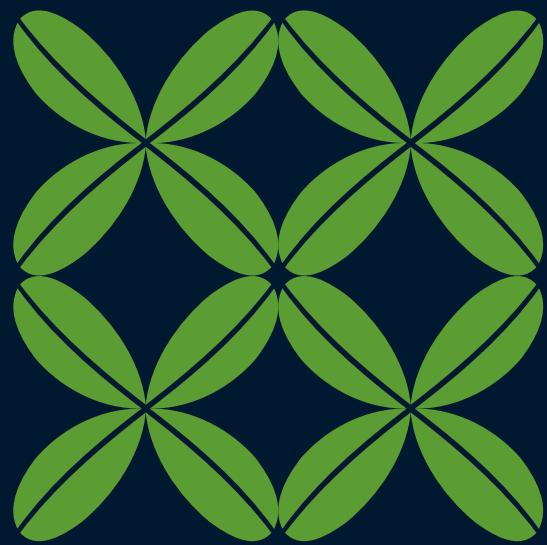
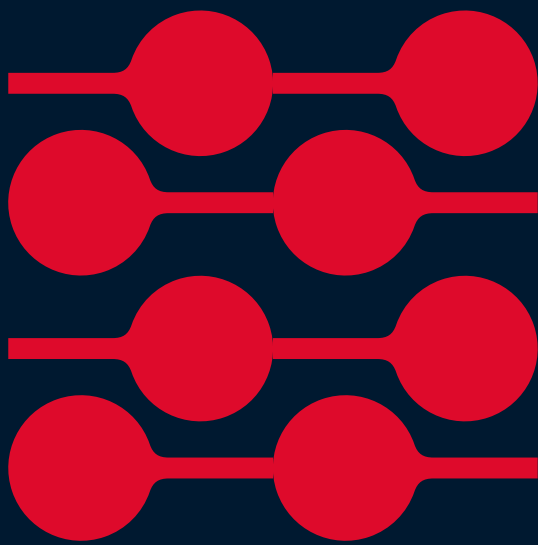




Waiheke Local Board Plan 2026 Summary of Feedback





Summary of feedback on the draft Waiheke Local Board Plan 2026

Purpose

This report summarises feedback received during the public consultation in June/July to inform the development of the Waiheke Local Board Plan. This summary aims to capture themes rather than detail every point of feedback received.

Executive Summary

Local board plans are strategic three-year plans developed in consultation with the community. They set out the direction for the local area reflecting community aspirations and priorities, and guide:

- decisions on local activities, projects, and facilities
- local board input into the council's regional strategies and plans, including the Auckland Plan
- how local boards will work with other agencies, including community groups, central government agencies and council-controlled organisations that play key roles in the area
- funding and investment decisions.

Local board plans focus on the key areas local boards are responsible for and include objectives and some of the key initiatives that will be carried out to achieve them.

Engagement Approach

The draft Waiheke Local Board Plan 2026 was developed using feedback received from public engagement carried out between November 2025 and April 2026. Feedback previously heard from the community on a wide range of topics, particularly during the 2026 Annual Budget consultation period, was also considered.

Between 23 June and 23 July 2026, the local board consulted on the draft plan to hear the community's thoughts. Feedback was received through:

- Have Your Say events
- community and partnership events
- written submissions including online and hard copy forms
- emails and letters
- a digital tool (our stories) and story uploads

Support was provided to submitters including:

- Translated and interpreted summary draft Local Board Plans and feedback forms
- Information at Auckland Council libraries
- Online webinars and information available on the AK Have Your Say hub page.

This report summarises the key activities that took place and the feedback that was heard during both the early engagement and the consultation period.

Māori engagement

Mana whenua

A co-ordinated approach was taken by local boards so that mana whenua were invited to engage with relevant local boards in one hui rather than receiving separate invitations from each local board. For the Waiheke Local Board, engagement took place with three mana whenua entities through three hui in February and April

Mana whenua were sent a copy of the draft local board plan in June 2026 and encouraged to provide written feedback through multiple options including through a new iwi feedback form developed specifically for mana whenua to be able to have their say across multiple local boards within their rohe (area of interest).



