2024		Staff presented on new waste services proposals and received Panel feedback.		

Seniors Advisory Panel Work Tracker

Council initiative	Date	Description	Panel's input [new input since last meeting in red]	Next steps	Outcomes
	22 April 2024	Play advocacy	Staff presented on council's play advocacy mahi, including intergenerational play, capturing play memories from other Aucklanders. Kōrerorero/conversation around integrated play spaces, general support for outdoors gym equipment, volunteering, fairy forest in Kaipātiki.	Staff writing play plans for local boards and will include panel feedback into those plans.	7.10.24 Update memo tabled on play advocacy.
	22 April 2024	Virtual Village	Hilda Johnstone presented to the panel on the Virtual Village movement and the rōpū established in Howick. Support network, physical wellbeing, environment, financial and legal wellbeing, mental, social and spiritual wellbeing.	None identified.	
	22 April 2024	Panel discussion of future meeting focus on Access to services and Safety	Members Gavin Jones and Suzanne Tapsell leading kōrerorero/discussion and propose a scenario session for a future hui.	Members Gavin Jones and Suzanne Tapsell to work on a scenario to propose for inclusion in an upcoming panel hui.	
	24 June 2024*	AT workshop.	Member Tapsell and Co-chair Pio attended. Provided feedback from a Seniors perspective on things like accessibility, pathways, lanes, furniture, scooters, bikes, width of carparks, specific places for bins etc. 60 or so people attending.	None identified.	
	21 August 2024	Waiheke Local Board Chair Cath Handley presented on access to core services	Panel provided feedback on the identified accessibility constraints to services in Auckland, in particular the hospital bus no longer stopping on the same wharf as the Waiheke Ferry.	Panel to contact Auckland Transport and Eke Panuku chairs in support of addressing the Waiheke Local Board's concerns.	As below

Item 11

Attachment A

Seniors Advisory Panel Work Tracker

Council initiative	Date	Description	Panel's input [new input since last meeting in red]	Next steps	Outcomes
	25 September 2024	Hui with Auckland Transport and Eke Panuku	Co-chairs from the Seniors Advisory Panel and Disability Advisory Panel met with the CE's and staff from Auckland Transport and Eke Panuku to discuss issues in those CCO's scope of strategic interest to the panels	CCO's will revert with names of first point of contact and confirmed willingness for early engagement with the panels	On the concerns about the hospital bus not stopping at the Waiheke Ferry wharf, no change – AT advised the bus cannot safely and practically operate from the wharf. AT advocated using the total mobility discount, acknowledging difficulties with peak demand. 7.10.24 Cr Alf Filipaina meeting with council kaimahi to discuss – will report back.
	2 December 2024	Presentation from and feedback sought by staff on mapping and accessibility for parks	Feedback given on desire for consistency to counter confusion. Query re Waikumete mapping noted as a great opportunity. Discussed need for facilities for adults to sit and play integrated with/adjacent to childrens' playgrounds. Noted different requirements for walkers v wheelchairs for gradient and smooth paths – integrate with wayfinding boards re suitability for these. Noting many older people will not find digital interactive media helpful, so static signs at parks and on print-outs of maps are vital.		
Transport		Whether seniors are using private cars, public transport or walking, getting the small things right that most of us just don't think about, can make a huge difference. We need to make it as easy as possible for seniors who need or want to, to use public transport. At the same time, the independence associated with private car travel is important to seniors, and enables them to get where they need to go.			

