

Date: Thursday 15 May 2025
Time: 12.00pm
Meeting Room: Howick Local Board Meeting Room
Venue: Pakuranga Library Complex
 7 Aylesbury Street
 Pakuranga

Howick Local Board

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Note: The attachments contained within this document are for consideration and should not be construed as Council policy unless and until adopted. Should Councillors require further information relating to any reports, please contact the relevant manager, Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson.

Marina Fitness Community Member Representation Group

7th April 2025

Submission to Howick Local Board

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Marina Fitness: Community & Health Benefits Advocacy Document

Background

Marina Fitness, located in Half Moon Bay, Auckland, is a dedicated fitness centre offering personalized fitness programs, modern cardio and weight machines, and a supportive community environment. Members benefit from tailored support programs, regular check-ins with qualified instructors, and access to group fitness classes, all while overlooking the Half Moon Bay Ferry Terminal.

Marina Fitness serves 755 members from Half Moon Bay and surrounding suburbs, including Bucklands Beach, Farm Cove, Sunnyhills, and Eastern Beach.

Many members, particularly seniors, ferry commuters and adolescents, rely on the gym for physical exercise, rehabilitation, and social connection. Additionally, Marina Fitness contributes to local businesses, such as cafes, pharmacies, supermarkets, hairdressers, beauty spa and medical/specialist centres, through its patronage.

In April 2024, the Howick Local Board extended Marina Fitness's lease for one year until August 2025 to allow time for Auckland Council to complete a Section 17A Value or Money (VFM) review, assessing the Pools and Leisure's financial sustainability and community impact, with results now completed. An outcome post VFM was that Auckland Council decided to remain involved in Pools and Leisure (including gyms) until at least 2034 and that the current format for Council owned gyms would remain the same (with those outsourced remaining outsourced and those Council run, remaining Council run). Auckland City Council in a memo to a Howick Local Board workshop to be held on 10 April 2025, has recently recommended renewing the lease for 3 years

The lease for Marina Fitness falls due in August 2025. In the past Howick Local Board has renewed the lease long term with 6 year leases.

The purpose of this submission is to demonstrate that Marina Fitness is an essential part of the Howick Local Board community. Marina Fitness both meets and aligns with the Howick Local Board Plan 2020 and the Auckland Pools and Leisure Vision: "*An Auckland where all communities are active and well.*"

Membership:

Marina Fitness caters to a diverse range of people within our community, providing significant benefits:

Seniors: Provides a safe, supportive environment for exercise, social connection, and mental health benefits.

Adolescents: Offers a structured, supervised space for teens to exercise independently, promoting lifelong healthy habits.

Tertiary Students: Provides community-based fitness workouts before or after travel into Auckland City's tertiary facilities via the Half Moon Bay ferry.

Auckland City-Based Employees: Facilitates fitness routines for commuters traveling to and from Auckland City via the Half Moon Bay ferry.

Rehabilitation: Located adjacent to medical and physiotherapy services, facilitating seamless transitions from clinical treatment to active rehabilitation.

Individuals with Disabilities: An inclusive space accommodating those with physical limitations.

Diversity: The membership of Marina Fitness reflects the demographics of the area where 49.5% is Pakeha and 47.3% Asian.

Economic Impact:

- Marina Fitness has made a nett profit of over \$80,000 in the past two years
- Members support local businesses through patronage.
- Potential for additional membership growth with enhanced marketing efforts.

ARGUMENTS FOR RENEWING A LONG TERM LEASE FOR MARINA FITNESS:

a. Strong Community & Health Benefits:

Essential for Seniors & Local Residents: Marina Fitness provides a safe and supportive environment where seniors can exercise at their own pace. Many older adults do not feel comfortable in commercial gyms due to the fast-paced, high-intensity focus of private fitness facilities or the lack of staff supervision at 24 hour gyms, such as Jett, Snap and Flex. Marina Fitness offers a non-intimidating, community-friendly space, tailored to their needs.

Social & Mental Health Benefits: The gym serves as a social hub for older residents, helping to combat loneliness and isolation—issues of growing concern among seniors. Regular supervised exercise helps maintain strength, balance, and flexibility, reducing the risk of falls and hospitalizations, aligning with public health priorities.

Specialized Classes & Equipment: Marina Fitness offers low-impact classes tailored for older adults and accessible gym equipment designed for those with reduced mobility or chronic conditions.

Prevention of Health Issues & Long-Term Healthcare Savings: Access to exercise programs at Marina Fitness aids in preventing and managing conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, obesity, stroke, other neurological conditions and arthritis. Regular physical activity reduces hospital visits, medication reliance, and long-term care costs, leading to preventative healthcare savings for taxpayers.