Stakeholder and community engagement

Table 1: Summary of early engagement activities

Activity	Who was involved	How many people participated
Hui ngā Rangatira – mana whenua engagement with Te Patukirikiri on 27 February 2026	Waiheke, Upper Harbour, Papakura local board staff, ngā matarae staff, Te Patukirikiri rangatira	Approx. 10
Rangatahi Rōpū o Waiheke on 25 March 2026	Local board chair and local board staff, rōpū members	Approx. 10
Hui ngā Rangatira – mana whenua engagement with Ngāti Pāoa on 13 April 2026	Devonport-Takapuna and Waiheke local board staff, ngā matarae staff, Ngāti Pāoa rangatira	Approx. 10
Hui ngā Rangatira – mana whenua engagement with Ngaati Whanaunga on 13 April 2026	DT, Papakura, Howick, Waiheke local board staff, ngā matarae staff, Ngaati Whanaunga rangatira	Approx. 10
Community Networks Waiheke – March 2026	Local board staff, chair and coordinator of CNW	2
Waiheke Collective – 1 April 2026	Local board staff, members of Waiheke Collective	Approx. 10

Table 2: Summary of consultation activities during the consultation period

Activity	Who was involved	How many people participated
Have Your Say Event – Ostend Sports Club on 8 July	All local board members, panel of local speakers who spoke to each focus area in the plan, local board staff	Approx. 40
Stall at Ostend Market on 27 June	Local board members, local board staff	Approx. 40
Waiheke Retirement Village visit on 30 June	Local board members, local board staff	Approx. 20



Advisory Panel – Seniors and Disability Panels on 3 July	Local board chairs incl. Waiheke, local board staff and panel members	Approx. 20
WeeCA Waiheke eastern end Community Association meeting at Cowes Bay on 3 July	Attended by 2 local board members	Approx. 30
Onetangi Residents Association on 14 July	Local board members, local board staff,	Approx. 20
Rakino visit on 17 July	Local board members, local board staff, Rakino residents	Approx. 15
Skate Park activation at Tawaipareira on 21 July	Local board members, local board staff, local parents/families	Approx. 30

Generic submissions to all boards

Five organisations provided submissions to all local boards. Relevant content is included in the sections below.



Summary of feedback

General feedback on the draft Waiheke Local Board Plan

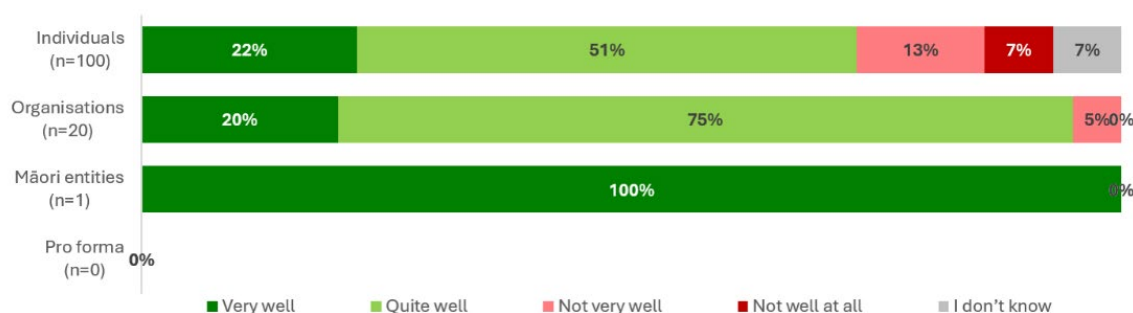
Community

Draft Objectives

- A resilient, connected and compassionate community
- A healthy and supportive society where people feel there is care, respect and all people are valued
- Strengthen collaboration and partnership with Māori
- Enhance Māori wellbeing and potential
- A flourishing arts sector that celebrates our unique island identity
- Children and youth feel valued, and that they have diverse opportunities to thrive

Quantitative questions and feedback received

How well do you think we captured the needs and priorities of our Community in this section?



