

2023/24 ANNUAL REPORT

SPORT
WAITĀKERE



Tihei winiwini, tihei wanawana
Whakatau hā te rangi e tū nei,
Whakatau hā te papa e hora nei.
Ka pō, ka ao, ka awatea.

Kei ngā tokopae o mate kua riro ki tua o paerau, o pae mahara.
Ko te au o te moe ki a koutou, okioki atu rā, e au ai te moe.
Ka āpiti hono tātai hono, koutou te hunga mate ki a koutou, kāti.
Ka āpiti hono tātai hono, tātou te hunga ora e tau nei,
ki te whai ao, ki te ao mārama, tihei mauri ora!

Ka piki whakarunga ki Puke Tōtara.
Ka huri taku aro ki ngā wai o Waitākere.
Māwhiti ana te ahu ki ngā tai whakatū a Kupe.
He kura moana.
He rākai whenua.
Tau ana!

Kei ngā mana, kei ngā tapu o Te Kawerau ā Maki,
Ka tāwhe ake nei ngā mihi.
He manawa pōpore mō te ake ake,
Nei te whakamiha o te ngākau ki ngā iwi, ngā mātāwaka o iwi kē atu.
Te hunga nā rātou ngā ara i para hei huarahi mā tātou.
Ahakoa he iti te kupu, he nui te kōrero.

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā tātou katoa.

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ABOUT SPORT WAITĀKERE

AT SPORT WAITĀKERE, WE HELP PEOPLE LEAD BETTER LIVES.

We work alongside our community and partners to explore the changes we can make together, so people can be healthy and happy throughout their lifetime. We build capability across our networks and partners, so more people have the ability to create transformative change in places where we spend our time. We acknowledge the interconnectedness of factors which influence people's health and wellbeing, working to identify and address root causes, fostering sustainable and positive impact to make the biggest difference for public good.

Sport Waitākere operates within the geographical boundaries of the Henderson-Massey, Waitākere Ranges and Whau Local Boards and has extensive networks across sport, recreation, play, education, community and health sectors.

MESSAGE FROM TE KAWERAU Ā MAKI HE KARERE MAI TE KAWERAU Ā MAKI



TE KAWERAU Ā MAKI

Te Kawerau ā Maki is a proud Hikurangi (West Auckland) based iwi with a strong affiliation to the Tainui waka. The tribal heartland of our iwi lies in Hikurangi and Ngā Rau Pou ā Maki (Waitākere Ranges) along with lead interests in the Upper Waitematā.

Our tribal name comes from the eponymous ancestor Maki who settled the northern parts of the Tāmaki Makaurau region in the early 17th century. Our mission is to represent and advocate for the people of our iwi, manage and grow our iwi assets, and drive development that enhances our cultural, social, and environmental wellbeing.

Our partnership with Sport Waitākere on the Active Whakapapa kaupapa has been a great success and a proven vehicle for us to share our iwi histories and pūrakau in a unique and innovative way. In April 2024, we excitedly took up the mantle of driving the delivery of the Active Whakapapa hīkoi, incorporating it into our own iwi-led programme. A catalyst for authentic iwi engāgement, our partnership on Active Whakapapa has

resulted in our iwi accepting a seat on the Sport Waitākere Board of Trustees.

We are pleased to support Sport Waitākere as they move towards the implementation of their Impact Strategy 2043. The strategy prioritises improving hauora for Māori in the Hikurangi region by fostering authentic relationships with Māori, building capability, and utilising mātauranga Māori.

We acknowledge the ambitious nature of this strategy and are excited to be part of this important journey, contributing to the betterment of the people in our region.

Robin Taua-Gordon,
Te Kawerau ā Maki

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR AND CEO

HE PĀNUI MAI I TE HEAMANA ME TE MANAHAUTŪ

Kia ora koutou katoa.

The 2023/2024 year at Sport Waitākere would be best described as one of transition. This has continued the significant changes of the year prior, and has seen the departure of several long serving staff and board members. It has also been the beginning of an exciting new phase for the organisation under a new CEO, new Chair, and indeed our innovative and ambitious new long term 'Impact Strategy' to 2043.

A huge amount of credit must go to the people of Sport Waitākere who, despite the significant changes, continued to put community first and foremost with many of our key pieces of work showcased across both local and national platforms. We're really proud that throughout this transitional phase, they have not lost sight of the need to positively impact our West Auckland community.

We would like to recognise the contributions of two dedicated long standing staff members who departed from our team this year. Pauline Butt and Kerry Allan served our West Auckland community for 17 and 16 years respectively, earning huge respect and leaving a significant legacy. This length of community service in one organisation is relatively rare these days, and our deepest thanks go out to both wāhine toa, along with our absolute aroha and very best wishes as they move into the next exciting phases of their lives.