Gold Tier Gym: Marina Fitness is one of only two Gold Tier gyms in Auckland, allowing members to utilize other Howick Local Board leisure facilities and members pay more for their membership than at other gyms. (*Auckland Council InfoCouncil*).

Safety: Parents of young people find the gym to be a safe place to exercise with good support from expert staff.

Commuters: Both students studying in the city and workers commuting to the city state that having the gym nearby the ferry motivates them to exercise before or after work. They would not do so if they had to battle the traffic on Pakuranga Road to seek out other alternatives and at peak times.

Rehabilitation: Having the gym alongside a medical and specialist centre means that people recovering from injuries or illnesses are referred to the gym as part of their rehabilitation.

Disabilities: Those who suffer from disabilities have found the gym to be a supportive and friendly place to exercise.

b. No Comparable Alternatives Nearby:

Lack of capacity: The other Council run gyms some distance away, such as Lloyd Elsmore and Howick Leisure Centre do not currently have capacity. Their peak times overlap with those of Marina Fitness and the group classes are often full and with

waiting lists. There are 30+ in many classes at Howick Leisure Centre. 40-70 in the deep and usual aquarobics classes and 20+ in group classes at Lloyd Elsmore. This is maximum capacity for room size at these venues.

Lack of Similar Community-Focused Facilities: Private gyms often do not cater to seniors, rehabilitation patients, or those preferring a non-commercial fitness environment. Many have higher fees and a profit-driven model, making them less accessible for low-income residents or retirees. The 24 hour gyms lack supervision of exercises.

Affordability Concerns: Marina Fitness provides an affordable and inclusive space for individuals with physical limitations, unlike many private gyms. The gym offers a structured, supervised space for teens to exercise independently, promoting lifelong healthy habits. Adolescence is critical for establishing fitness habits that prevent long-term health issues like obesity and heart disease.

The Social and Community Benefit: Most gym groups at Marina Fitness meet together after gym, to socialise over coffee, have lunches and fundraise for good causes like Pink Ribbon and MS. Because of its location within a shopping precinct, Marina Fitness provides a social hub in the community, when there is no other social gathering place across these five suburbs that exists as a meeting place.

c. Economic Impact:

Supports Local Businesses: Gym users patronize the local cafes, restaurants, supermarket, medical centres, hairdressers, beauty spa and dentist, contributing to the local economy. Marina Fitness's proximity to medical and physiotherapy services facilitates seamless transitions from clinical treatment to active rehabilitation.

Potential Membership Growth: Marina Fitness made a nett profit of \$94,963.20 for the eight months to Feb 2025, improving on its nett profit of \$80,717.00 for the previous year. With enhanced marketing, Marina Fitness could increase memberships, improving financial sustainability. The gym provides an ongoing, cost-effective recovery option for injury and surgery patients. Local doctors and physiotherapists refer patients to the gym as part of their long-term rehabilitation plans. Strengthening these partnerships could enhance the gym's role in community healthcare.

d. Environmental Impact

By travelling locally to Marina Fitness, the members from five suburbs do not have to travel along Pakuranga Road and by remaining locally, reduce the congestion on this road. Many members walk or cycle to the gym too.

e. Council's Long-Term Vision & Responsibility:

Equity & Public Service Duty: The council has a responsibility to support community health initiatives rather than prioritizing short-term cost savings. Investing in

preventative health and fitness reduces future healthcare expenses for the council and taxpayers.

Extracts from The Howick Local Board 2020 Plan support this submission:

Tō Tātou Hapori Our Community

Community participation is critical for the Howick Local Board area as the most populated local board area. It is through interactions with others that we build cohesion and resilience, essential characteristics to enable us to thrive in a changing world. We want to provide places for healthy, active lifestyles to suit our diverse communities in building on our network of parks and open spaces, and we will need to consider our environmental outcomes, sustainability and mitigations for (and resilience to) climate change. In conjunction with open space facilities, we support community participation through the provision of services and spaces for people to interact. Buildings within the community infrastructure network are clustered around the more established areas of Howick, Highland Park and Pakuranga, and we must support the growing areas of Botany, Flat Bush and Ormiston. We will work with local clubs and organisations to address capacity concerns and support them to build their resilience and capability by encouraging sharing and better utilisation of existing facilities.