Qualitative feedback

Key themes from the feedback included:

- Support for rangatahi/tamariki initiatives
- Requests for more focus on drug and alcohol abuse
- Development of a community swimming pool is a priority
- More of a focus requested on our ageing demographics

Natural Environment

Draft Objectives

- Restore, enhance and protect our natural environment in partnership with our community

Draft Advocacy priorities

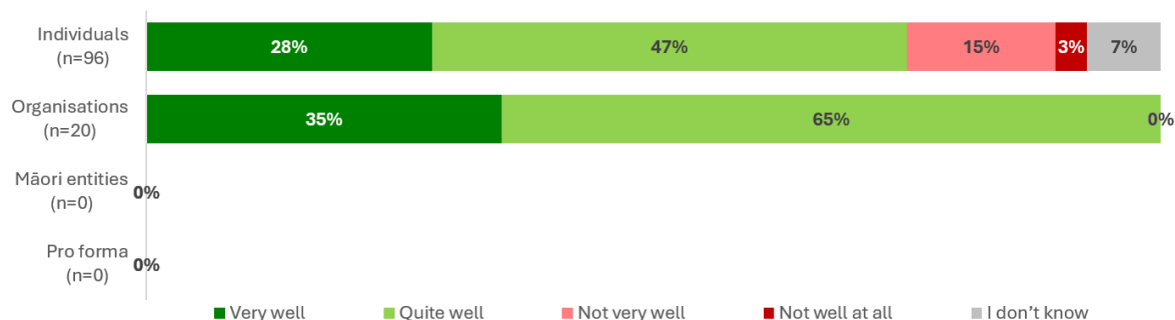
- Advocacy priorities were largely regarding increased marine protection in the Hauraki Gulf



- Respond to the challenge of climate change in a way that secures a sustainable future for our islands
- Improve conservation of our marine and coastal environment
- Reduce the amount of waste that ends up in our landfills
- Sustainably manage our wai

Quantitative questions and feedback received

How well do you think we captured the needs and priorities of our Environment in this section?



Qualitative feedback

Key themes from the feedback included:

- Pest plant management on council land is a community priority
- General support and acknowledgement of the significant work the board undertakes in this area
- Calls for more recognition of Te Matuku Marine Reserve
- More community education around recycling and waste disposal/management

Built Environment

Draft Objectives

- Planning that enables local placemaking
- Sustainable living in healthy homes
- Sustain and celebrate Māori identity, knowledge and practice
- Improve our community's wellbeing by providing quality arts, recreational and community facilities
- Embrace Waiheke's rich Māori identity and cultural history
- Improve the open space network on the island

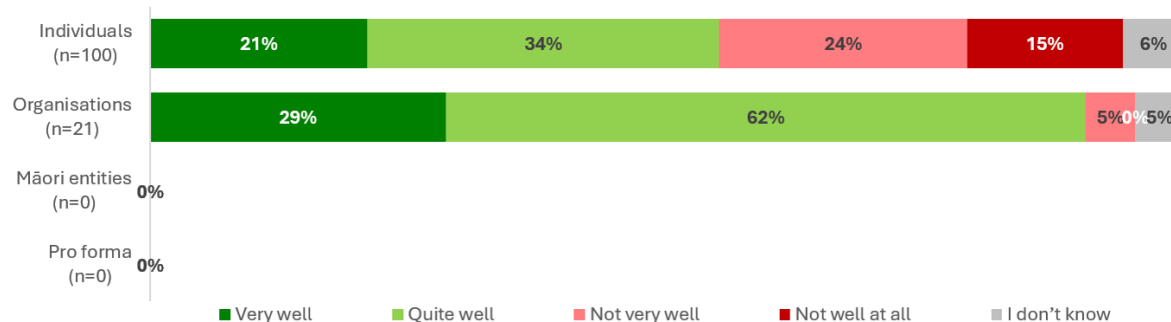
Draft Advocacy priorities

- Clear communication and stronger enforcement by Auckland Council of regulations for short term visitor accommodation to prevent further loss of residential housing stock
- Advocate for and use national policy changes (like National Environmental Standards for Detached Minor Residential Units) to lower the permitted standards for minor dwellings, making sure these are prioritised for long-term residential housing



Quantitative questions and feedback received

How well do you think we captured the needs and priorities of our Built Environment in this section?