GOVERNANCE MARK

Sport Waitākere was extremely proud to be awarded the prestigious Sport New Zealand 'Governance Mark' Award in May 2024. The mark is achieved through extensive independent assessment of our governance processes, policies and operations based on a set of 37 internationally accepted good

governance standards. Since the Mark's inception in 2016, Sport Waitākere sits as one of only 22 organisations across Aotearoa to have achieved this accolade.

Sport NZ's Group Chief Executive Raelene Castle's words summarised the achievement: "The process for being awarded the Mark is a rigorous one, and this achievement is a reflection of Sport Waitākere's hard work and strong leadership in our sector."

A huge amount of credit goes to the voluntary Board of Trustees at Sport Waitākere for their diligence and energy in getting our key information and processes up to industry standard, which is no mean feat. A specific mention must go to Board member Ivan Harré who championed this mahi, putting in countless hours and acting as the key contact point with Sport NZ to support our journey to achieving this milestone.

FINANCIAL POSITION

We are proud to report that despite the challenging economic climate of 2022/23, we have maintained a sustainable financial position, enabling us to support our strategic initiatives to best serve our community. Considering the needs of our community, we also continue to play a pivotal role in acting as an umbrella for community organisations, enabling resource to get to our communities who need it most.

Some specific examples include:

- JR McKenzie Trust continued to support our West Auckland Together collaboration with \$100,000 funding, and Auckland Council contributed \$25,000.
- The Trusts provided \$15,000 for Sporting Chance, providing financial assistance to individual school students aged 7-18 years with a genuine financial need, helping them to take part in active recreation and sport opportunities.
- \$950,000 was distributed through Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa for projects or programmes to deliver play, active recreation and sport experiences for tamariki and rangatahi.

SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS

Our extensive work in the community is made possible by the highly valued support

and trust from our many funders, sponsors and supporters. We thank them all, deeply, understanding that we are in tight economic times and that every dollar must make an impact.

Our focus on advocating for equity of resource deployment in the West to strengthen our community underpins all that we do, and we thank you all for your support and for the value that is placed on us as a resource for our West Auckland community.

COMMUNITY SPORT AND RECREATION

Our Community Sport and Recreation team has continued to work closely across Auckland with our partners Aktive, Harbour Sport, Sport Auckland and CLM Community Sport. This partnership, underpinned by our collective 'Te Ahu Whakamua' partnership agreement, allows us to work to our collective strengths ensuring we have the combined thinking of five community first organisations, but the ability to engage with our West Auckland community autonomously, ensuring local needs are at the centre of everything we do.

HEALTHY FAMILIES WAITĀKERE

Our Healthy Families Waitākere kaupapa saw a change in leadership this year and we were excited to announce Mike Tipene as taking on the role of Manager in January 2024. Previously our Rautaki Māori, Mike brings a depth of lived experience in te ao Māori

that adds so much mana and mātauranga to our leadership space. He also brings fresh momentum to the team as we navigate an evolving environment in the wider health space.

On the project front, our success in Healthy Families kaupapa is not only seen in West Auckland, but all over the motu. In September 2023, our 'TāfesiLafa'i' initiative was profiled in The Spinoff, a digital publication platform with a readership of more than two million. Furthermore, the success of the kaupapa was shared with the Ministry of Education which has resulted in the information being used to inform policy review around how the Education Review Office engages with and supports Samoan language units across the country more effectively.

We were also proud to see the 'Mana Motuhake o te Kai' initiative, in partnership with Hoani Waititi Marae, included in the Waitākere Ranges and Whau Local Board plans for 2023/24. What makes this additionally exciting is that as we navigate food security into the future, and indeed the repurposing of some land following the floods of 2023, the Local Boards have a model, grounded in te ao Māori, to support cultivating, gathering and sharing kai, with a deeply indigenous framework.

TE TIRITI O WAITANGI

We are dedicated to honouring our role as a Treaty partner by actively creating

opportunities that uplift mātauranga Māori and ensuring a by Māori for Māori approach. This year, we have significantly strengthened our commitment to Māori outcomes by increasing both our kaupapa Māori staff and resources.

Our partnership with mana whenua Te Kawerau ā Maki has grown, rooted in reciprocity and mutual support. We are grateful and privileged to be a partner in such a meaningful and reciprocal relationship.

The successful handover of the Active Whakapapa kaupapa to Te Kawerau ā Maki, highlights this meaningful iwi partnership aimed at uplifting mātauranga Māori. Through this kaupapa, over 2000 people, young and old, have been able to hear local iwi pūrākau as they journeyed through significant iwi sites. This was a proud moment for Sport Waitākere, and a legacy that Te Kawerau ā Maki can take forward as something that will support generations of their uri (descendants) to stay connected, healthy, and active.