Ō Tātou Tāngata Our People

The Howick Local Board has the largest population by local board area in Auckland. Just over 141,000 people (Census 2018) live in the area, and this is predicted to increase to over 150,000 by 2025. It is also home to diverse communities which presents both a strength and a challenge in how we provide for strong, resilient, inclusive communities that support and enrich us all. The health, wellbeing and safety of all our communities is a key focus for this local board plan and we want to commit to programmes that support an involved, connected, active and healthy community. We want to promote wellbeing and to ensure we are part of an inclusive society where everyone feels valued, respected, supported and safe. We will support community organisations to develop their capacity and attract volunteers. We want to foster community involvement in projects and services and promote self-sufficiency. We need to hear all the voices in our community so that people can participate in local decision making on matters that interest them. We must look to engage more with our people and take every opportunity to let you know what we are doing and how you can be part of it. However, eight percent of our residents cannot speak English, and to be truly inclusive, we must meet the challenge this presents and develop better ways to communicate so that people will be able to access, understand and respond.

f. Long-Term Cost Savings:

The argument from Council has been that Marina Fitness is a leased facility and only offers the gym and not the broad range of facilities that other leisure facilities do. We believe that other Local Boards sponsor Council run gyms in their areas. In this case Marina Fitness is currently self-sustaining.

In addition, the members of Marina Fitness do not seek to play in splash pools, go swimming, practise cricket skills or ride BMX bikes. It seems that many of these other facilities like the BMX track, cricket nets and skateboard park at Lloyd Elsmore, for example are not revenue generating and are sponsored by the ratepayer.

If Council caters to the diversity of its ratepayers, then this Half Moon Bay, Bucklands Beach, Sunnyhills, Farm Cove and Eastern Beach community needs to be viewed as a community too.

Marina Fitness is a critical community asset that provides long term health, social, and economic benefits.

With the ongoing development and housing intensification within the Marina Fitness catchment area, it is expected that the population served by Marina Fitness will increase. In addition, many of these homes have little or no place for exercise, as there are minimal gardens around the home. For example, many of those living in multiple dwellings report outdoor spaces to be too small and many are using their garages for exercise, resulting in more cars being parked on the road. Places such as Marina Fitness, where people can exercise are therefore significantly important.

<https://knowledgeauckland.org.nz/media/nshi5alc/tr2024-06-life-in-medium-density-housing-in-t%C4%81maki-makaurau-auckland.pdf>

Furthermore, Auckland Transport are currently completing the electrification of the Half Moon Bay ferry service. This is projected to result in increased sailings and accommodate higher passenger volumes contributed to a more efficient environmentally friendly transport network within Auckland. We see that ferry users find the Marina Fitness to be very convenient to enhance their physical well-being.

<https://at.govt.nz/bus-train-ferry/ferry-services/low-emission-ferries-are-coming#:~:text=Each%20new%20vessel,Aucklanders%20for%20Auckland.>

Commuters value the position of the gym being close to the ferry terminal.

g. Conclusion:

Marina Fitness is a critical community asset that provides health, social, and economic benefits for this Community within the Howick Local Board's diverse range of Community and People. It fits with both Auckland City Council and Howick Local Board's strategic vision statements.

Howick Local Board should renew its lease for a further six years and continue operating it as a Council-run gold tier gym.

Yours faithfully
Dr Colleen Rigby
Glenn Ross
Alan O'Sullivan
On Behalf of the Marina Fitness Member Community

Item 8.1

Attachment A

Appendix 1

Marina Fitness – Members’ Stories

I don't know what I would do without it! It is such an integral part of our HMB community. When I have gone down to Lloyd Elsmore to attend a spin class in brings home how close knit our gym is. And don't get me started on the wonderful ladies (and men!) I have met over the years and who have become very good friends...!

I broke my Tibial Plateau after a fall from a cycle in 2018. I was 3 months out of action. I attend the Marina Physio. They took me into the Marina Gym and showed me my rehab exercises. I then attended the gym daily for 2 months till I could walk without crutches. The facility alongside the social connection during my rehab was a lifesaver.

Marina Fitness has given me a focus, amazing friendships and helps me stay stronger and more flexible both physically and mentally now that I have retired. It is part of my daily fix, along with coffee at Cinnamon Café! I would be lost without it.

The Marina gym has been a big factor in my cancer journey. I was in my best physical shape when I began my chemo and radiotherapy treatments. I had been attending fitness classes 4-5 times a week in the lead up to my diagnosis. My oncologists told me that my physical and mental fitness were a big factor in how well my body tolerated the arduous 27 treatments over a six-week period. Post-treatment, my return to the gym has been extremely beneficial to my recovery- not only for rebuilding my physical fitness but for the crucial emotional support from my gym friends and staff. The Marina gym is our community. Its benefits go well beyond the equipment and classes.

Marina Fitness has been a vital part of my rehabilitation from my ACL replacement surgery. I was able to cycle at the gym every day while waiting for my surgery (essential to prevent muscle atrophy) and then after surgery, the physiotherapists from Marina Physio (located next door to the gym) would take me into the gym twice a week to monitor closely my rehabilitation

over the next 6 months. The collaboration between the physio and the Marina Fitness staff was a crucial part of my recovery.