Seniors Advisory Panel Work Tracker

Council initiative	Date	Description	Panel's input [new input since last meeting in red]	Next steps	Outcomes
	*Also see entry 24 June 2024 under Accessibility re hui with AT				
	24 June 2024	Auckland Transport staff update to the panel on the Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP)	AT staff received panel feedback.		
	10 March 2025	Staff requested feedback on Room to Move i te Pokapū Tāone developing our City Centre Parking Management Plan	Discussed pick up/drop off zones and potential for multi-use depending on time of day. Queries around capacity to enforce compliance. Looking at tech efficiencies. Concerns expressed around lack of parking. Discussed potential to promote promoting private businesses hiring out parking spaces in evenings. Queried strategies for seniors to access parking and to engage with plan – ads in newspapers, screen readable version, - consider libraries and Community Advice Bureaux. Raised issues with scooter parking. Working well on Queen St.		
Cross Panel	24 August 2023	Cross Panel Forum on Storm recovery, resilience, and Auckland Emergency Management	Panel members Susanne Tapsell and Claire Dale were co-authors (alongside Teresa Platt, Rainbow Communities and Ireen Rahiman-Manuel, Ethnic Communities) of the Report.	The panels' Report was presented by Teresa and Dylan Chand, Youth Advisory Panel, to Governing Body as part of the consultation feedback to Governing Body on 28 September 2023.	
	6 September 2023	Co-chairs induction One	Co-chairs attended.		
	6 September 2023	NZ Royal Commission COVID-19: Lessons Learned Te Tira Ārai Urutā	Co-chairs meeting with Commissioners and Commission executive team		
	5 October 2023	Presentation of Seniors Advisor Panel priorities to Planning, Environment and Parks Committed by co-chairs.	Co-chairs attended, supported by panel members in person and online.		

Seniors Advisory Panel Work Tracker

Council initiative	Date	Description	Panel's input [new input since last meeting in red]	Next steps	Outcomes
	10 October 2023	Co-chairs induction Two.	Co-chairs attended.		
	29 April 2024	Co-chairs forum	Co-chairs hui on issues of common interest.		
	7 May 2024	Panel members forum with the Local Boards	Kōrerorero/discussion on how panels might provide strategic advice across the Local Boards.	None identified at this stage.	
	10 July 2024	Co-chairs forum	Co-chairs hui on issues of common interest.		
	21 August 2024	Co-chairs forum	Co-chairs hui on issues of common interest		
	24 September 2024	Auckland Transport cross panel workshop	Northwest Rapid Transit		
	25 September 2024	Cross panel hui for Māori panellists	Members Bruce Davies and Susanne Tapsell attended and contributed to the kōrerorero.		
	21 October 2024	Cross panel hui on City Centre plan	Members Lindsay Waugh and Zari Fazelnia, Janis McArdle and Bruce Davies attended.		
	22 October 2024	Cross panel elections working group hui	Members attended in anticipation of the 2025 elections		
	23 October 2024	Co-chairs forum	Co-chairs hui on issues of common interest.		
	20 November 2024	Co-chairs training	Co-chairs training		
	21 November 2024	City Centre night walk-shop. Member Janis McArdle			
	27 November 2024	Cross panel hui on elections	Focus on promoting participation. Co-chairs Claire Dale and Susanne Tapsell, and Members, Zari Fazelnia, Lindsay Waugh, Janis McArdle, Bruce Davies attended .		
	25 February 2025	Cross panel hui on open space	Members Leigh Featherstone, Lyndsay Waugh and Fia Turner attended.		
	26 February 2025	Cross panel hui: elections working group	Member Zari Fazelnia and C-chair Claire Dale attended.		
	19 March 2025	Co-chairs forum	Co-chair Susanne Tapsell attended this hui on issues of common interest.		