OUR BOARD

Our voluntary Board is an exceptional group of people who generously donate their time to the vision of Sport Waitākere, bringing their experience and diverse thinking, with a Westie twist, to the table. The Board prides itself on upholding what is right, acting as kaitiaki (guardians) for our community, and relentlessly pursuing excellence. They are deeply committed to investing in

good governance, ensuring they challenge themselves and empower the organisation to thrive. Through the Board's leadership, they aim to create lasting impact to support the health and wellbeing of West Auckland. We simply cannot thank the Board enough for their time and commitment.

OUR PEOPLE

At the very heart of this organisation are the many talented, committed and passionate individuals who make up the Sport Waitākere team. These people are the very reason we see so much success for our community. We are blessed that the majority of our whānau are either 'Westie' born and bred, or live in our rohe, meaning they see, hear and breathe West Auckland each and every day.

Nothing we do is possible without these people, so on behalf of our Board and leadership team, ngā mihi ki a koutou. We look forward to seeing how our continued growth and vision into the future delivers on the impact we wish to make. Mā te ngākau iti, ka mihi.

Lastly, to every person and every partner we have taken this journey with, ngā mihi nui ki a koutou. We can only deliver the role we do with genuine community engagement and buy in, and we're excited to see what the 2024/25 year has in store for us in West Auckland.

Nā māua noa, nā.



David George
Chief Executive



Katie Bruffy
*Chairperson
Board of Trustees*

SPORT WAITĀKERE

IMPACT STRATEGY 2043



VISION
Everyone connected,
healthy and active
KIA TUIA, KIA ORA,
KIA TŪ

PURPOSE
WE HELP
PEOPLE LEAD
BETTER
LIVES



SPORT WAITĀKERE

OUR VALUES

- COMMUNITY FIRST AND FOREMOST
- FOCUS ON IMPACT
- CARE DEEPLY, DEEPLY UNDERSTAND
- DO THE RIGHT THING, INCREDIBLY WELL
- BE COURAGEOUS INNOVATORS
- STRENGTH IN OUR DIFFERENCES



ALL COMMUNITIES
AWARE OF,
PARTICIPATE
IN AND BENEFIT
FROM HEALTHY
AND ACTIVE
LIVES



OUR IMPACT



MĀORI COMMUNITIES HAUORA
IS IMPROVED THROUGH
HEALTHY AND ACTIVE LIVES



OUR COMMITMENT

SPORT WAITĀKERE IS COMMITTED TO
CONTINUING TO DEVELOP AUTHENTIC
RELATIONSHIPS WITH MĀORI. THIS
WILL ENABLE US TO UNDERSTAND
AND RESPOND TO THE NEEDS
AND ASPIRATIONS OF OUR
MĀORI COMMUNITIES.