I am writing to urge you to support the renewal of the lease for Marina Fitness at Half Moon Bay beyond August 2025. This gym is not just a fitness facility—it is a lifeline for so many of us who rely on it for our physical and mental well-being.

When I first joined, I was incredibly nervous. I had never found a gym where I felt truly comfortable, and I worried about judgment and not fitting in. But from the very first class, I realized this place was different. The instructors and members were welcoming, supportive, and genuinely invested in each other's success. What started as a fitness journey for me turned into something much bigger—a community where I have made friends, built confidence, and even found people who meet up outside of the gym for coffee and connection.

This is exactly what a council-supported facility should be: a space that prioritizes people over profit, which encourages health and connection, and that brings value to the community in ways that go beyond just exercise. Marina Fitness serves people of all ages, from seniors to young adults, and it provides an environment that is inclusive and judgment free, something that is rare to find in commercial gyms.

Losing this facility wouldn't just mean losing a gym; it would mean losing a space where people feel safe, supported, and part of something bigger. Many members, including myself travel to be here because no other gym in the area offers the same level of community and care. The alternative options are either too far away or lack the same supportive atmosphere.

Beyond its direct impact on members, Marina Fitness also contributes to the local economy, with gym-goers regularly supporting nearby businesses, including the supermarket, cafés, pharmacy, and medical centre. Closing it would affect not just individuals but the entire Half Moon Bay area.

When I first joined Marina Fitness, I was nervous. I had always found gyms intimidating and worried about feeling judged or out of place. But from the moment I walked in, I realised this gym was different. The staff and instructors were welcoming, the members were supportive, and I never once felt like I didn't belong. Joining the group classes was a big step for me, but the environment was so encouraging that I quickly found myself looking forward to them. Over time, I built friendships with other members, and now we even grab coffee together after sessions—something I never expected from a gym. The sense of community here is truly special, and I know I'm not alone in feeling this way.

Please allow my wife and I to add our voice to the many patrons of the Marina Gym who are as concerned as we are that the lease may not be renewed in August.

We have enjoyed almost 10 years of this outstanding service and would be devastated if it were to be discontinued.

While its convenience is a major reason for our loyalty, we have been impressed by the cleanliness, personal service and quality of instruction.

As a smaller gym I don't think we would be able to have the same experience anywhere else - indeed the two options closest to us at Howick and Lloyd Elsmore would face even greater pressure on the classes and accessibility to fitness circuits and equipment.

I am a foundation member of this gym since they were lobbying for new members prior to the building being built. The gym services the community in the following ways:

- The gym serves as a central hub for the local community with members from Half Moon Bay, Bucklands Beach, Farm Cove and Eastern Beach. The members and staff make everyone feel welcome and included.
 - The gym contributes directly to the well-being of its members. If people continue to be fit and healthy this contributes to everyone's overall health and wellbeing and therefore will not put a strain on our medical system.
 - Other gyms in the area are not seen to be operating to the same standard and are some distance away. This is one of the few Gold Tier facilities in the region and members pay more for this.
 - It is a place where people come together and interact, a place to do their fitness but also to socialize.
 - The staff are supportive and are expert at what they do. They are professional, friendly, and caring about the members and the activities.
 - Group classes are popular and well attended. If the Board are suggesting we can utilize the classes at the other gyms, this is not always possible as I have tried in the past to get into their classes and they are always full. So having more members at the others gyms will make it even more difficult to get in.
 - The gym serves a range of people of all ages, fitness levels and rehabilitation opportunities from illness and injuries.
-

As a foundation member, Marina Fitness offers a huge range of health and wellbeing benefits to its members in a welcoming and safe environment for all ages.

Both my children joined this gym at 13 years of age and with professional, friendly and caring staff on site, I felt this was a safe place for youth to be able to connect with others and support their physical and mental wellbeing especially post COVID. Surely the benefits of this gym outweigh any reasons to end the lease and the fact that many youths can walk to it is a huge health investment going forward for the youth who will be future ratepayers of Auckland Council.

I realise that Marina Fitness is leased and therefore not owned by Auckland Council. Surely leasing a building would mean the council does not incur ongoing building maintenance costs. Also, members of the gym look after and respect the equipment and facility so the upkeep would not be a huge cost compared to other council owned fitness facilities.

The community benefits and committed staff give Marina Fitness a 'family feel' supporting the Hauora for all ages of members. This keeps older people fit and out of hospitals and supports

connection for all. The long-term benefits and investment in physical health far outreach the immediate savings by not renewing the lease.

Item 8.1

Attachment A

Appendix 2

An article showing that Marina Fitness has been providing wonderful rehabilitation support for many years.