Seniors Advisory Panel Work Tracker

Item 11

Attachment A

Council initiative	Date	Description	Panel's input [new input since last meeting in red]	Next steps	Outcomes
	26 March 2025	Cross-panel Elections Working Group	Co-chair Claire Dale and Member Zari Fazelnia attended to give a seniors' perspective in anticipation of the 2025 elections		
	29 March 2025	Civil Defence Emergency Management forum at Te Manawa	Member Zari Fazelnia attended to give a seniors' perspective		
	16 April 2025	Cross-panel Elections Working Group	Members Lindsay Waugh and Janis McArdle attended to give a seniors' perspective in anticipation of the 2025 elections		
Other	10 July 2023	Auckland Council Strategic Framework	Presentation from the council staff on the council's strategic framework including how the strategies and plans fit together, highlighting key findings from the Auckland Plan 2050 and a three yearly March 2023 progress Report.		
	28 August 2023	Auckland Council Long-Term Plan 2024-2034	Presentation from council staff on an overview of the Long-Term Plan (LTP) 2024-2034 process.	2 October 2023 Early engagement on Long Term Plan. Co-chairs attendance with Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Chief Liaison Councillor – Mayor and Councillors' Direction to Auckland Council Group. Staff are establishing a timeline for engagement with the Governing Body ahead of decision making, process for consultation (participatory forum) and continuing to provide relevant information and advice to help support and shape advisory panel input into the process.	
	6 November 2023	Auckland Council Long-Term Plan 2024-2034	Update from staff on the Long-Term Plan process. Currently in prioritisation phase.	Opportunity to provide views on Mayoral Proposal. Proposal will be available 27 Nov. Short window to feedback. Hui 4 Dec. Consider alignment with panel priorities, key pieces of information and trade-offs, best ways to provide feedback.	

Seniors Advisory Panel Work Tracker

Council initiative	Date	Description	Panel's input [new input since last meeting in red]	Next steps	Outcomes
	30 November 2023	Auckland Council Long-Term Plan 2024-2034	Panel online workshop to agree collective feedback on the Mayor's draft proposal.	1 December co-chair's collaboration on feedback to Mayor.	
	1 December 2023	Auckland Council Long-Term Plan 2024-2034	Co-chairs discuss upcoming hui to provide feedback to the Mayor on the Mayor's draft proposal.	4 December – hui to provide feedback to the Mayor on the Mayor's draft proposal.	
	4 December 2023	Auckland Council Long-Term Plan 2024-2034	Co-chairs present feedback to Mayor and Cr Fairey on Mayor's draft proposal.	16 January 2024 public feedback form testing.	
	16 January 2024	Auckland Council Long-Term Plan 2024-2034	Co-chair Pio provided consultation feedback form testing with other panels and community partners.		
	24 January 2024	Co-chairs forum	Co-chairs attended the co-chairs forum.		
	15 February 2024	Local Board Re-organisation/Representation Project	Cross panel early engagement hui on the Local Board Re-Organisation/Representation Project. 33 panel members attended.		
	19 February 2024	Nexus Training	Training for the Seniors' Advisory Panel on Nexus software.		
	23 March 2024	Long Term Plan Participatory Forum	Panel members attended the second forum in the LTP participatory Forums to hear directly from Council staff about proposals in the LTP, ask questions and seek clarifications.	Next LTP event (Panels and Community Partners report back) scheduled 24 April 2024.	
	8 April 2024	Long Term Plan online session	Panel members attended an online session to discuss the LTP		
	22 April 2024	Local Board Participatory Forum	Update from Staff on the Local Board reorganisation proposal.	None for now.	Governing Body decided to reconsider for the 2028 election.
	24 April 2024	Long Term Plan Participatory Forum – report back	Panel members attended the third forum in the LTP participatory Forums to report back on proposals in the LTP.		

Seniors Advisory Panel Work Tracker

Council initiative	Date	Description	Panel's input [new input since last meeting in red]	Next steps	Outcomes
	24 June 2024	Long Term Plan report back to close the loop	Report back from staff showing feedback by age (including 65-74, and 74+ age groups by male/female). Noted really strong Seniors Advisory Panel advocacy, particularly in transport to retain the subsidy and ensure that public transport funding is retained. Advisory panels provided strategic support and supported diverse engagement. Council will continue to consider how to better communicate complex proposals and issues and enable early collaborating.	Staff to come back to the panel on how the stadiums strategy affects rates.	
	30 April 2025	Panel gave feedback on Annual Plan at Budget Committee	Co-chairs Susanne Tapsell and Claire Dale to attend		

Item 11

Attachment A



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. 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_112_76_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.