WHAT WE WILL SEE



OUR PRIORITY COMMUNITIES
ARE PROVIDED WITH THE
OPPORTUNITIES THAT MEET
THEIR DIVERSE NEEDS



LOCAL ENVIRONMENTS
ARE UTILISED REGULARLY
BY OUR PRIORITY
COMMUNITIES



MĀORI COMMUNITIES
BENEFIT FROM
MĀTAURANGA MĀORI
DESIGNED INITIATIVES

HOW WE INFLUENCE CHANGE



COMMUNITIES
AND PARTNERS
ENABLED TO
DELIVER EFFECTIVE
INITIATIVES



OUR PRIORITY
COMMUNITIES ARE
AWARE OF AND MOTIVATED
TO LEAD HEALTHY AND
ACTIVE LIVES



POLICY, PLANS AND
REGULATIONS
SUPPORT EQUITABLE
ACCESS TO HEALTHY
AND ACTIVE LIVES



OUR PHYSICAL
AND BUILT
ENVIRONMENTS
SUPPORT HEALTHY
AND ACTIVE LIVES



MĀTAURANGA MĀORI IS
MORE ACCESSIBLE
FOR MĀORI
COMMUNITIES

OUR APPROACHES



CHAMPIONING
SOCIAL
INNOVATION
AND SYSTEMS
CHANGE



LEADING AND BACKBONING
COLLABORATIONS



SUPPORTING COMMUNITY
LED APPROACHES



BUILDING
CAPABILITY
AND LEADERS
OF OUR
COMMUNITY



PRIORITISING COMMUNITIES
EXPERIENCING
INEQUITY



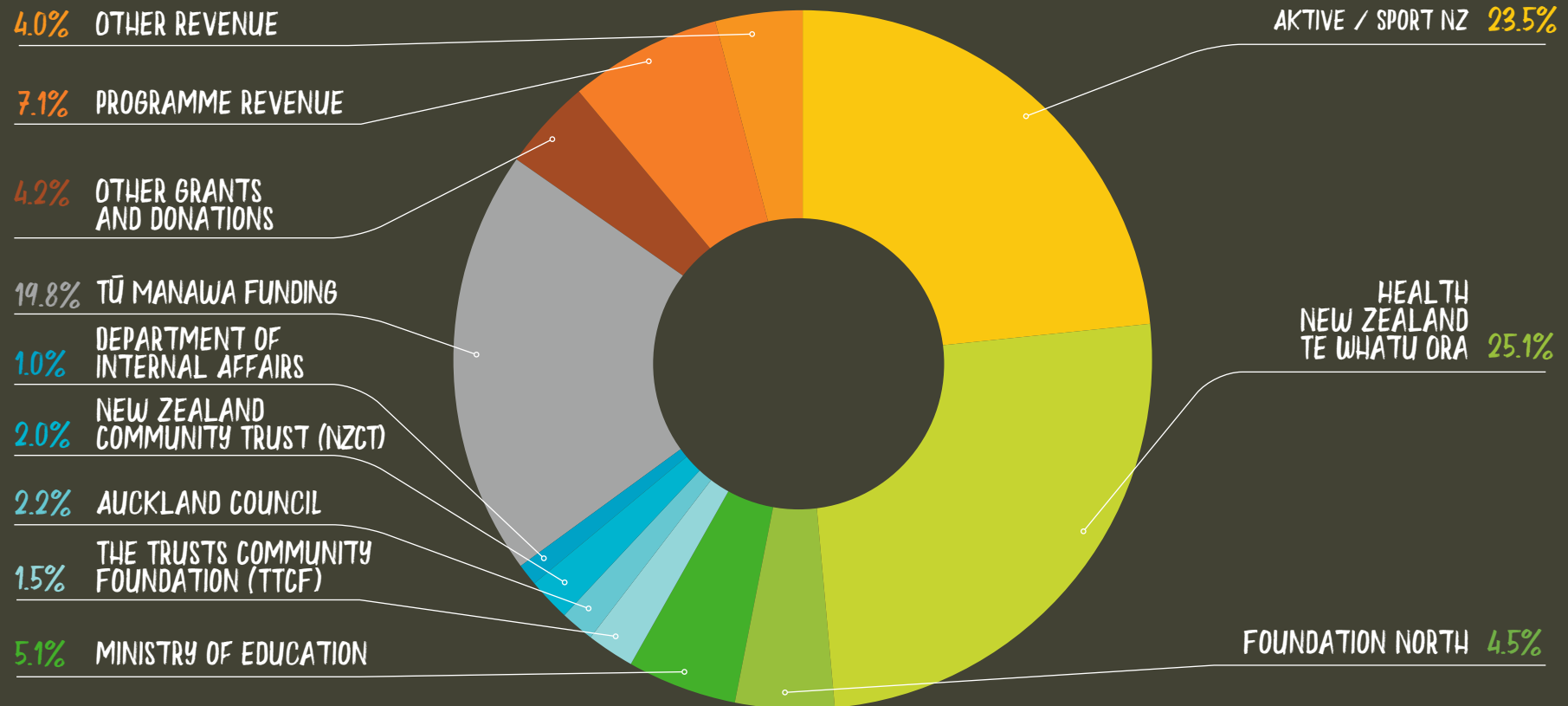
INFLUENCING INVESTMENT,
PLANNING AND
REGULATION



BUILDING CAPABILITY IN AND
PRIORITISING MĀTAURANGA
MĀORI APPROACHES

FUNDERS AND SUPPORTERS NGĀ KAITAUTOKO ME NGĀ PUNA PŪTEA

WE SINCERELY THANK OUR INVESTMENT, CONTRACT AND FUNDING PARTNERS FOR HELPING US ACHIEVE OUR VISION OF A COMMUNITY WHERE EVERYONE IS CONNECTED, HEALTHY AND ACTIVE.





During 2023/24, Active and Sport Waitākere have continued to work alongside each other to progress positive outcomes for Waitākere and Tāmaki Makaurau.

Our respective visions are clearly aligned and focused on the same direction: Sport Waitākere – Everyone connected, healthy and active | Kia tuia, kia ora, kia tū, and Active – Auckland– the world’s most active city | Tāmaki Makaurau – te tāone ngāngāhau rawa o te ao.

Active’s kaupapa is underpinned by strategic priorities that look to help shape the future of sport and physical activity across Tāmaki Makaurau. Sport Waitākere’s mahi added significant value to these priorities during 2023/2024, making a positive impact in Waitākere.