Article from: our Auckland Tō Tātou Tāngata Website

Ron is back to full health with Marina Fitness

Publish Date : 19 Apr 2016

Sports / Leisure

Manukau Ward

When 89-year-old Half Moon Bay resident Ron Jones first arrived at Marina Fitness, a serious back injury meant he couldn't even lift his feet off the floor.

Although he could barely move, Ron was determined not to be stuck in a chair for the rest of his life. After a few months of physio he was referred to Auckland Council-owned Marina Fitness as part of his rehabilitation.

Six years later he's still a member and the oldest one too! His back has now healed, and he can walk freely with incredible agility for his age.

"Starting back at the gym was the best thing I ever did, but I couldn't have done it without the support of the Marina staff," Ron says.

"The team there saved my life. They supported me every step of the way. Firstly, in conjunction with Marina Physio and, from there on, they supported me consistently through new programmes to keep me strong and agile. The back has never been better."

Ron's advice to others is to join Marina Fitness and get moving.

"I don't really see this place as a stereotypical gym. It's more like a health club. It's a social place where people come for their health and well-being. The members get as much support and guidance as they need from the instructors."

43 fitness centres across Auckland

Ron says starting back at the gym was the best thing he ever did and he has never looked back.

Marina Fitness manager Matt Nash says Ron is an inspiration to older people in the community faced with injuries that could reduce their quality of life.

“Ron’s a star. We developed a tailored programme for him, as we do for all our members, and he has stuck with it all the way. Now we can’t get him to slow down.”

Auckland Council owns and operates 43 fitness centres throughout Auckland. To find out more about Marina Fitness and other council-run gyms across Auckland visit www.aucklandleisure.co.nz



Chairperson's Report as of Thursday 8 May 2025

Last month we **commemorated Anzac Day**, with the traditional Dawn and Civic Services on Stockade Hill in Howick. Both were well attended and it was particularly pleasing to see the strong turnout from local schools, clubs, and the public in general. Thank you to the Howick RSA and Auckland Council staff for organising and running these important events.

In other positive community news, we were pleased to be part of the **Windross Walkway sign unveiling hosted by Cockle Bay Residents and Ratepayers Association**. Over the past 5 years volunteers have transformed the local environment, contributing over 1,500 hours to plant, nurture, and protect native trees. The Howick Local Board is proud to have provided community grants to enable this work to happen, and another grant for the sign to recognise their efforts.

Despite 15 years of Auckland Council, we continue to **face challenges getting access to quality advice in a timely manner**, especially in regard to financial reporting. This isn't a reflection on our Local Board staff but rather the lack of organisational structure and systems in place to support Local Boards. For example, our Full Facilities Maintenance contract shows in our work programme as costing \$8.8M but we were advised this week that it's actually \$14M. While we appreciate that the allocation process is complex and the corrected information is helpful, the gaps in financial reporting and lack of transparency is concerning. We've raised these issues through every avenue available to us - staff, Councillors, Regional Chair's Forum, and formal resolution (HW/2025/37) and will continue to work towards the best outcomes for our communities.

At our upcoming meeting we're expecting to make decisions around the **future of Marina Fitness**, which has had strong public support. We need quality advice and full financial transparency to enable us to make the best decisions.

Ngā mihi nui | Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Light".

Damian Light

Heamana | Chairperson

Te Poari ā-Rohe o Howick | Howick Local Board

Howick Local Board stories published during period

30 April 2025: Help shape your future hangout spots

"We know parks and playgrounds are important to our community, and we need to adapt to our growing population. We want to make sure we're building what you need so please give us your thoughts and ideas"

<https://ourauckland.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/news/2025/04/help-shape-your-future-hangout-spots/>