Qualitative feedback

Key themes from the feedback included:

- Development of a pump track suitable for older youth, and some upgraded MTB facilities
- The development of a new community hall for Rakino residents
- Feedback for a short-term visitor accommodation levy, and more generally a visitor levy, as well as feedback against
- A need for kayak storage in Woody Bay, Rakino

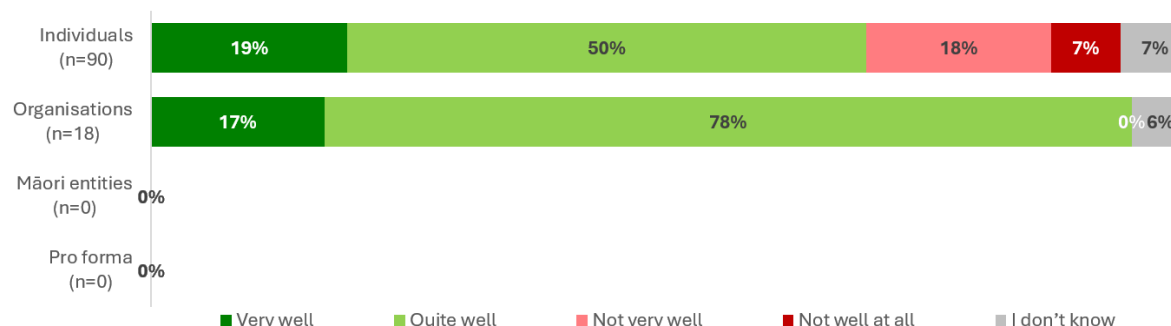
Economic Development

Draft Objectives

- Economic development on Waiheke is environmentally, economically and socially sustainable
- Our visitor industry is managed sustainably
- Waiheke is recognised as an arts destination
- Strengthen our economy in keeping with the island's character and our need to increase our resiliency

Quantitative questions and feedback received

How well do you think we captured the needs and priorities of our Economy in this section?





Qualitative feedback

Key themes from the feedback included:

- Requests to find ways to feed tourism revenue back into the community more effectively
- Too much focus on ‘destination’ – not enough on residents
- Not enough focus on ‘destination’
- Feedback focused on how to develop the island sustainably, in ways that create job opportunities for locals outside of hospitality and tourism

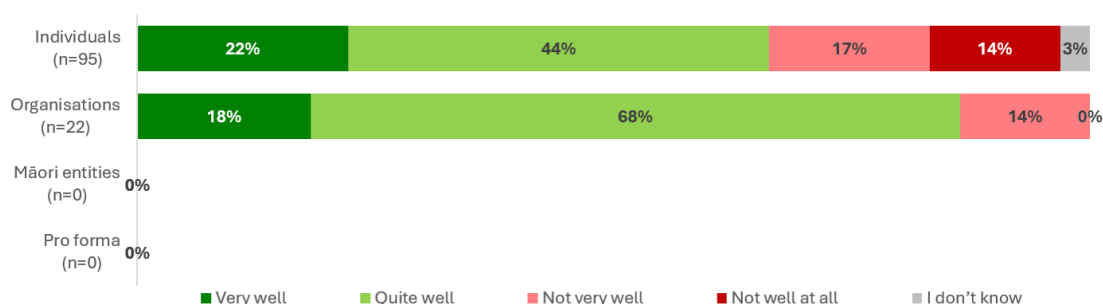
Transport

Draft Priorities

- Safe, fit-for-purpose and environmentally friendly transport infrastructure
- Our community feels empowered to use active modes of transport where safely possible
- Our ferry terminals are inviting, fit-for-purpose gateways to our island
- A safe roading network that meets the needs of all road users, and supports the special character of Waiheke

Quantitative questions and feedback received

How well do you think we captured the needs and priorities of our Transport in this section?



Qualitative feedback

Key themes from the feedback included:

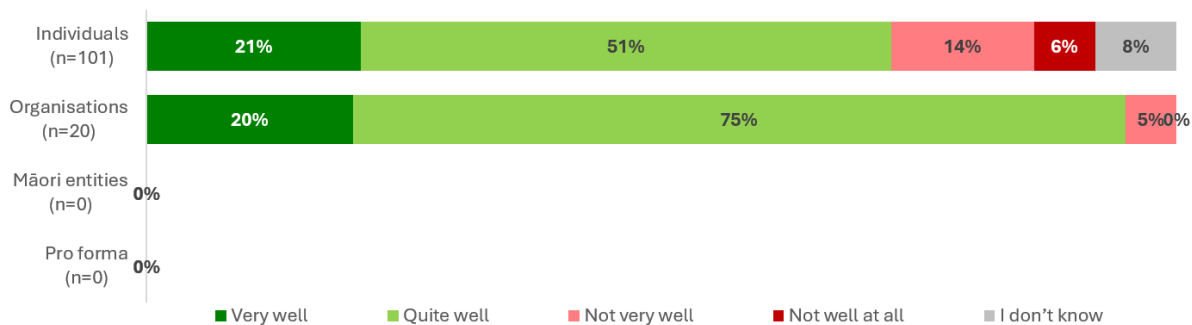
- General support for the focus on active transport
- More effective signage for visitors using active transport
- Support for making the bus network more efficient, but resistance to any reduction in service frequency
- More options for people to move safely around the island e.g. shared paths

Other questions asked

As part of the draft local board plan consultation, the following additional questions were asked.

Quantitative questions and feedback received

How well do you think our draft Plan reflects the needs and aspirations of our islands for the next three years?



Qualitative feedback

Key themes from the feedback included:

- Well identified challenges and opportunities
- Missing a focus on sport and recreation
- Missing enough recognition of our aging community
- Focus areas are perfect

Feedback on considerations within the draft Waiheke Local Board Plan

Māori Outcomes

Delivering outcomes for Māori is an important feature of the draft Waiheke Local Board Plan.

Māori outcomes respond to both the Council's legislative obligations and to extensive engagement with Auckland's Māori communities.

Key themes from the feedback relating to Māori Outcomes included:

- Support for respecting and preserving Māori culture
- Recognition of the importance of culture and heritage in the Waiheke rohe
- Support for greater Māori involvement in decision making processes
- Importance of supporting Māori rangatahi to live and work on Waiheke

Climate outcomes

Local Boards also have an important role to play in leading and supporting Auckland's response to the climate emergency, including supporting regional climate plan initiatives, integrating climate awareness into all decisions, including community investment.

Key themes from the feedback relating to climate outcomes included:

- Acknowledgement of the significant work the board already undertakes in this focus area
- The importance of a circular waste and food economy to reduce emissions
- Preservation of our biodiversity by environmental protection and pest removal
- Flood resilience and stormwater infrastructure is a priority

Equitable outcomes



Local Boards also have an important role to play in supporting and ensuring that Auckland's diverse communities and ensuring that local communities have what they need to thrive, where whānau have a good life, and where all Aucklanders can participate and belong.

The draft plan proposed the following objectives and priorities that specifically support equitable outcomes in our area:

Key themes from the feedback relating to equitable outcomes included:

- Making sure our older community was more visible in the draft plan
- The importance of making council's places and spaces accessible for all
- Acknowledgement of how healthcare is prioritised in the draft plan
- Recognition of the economic pressure many residents are facing

Other feedback received

Key themes from the informal feedback noted during Have Your Say events included:

- Pest plant management
- More local events being held on Waiheke
- Better dog control/access rules, specifically around Anzac Bay and Onetangi
- Re-opening of Te Matuku Bay walkway
- Better biking facilities at Tawaipareira/Onetangi Sports Park
- Improving facilities at the eastern end of the island

Who we heard from

The tables and graphs below indicate the demographic profile of those that answered the demographic questions.



Age	Male	Female	other	#	% of feedback
Under 15	4	0	0	3	3%
15-24	4	1	0	5	4%
25-34	1	2	0	4	4%
35-44	5	8	0	13	12%
45-54	5	17	0	23	20%
55-64	9	15	0	24	21%
65-74	13	10	0	23	20%
75+	6	10	0	18	16%
Total	47	63	0	113	100%

Ethnicity	#	%
Pākehā/NZ European	95	90%
Other European	4	4%
Māori	21	20%
Samoan	1	1%
Cook Islands Maori	0	0%
Tongan	0	0%
Other Pasifika	0	0%
Chinese	1	1%
Southeast Asian	0	0%
Korean	0	0%
Indian	0	0%
Filipino	0	0%
Other Asian	0	0%
Middle Eastern	0	0%
Latin American	0	0%
African	0	0%
Other Ethnicity	1	1%
Total	105	