2023/2024 has seen Sport Waitākere central to the development of the Taiohi Collective, a region-wide Active Recreation provider network that supports each other to better meet the needs of young people.

Through collaboration with College Sport Auckland, Sport Waitākere has also delivered a locally led secondary school hockey competition, facilitating participation from 16 teams across eight schools. By meeting the needs of participants, these young people and their whānau can enjoy and participate in hockey much closer to home.

Healthy Active Learning support of specialists school in the area has been boosted through a targeted approach with excellent results. This

included professional learning development opportunities for staff and the Weetbix Tryathlon run for over 200 students from special schools.

Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa funding of \$850,326.34 was distributed to 59 successful applicants to support tamariki and rangatahi to participate in play, recreation and sport in Waitākere. We appreciate the thorough consideration Sport Waitākere’s Advisory Group gave to the many applications received to ensure funding was going to recipients that were best able to meet their community needs and demonstrate impact.

Sport Waitākere is a valued partner of Active. We appreciate the local knowledge, unwavering commitment and genuine collaborative approach of Chair Dr Katie Bruffy, Chief Executive David George, and the wider Sport Waitākere Board and team.

We look forward to the relationship between our two organisations continuing to go from strength to strength for the benefit of Waitākere Tāmaki Makaurau.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennah Wootten'.

Jennah Wootten
Chief Executive
Active



Healthy Families NZ is an innovative, proven prevention initiative that is community-led, systems focused and grounded in mātauranga Māori. The initiative aims to improve people's health where they live, learn, work and play by taking a 'systems change' approach to preventing chronic disease. Healthy Families NZ recognises that no one organisation, sector or community can work alone in achieving pae ora (healthy futures).

Healthy Families Waitākere is one of ten Healthy Families NZ locations across Aotearoa. Our lead providers are best placed to work collaboratively alongside communities and partners in their location, to utilise systems thinking and social innovation to create sustainable change.

Healthy Families Waitākere has continued to make significant progress this year, designing and implementing innovative, relevant and a community-informed collective approach to addressing complex problems across their communities. Some examples of these outcomes include; Poitarawhiti Pouako, an initiative applying te ao Māori principles in netball to create a thriving community of Māori netball coaches; the Massey and Glenavon kai villages which are growing community connections through kai and creating the conditions for food resilience; Ola Malosi, an initiative to improve

access to culturally appropriate resources supporting siofua manuia (wellbeing) practices in Aoga Amata and the redesigned Mana Motuhake o te Kai framework and toolkit which embraces an ao Māori worldview to guide kai projects and initiatives towards kai security and kai sovereignty.

Healthy Families Waitākere continues to play an integral and pivotal role in the wider Healthy Families NZ movement, eliminating barriers and shifting environments and social systems that are holding complex problems in place. Healthy Families Waitākere are positively influencing the community's health and wellbeing and contributing to pae ora (healthy futures).

Healthy Families NZ launched a decade ago and marked the beginning of a new approach to preventing chronic disease alongside existing population health efforts. I would like to thank the Healthy Families Waitākere team, Sport Waitākere, system partners, our communities and whānau for the continued commitment and passion to this kaupapa.

Lucy Kingsbeer
Principal Service Development Manager Healthy Families NZ
Starting Well, Commissioning
Health New Zealand

10 YEARS OF HEALTHY FAMILIES WAITĀKERE

KUA TEKAU TAU A HEALTHY FAMILIES WAITĀKERE



This year Healthy Families Waitākere has been privileged to celebrate 10 years of supporting change for better health and wellbeing in the places where West Aucklanders spend their time, so everyone has the opportunity to lead long, healthy and happy lives.

The initiative's unique approach recognises that a whole of community approach is critical in enabling health and wellbeing, rather than focussing on individual choices and behaviours.

Across the last decade, we have partnered with local people to bring to life the changes they want to see in their schools, workplaces, sports clubs, marae and community spaces to improve their health and wellbeing. We have worked alongside government agencies, community organisations and key changemakers to navigate the systems and structures which unlock positive change. This unique approach enables lasting change which is owned by the community, rather than 'delivered' to the community.

We are one of ten locations across Aotearoa New

Zealand, championing and elevating the voices of the communities we serve. Alongside community and key partners, we have achieved great things. From Tāfesilafa'i, to Mana Motuhake o te Kai, [Wai Movement](#) and [Active Whakapapa](#), the initiatives have always, and will continue to reflect the needs and wants of the people of West Auckland.

Now, more than ever, we are resolute in our approach to supporting people in community to lead healthy and happy lives. Indigenous knowledge and frameworks are the tools to get us there and we look forward to sharing our approaches and frameworks as we move forward in the next stage of our journey.