Howick Local Board attendance at events and meetings during period

Date	Event/meeting attended
Fri 11 Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eastern Busway Elected Member Update attended by Chair Damian Light, also present was Councillor Maurice Williamson. • Howick Ward Councillors and Local Board meeting attended by Chair Damian Light, Members Bruce Kendall, Katrina Bungard, and Peter Young, Councillors Maurice Williamson and Sharon Stewart.
Sat 12 Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NZ Overseas Chinese Culture and Arts Cultural Festival attended by Members Adele White and John Spiller. • Music Plaza Opening and Concert Pakūranga attended by Members Adele White and John Spiller.
Mon 14 Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Local Board Chairs Forum attended by Chair Damian Light <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Auckland Transport ○ Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy ○ Better Value Projects programme ○ Plan Change 78 update
Tue 15 Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Howick Village Association Meeting attended by Member Adele White.
Thu 17 Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Howick Local Board business meeting (refer minutes for attendance and decisions) • Raga Jazz Concert hosted by NAAD Charitable Trust attended by Member Adele White
Thu 24 Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Howick Local Board workshop (refer workshop records for attendance & topics)
Fri 25 Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anzac Day Dawn Service attended by Chair Damian Light, Deputy Bo Burns, Members Adele White, Bruce Kendall, Mike Turinsky, and Peter Young. Also present was Hon. Simeon Brown MP. • Anzac Day Civic Service attended by Chair Damian Light, Deputy Bo Burns, Members Adele White, Bruce Kendall, David Collings, John Spiller, and Mike Turinsky. Also present was Councillors Maurice Williamson, Sharon Stewart, Hon. Simeon Brown MP, Nancy Lu MP, Dr Parmjeet Parmar MP • Anzac Day RSA luncheon attended by Chair Damian Light, Deputy Bo Burns, and Member Adele White. Also present was Councillors Maurice Williamson, Sharon Stewart, and Hon. Simeon Brown MP.
Sat 26 Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ōtara Waterways and Lakes Trust Pest Moth Plant Eradication attended by Member Mike Turinsky.
Thu 01 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Howick Local Board workshop (refer workshop records for attendance & topics) • Howick Local Board additional business meeting (refer minutes for attendance and decisions)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friends of Mangemangeroa AGM attended by Chair Damian Light, Members Adele White and John Spiller.
Fri 02 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3G4G Festival of Cultural Sharing at Fo Guang Shan Buddhist Temple attended by Member Adele White. • Hearing on Joint AT and AC Vehicle Use and Parking Bylaw 2025 attended by Chair Damian Light who presented the Board feedback (HW/2025/11) • Auckland Emergency Management Exercise Manaaki attended by Chair Damian Light
Sat 03 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ormiston Community Day hosted by Neighbourhood Support attended by Chair Damian Light, and Members Mike Turinsky and Peter Young. • Flat Bush parks consultation event attended by Chair Damian Light, and Members Mike Turinsky and Peter Young.
Sun 04 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Windross Walkway sign unveiling hosted by Cockle Bay Residents and Ratepayers Association attended by Chair Damian Light, Members Adele White, John Spiller, and Katrina Bungard.
Mon 05 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Howick Youth Council Principals Breakfast attended by Chair Damian Light, Members Adele White, David Collings, and Peter Young. • HBH Stevenson Village 50th Birthday Celebrations attended by Deputy Bo Burns, Members Adele White and John Spiller. • Pakūranga Rotary 55th Birthday Celebration attended by Chair Damian Light and Member David Collings.
Tue 06 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Community Partners Meeting hosted by Ormiston Police Station attended by Chair Damian Light
Thu 08 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Howick Local Board workshop (refer workshop records for attendance & topics)

Friday 25 March Anzac Day



Sunday 04 May Windross Walkway sign unveiling hosted by Cockle Bay Residents and Ratepayers Association



Attachment A – Deliberations Table

This attachment provides a structure for deliberations. It contains a summary of public feedback on the proposal, information to assist deliberations and a structure for recording decisions.

The Local Board will have read all the feedback and views in Attachments D, E, F and G.

Important:

- The Local Board must receive the views in public feedback with open mind and give those views due consideration.
- A local board decision to change a local dog access rule must meet regulatory criteria in their delegated authority, Policy on Dogs 2019, Dog Control Act 1996 and Local Government Act 2002 (See Attachment C).

Note:

- The number of comments for key themes may not equal the total number of comments stated for the proposal because they include general comments, exclude operational and non-bylaw related matters or reflect that some comments may include more than one key theme.
- Percentages for feedback responses may not equal one hundred per cent because responses other than support or oppose are excluded.
- The numbers do not include the 3 feedback responses¹ on local dog access rules in response to questions in a separate proposal about changes to the Policy and Bylaw on Dogs of regional significance. However, the themes and key changes sought in that feedback are reflected in the deliberations table.

¹ Feedback reference numbers are: 1805, 2697, 4225.