To every partner, community leader and local advocate who has strived for change alongside us, thank you for what you do. We look forward to seeing what we can achieve together in this next chapter of Healthy Families Waitākere.

Mike Tipene
GM – Health, Sport Waitākere
Ngāpuhi, Te Rarawa





INFLUENCING CHANGE ACROSS THE YEAR

WHAKAAWEAWE I NGA PANONITANGA PUTA NOA I TE TAU

Our Impact Strategy identifies five short to medium term outcomes around how we will influence change:



1. COMMUNITIES AND PARTNERS ENABLED TO DELIVER EFFECTIVE INITIATIVES



2. OUR PRIORITY COMMUNITIES ARE AWARE OF AND MOTIVATED TO LEAD HEALTHY AND ACTIVE LIVES



3. POLICY, PLANS AND REGULATIONS SUPPORT EQUITABLE ACCESS TO HEALTHY AND ACTIVE LIVES



4. OUR PHYSICAL AND BUILT ENVIRONMENTS SUPPORT HEALTHY AND ACTIVE LIVES

5. MĀTAURANGA MĀORI IS MORE ACCESSIBLE FOR MĀORI COMMUNITIES

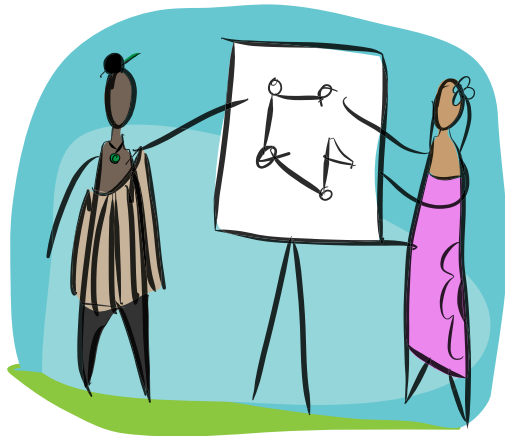


These outcomes are illustrated on the following pages with examples of our mahi over the year.

1. COMMUNITIES AND PARTNERS ENABLED TO DELIVER EFFECTIVE INITIATIVES

Our organisational priorities:

- Our resources are applied to the right communities and organisations.
- Build the capacity and capability of our partners to deliver effective initiatives.
- Support organisations in delivery of innovative solutions for our priority communities.



HEALTHY ACTIVE LEARNING

Healthy Active Learning is a joint government initiative between Sport New Zealand, Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand and the Ministry of Education to improve the wellbeing of tamariki and rangatahi through healthy eating and drinking, and quality physical activity in primary and intermediate schools.

The Healthy Active Learning team has supported more than 40 schools across the last year to provide better quality physical activity opportunities for their tamariki. Our team of Advisors has conducted over 90 professional learning and development and [team-teaching sessions](#) with kaiako to help them develop a better understanding of the HPE curriculum through [cultural games](#), [revisioning school camps](#) and so much more.



They have also [supported principals](#) to have opportunities to collaborate around wellbeing and healthy eating. Additionally, five student leadership groups in schools have been running to support tamariki-led wellbeing initiatives within these schools.

“We want to build capabilities to empower teachers in their practices within the health and PE curriculum, and ultimately ensure they are supported to fully integrate health and PE – both now and into the future.”

Sophie Gibbons, Healthy Active Learning Advisor



HALO

This year's [Healthy Active Learning Opportunities Day](#) was again hosted by Sport Waitākere's Healthy Active Learning team and dedicated to promoting inclusion in physical education and activity. Drawing from insights gathered from 40 Healthy Active Learning schools, the team recognised the need for enhanced support in planning activities that cater to diverse learning needs, ultimately helping to shape this year's theme of inclusion.

The event offered a vibrant mix of workshops and interactive sessions designed to deepen teachers' understanding of inclusive practices. Participants engaged in a variety of activities, including wheelchair basketball, and participated in meaningful discussions around creating

accessible and supportive environments for all students. Red Nicholson from The D List NZ brought energy and expertise as the event's MC, guiding the day's activities with enthusiasm. The contributions of our panel speakers, both youth and adult, further enriched the experience with their valuable perspectives and stories.

HALO Day reflected our ongoing commitment to inclusion, providing a day of inspiration and collaboration, and laying a strong foundation for inclusive practices in schools.

TŪ MANAWA ACTIVE AOTEAROA

The Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa fund allows community organisations support to deliver a range of activities for children and young people. These activities and projects can be new or existing, and the fund has a particular focus on communities who may need a hand up to have positive opportunities to move for their health and wellbeing. These groups include women and girls, the disabled community and those people living in higher deprivation communities. We work closely with Aktive, CLM Community Sport, Sport Auckland and Harbour Sport to disseminate this funding across Tāmaki Makaurau.

The Local Fund is for applications over \$10,000. With the introduction of our new impact strategy, we have strongly aligned our approval processes to the priorities outlined within this plan. All recipients of Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa funds for 2023/24 can be found [here](#).





The hub also distributes kai parcels in collaboration with Fair Food and runs the Kai Aroha initiative. Backed by Vision West, this initiative utilises surplus food to cook frozen meals for local whānau, reducing food waste by preventing it from ending up in landfills.

GLENAVON KAI VILLAGE

The Healthy Families team has been supporting the Glenavon Community Hub, which has recently adopted a kai village approach to increase community kai resilience.

Under the leadership of the Glenavon Community Hub Coordinator, the hub is forming new connections, strengthening partnerships, and implementing strategies for kai initiatives informed by Mana Motuhake o te Kai (MMoTK).

Healthy Families Waitākere has backboneed this initiative since its inception and through this mahi has witnessed the hub achieve some remarkable milestones. With support from Sanitarium, they operate a breakfast club for the tamariki at Glenavon School, and support from the Whau Local Board has helped with Pacific language week celebrations, allowing the community to showcase and share their cultural kai.



TĀFESILAFĀ'I

Tāfesilafa'i provides a space for faiaoga (teachers) in aoga amata (Sāmoan language nests) to come together, connect, share and grow their confidence in weaving Sāmoan cultural practices and beliefs into pedagogy.

The Tāfesilafa'i initiative has grown from an initial four centres (in 2020) to 11 spanning west, central and south Auckland. Across the 12 aoga amata, over 70 faiaoga are learning, sharing, and networking through Tāfesilafa'i. These faiaoga have the capability to support the health and wellbeing of over 400 tamaiti (children) and their aiga (families) currently in their care.

Sustainability is being explored, including handing over the innovation to SAASIA to scale nationally. Healthy Families Waitākere is supporting the handover, with a line of sight to transition from language nests to primary school (what does this transition currently look like, how might it be improved), alongside how might other Pacific language nests (Tongān, Niue, Cook Islands, Tuvalu) benefit from a similar innovation.

"We feel confident and empowered to use our own pedagogies that are fundamentally grounded in our Sāmoan values, language, culture, and spirituality."

Participating faiaoga (teacher)





SEED 2 HARVEST

Healthy Families Waitākere has been working with food relief organisation Seed 2 Harvest to explore sustainable kai practices, with a focus on changing the transactional nature of their food parcel support for communities. Supporting this shift has been multilayered, with testing and developing new ways to supply kai to whānau and reduce reliance on food parcels.

Their Henderson location is now home to an established māra kai (food garden), with additional garden sites being investigated. This is being supported by strong partnerships with churches, schools and community groups.

Late last year, Seed 2 Harvest was accepted into Auckland Council's Grow to Share programme which provides resourcing for up to 15 families to receive soil, seedlings, composting bins and support to grow kai. Seed 2 Harvest has also received the same resourcing so that they can grow and share kai, practices, and knowledge with other church members and groups.

The Seed 2 Harvest māra kai is now flourishing and kai is being harvested and added to food parcels.

"By doing this, we will ensure our people can become better equipped to provide for themselves and their whānau, build social connections and cohesion, while also re-engaging with traditional kai practices and their whakapapa."

Litara Faresa, Operations Manager, Seed 2 Harvest



2. OUR PRIORITY COMMUNITIES ARE AWARE OF AND MOTIVATED TO LEAD HEALTHY AND ACTIVE LIVES

Our organisational priorities:

- Develop communications for our priority communities that raise awareness of living healthy and active lives.
- Prioritise storytelling and other collateral that demonstrates impact and the strength of community led approaches.
- Collaborate with partners to develop appropriate messages and communications.



FINDING YOUR DRAGON

Following the success of last year's event, the 'Finding Your Dragon' project returned, continuing its mission to enhance Asian wellbeing by encouraging children to engage in cultural play and physical activity. Supported by the Synergy Community Trust, this initiative aims to connect young Asian students with their heritage while promoting an active lifestyle.

Schools with vibrant Asian communities, including New Lynn Primary, Avondale Intermediate and St Mary's participated in the event, transforming the day into a celebration of culture and movement. The morning was filled with rhythmic dragon dancing and the exhilarating beat of drumming, while the afternoon transitioned to lively games and martial arts. The children eagerly joined in every activity to explore and play with the dragons and drums, fully immersed in the cultural experience.

"In many Asian cultures, the dragon symbolises power and vitality. This event allowed students to 'find their dragon' and explore their cultural roots through a range of fun activities."