Public Feedback on main proposals

Public feedback on Proposal 1 - Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)				
<p>Change dog access rules at Lloyd Elsmore Park</p> <p>365 feedback responses from survey and emails: 168 support (46 per cent), 171 oppose (47 per cent) and 145 comments. This includes one feedback response from one organisation (in support of the proposal).</p> <p>Key themes in support (53):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Majority of people in support of the proposal are due to risks caused by irresponsible dog ownership: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Off-leash dogs are not kept under control and have caused harm and/or nuisance to people and animals (e.g. chickens in the Howick Historical village) Roaming dogs are a problem in this area Some people think the proposal is reasonable / fair Some people are concerned about safety of people in this busy park: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lloyd Elsmore has a high visitor number due to its sports fields, swimming pool, playgrounds, and is often used as transport thoroughfare From the General Manager of Howick Historical Village <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The area around Howick Historical Village involves cars, delivery trucks, bicycles, foot traffic, children, chickens, ducks, and pukekos. While the latter three are contained to the interior of the Village, the former often mix within the public spaces of the Village. The goal is not to dissuade or discourage dog owners or walkers from coming into Howick Historical Village, but to encourage them to be vigilant about their charges. The easiest way to do that is by requiring them to leash their dogs nearby and onsite. The proposed dogs on-leash requirement should be extended and applied to the café parking lot and spaces within the picket fence and from the Village fence outward and around the perimeter to protect the fowl as well as unleashed dogs vulnerable to the cars, delivery trucks, and bikes. 	<p>About current and proposed rules:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="443 685 560 1037">Current dog access rule</th> <th data-bbox="443 226 560 685">Proposed dog access rule</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="488 685 560 1037">Dogs allowed under control off a leash at any time (Schedule 2).</td> <td data-bbox="488 226 560 685">Dogs allowed under control on a leash within 10m of Howick Historical Village (Schedule 2)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Reason: To protect animals at Howick Historical Village as off-leash dogs running from Lloyd Elsmore Park creates a significant risk.</p> <p>About 'irresponsible dog owners' feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Policy on Dogs seeks to promote safe interaction between dogs and people in public places to ensure that dogs do not injure, danger, intimidate or otherwise cause distress to any person, in particular, children and vulnerable adults. The Policy relies on compliance initiatives, including patrols, education and fines, to manage irresponsible dog owners and to encourage more responsible dog owner behavioural change over time, such as those who ignore the current rules, do not control their dog or who allow their dog to roam unaccompanied. <p>About 'harm to animals' feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data between 2019-2023 from Animal Management team shows three incidents related to people (two aggressive behaviours and one attack with minor injuries) and three incidents related to dogs (one aggressive behaviour and two attacks with moderate injuries) There was a separate report made about off-leash dogs from Lloyd Elsmore Park which went into Howick Historical Village and killed the chickens. No information on whether the above incidents were caused by roaming dogs. <p>About 'safety risk of people elsewhere in the park' feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog related risks in other parts of Lloyd Elsmore Park are outside the scope of this proposal and currently addressed in the current rules that prohibit dogs on playgrounds and sport surfaces and require them to be on-leash in the vicinity when in use, and the requirement for all dogs (both on and off a leash) to be under control at all times. 	Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule	Dogs allowed under control off a leash at any time (Schedule 2).	Dogs allowed under control on a leash within 10m of Howick Historical Village (Schedule 2)
Current dog access rule	Proposed dog access rule				
Dogs allowed under control off a leash at any time (Schedule 2).	Dogs allowed under control on a leash within 10m of Howick Historical Village (Schedule 2)				

Public feedback on Proposal 1 - Themes	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In September 2021, there were seven chickens. Over the course of the year, five chickens were lost over three different attacks by a dog that was being walked off-leash around the perimeter of the Village. ○ The proposed on-leash rule would be consistent with the region-wide rule for sports field and playground vicinity. <p>Key themes opposed (88):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Majority of people opposed the proposal said dogs need to exercise off-leash for their wellbeing / council should provide more off-leash and dog friendly spaces ● Some people said it is unfair to impose a blanket rule due to a few irresponsible dog owners ● Some said the rule should be kept as it is now <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The current rule is adequate to protect the chickens as Howick Historical Village is fenced ● Some said the proposed change is not enforceable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The 10m boundary is arbitrary and difficult for dogs and their owners to follow ○ There are already too many rules in the park for visitors to understand and follow 	

Public feedback on Proposal 1 – Key changes sought	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Local Board recommendation
<p>Change dog access rules at Lloyd Elsmore Park Key changes sought (retain rule) (171 responses)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> retain the current rule that allows dogs to be under control off a leash at any time <p>Key changes sought (adopt proposed change) (168 responses)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> change the current rule to require dogs to be under control on a leash at any time within 10m of Howick Historical Village <p>Key changes sought (other suggestions) (7 responses)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> make the entire park on-leash create new off-leash areas in the park adopt time and season rules for some busy areas of the park (e.g. near sports fields) extend the current proposed on-leash area to the café parking lot of Howick Historical Village and spaces within the picket fence and from the Village fence outward and around the perimeter <p>Key changes sought (Operational measures) (7 responses)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> improve enforcement of the rules at Lloyd Elsmore Park (e.g. increase presence of animal control officers and issue more fines) focus on education (for both dog owners on responsible ownership and for general public about dog awareness) 	<p>About 'operational measures' and 'other suggestions':</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> These matters are outside the scope and are best addressed in Other Matters. <p>About the local board decision-making criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In general, the most relevant criteria in Appendix C for decisions resulting in less dog access, is a focus on determining whether there is a significant risk of conflict between users, whether there are no practicable alternative solutions to address that conflict, whether (to the extent practicable) displaced dog owners and their dogs have access to other areas, and whether the rule is easy to understand.² In the context of Lloyd Elsmore Park, this includes for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> determining whether the attacks on chickens were caused by roaming dogs determining whether the attacks on chickens by dogs with their owners present happen frequently determining whether the frequency of dog-related incidents is indicative of a situation that responsible dog owners should not be exposed to considering whether the proposed rule is easy to understand and follow. Note: If a change is made to the current dog access rules, the local board must consider allocating funding for any new signage (approximately \$150 for four new signs). 	<p>That the proposal to require dogs to be on leash at any time within 10m of Howick Historical Village at Lloyd Elsmore Park be adopted as publicly notified [insert any funding for signage]. OR be amended to [Local Board to insert]. OR be rejected and [Local Board to insert]. AND Reasons include to [Local Board to insert].</p>

² Refer Appendix C - Summary of Policy on Dogs 2019 dog access rule policy, principles and criteria – "1. Provide dog access rules that are comprehensive, consistent and easy to understand ..." and "4. Consider the following before making any change to a dog access rule on parks and beaches that would provide less dog access."

Other matters

Other matters	Staff comment (information to assist deliberations)	Local Board decision
<p>Operational and non-local dog access rule-related feedback</p> <p>Key comments</p> <p>The Local Board could, if it wishes, deliberate on any of the matters raised Attachments D to G in relation to the following requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to improve enforcement of the rules at Lloyd Elsmore Park focus on education (for both dog owners on responsible ownership and for general public about dogs awareness). 	<p>About 'Operational and non-local dog access rule-related' feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is an opportunity for the Local Board to deliberate on any matters contained in Attachments D to G that it considers require more direction from elected members. <p>About 'more enforcement' requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council's Animal Management team administer dog owner obligations under the Dog Control Act 1996 and Policy on Dogs. The teams priority focus is on dogs that are dangerous, menacing, attack, cause distress or roam unaccompanied. In relation to dog access rules, areas of high non-compliance ('hot-spots') are identified from public complaints and included in scheduled patrols. Officers use a 'modern regulator' approach to compliance that includes education, warnings and infringement fines (\$300) to change people's behaviours. 	<p>Either [Local Board to decide]</p> <p>That matters related to operational or non-local dog access rule-related feedback in Attachments D to G be referred to relevant council areas for consideration. OR</p> <p>That in relation to the operational or non-local dog access rule-related feedback contained in Attachments D to G:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [Local Board to insert decision] <p>any matters not referred to above be referred to relevant council areas for consideration.</p>
<p>Requests for changes to other local dog access rules</p> <p>Key changes sought and reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mellons Bay (8): Want off-leash access (6) and a time and season rule (2) Buckland Beach (2): Want off-leash access Cockle Bay: Want off-leash access (1) and on-leash access (1) Golflands Park (2): Want on-leash access Musick Point (1): Want prohibition access Rotary Reserve: Want off-leash access (1) and on-leash access (1) Snake and Ladder Park (1): Want on-leash access Shared path Wakaaranga Creek Reserve to Kentigern Close (1): Want on-leash access 	<p>About new requests for changes to local dog access rules</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requests for changes to dog access rules require assessment against regulatory criteria. If the request meets the criteria and the relevant decision-making authority considers a change is appropriate, the change must be publicly notified (including to all known dog owners in Auckland) for feedback prior to a final decision being made. There are 22 decision-making authorities, the Regulatory and Safety Committee for regional rules and 21 Local Boards for local rules. Individual requests are considered as a 'batch'. The timing for each 'batch' is scheduled within council's wider bylaw review work programme that includes the periodic review of all 17 council bylaws, 14 associated bylaw controls and input in to legislative reviews related to bylaws. 	<p>That requests for changes to local dog access rules at specific locations received in public feedback not related to the proposed changes be referred to the relevant council department for inclusion in the next 'batched' consideration of dog access change requests.</p> <p>Reasons include to comply with the local boards regulatory requirements in their delegated authority, Policy on Dogs 2019, Dog Control Act 1996 and Local Government Act 2002 and coordination of decision-making across</p>

Placeholder for Attachment A

115 Picton Street, Howick - Howick Radio Charitable
Trust - lease renewal Report

15 May 2024, Howick Local Board - 115 Picton
Street, Howick - Howick Radio Charitable Trust -
lease renewal Report - Site Plan

Item 19

Attachment A