Participating teacher



HUI HUB

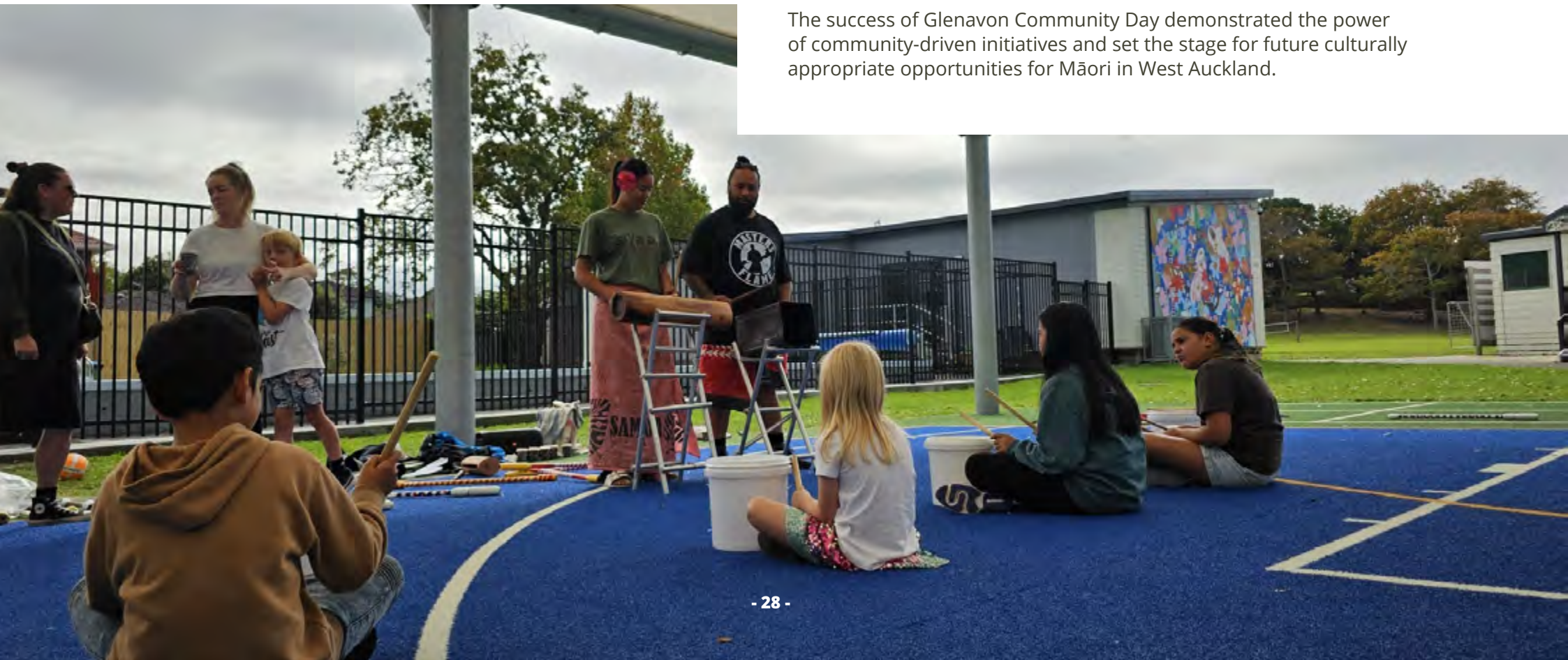
Our annual Hui Hub event looked quite different this year. There has been a transition to a community-led approach marking a significant shift from previous Hui Hub events. Informed by insights from past experiences, Glenavon Community Day was created with this new direction focused on localising activities to specific communities and using the voices of tamariki to shape the event.

Glenavon Community Day was a resounding success, uniting the Glenavon community in a vibrant celebration of culture and

collaboration. Supported by Sport Waitākere, the event featured an array of activities including ngā taongā tākaro, Siva Afi, cultural kai, and other cultural practices that highlighted the richness of the community's heritage.

This special day served as a platform for tamariki and rangatahi to share their voices and connect with their peers, fostering a strong sense of belonging and sparking meaningful collaborations. The event underscored the commitment to creating ongoing opportunities for the youth in Glenavon, with the community coming together to support and uplift one another.

The success of Glenavon Community Day demonstrated the power of community-driven initiatives and set the stage for future culturally appropriate opportunities for Māori in West Auckland.





WHAU CLUSTER

This cluster of 14 schools, supported by GoodSports and Balance is Better philosophies, has been changing their approach and mindsets over the last four years. The emphasis has switched away from sport-specific delivery and competition schedules, towards more 'have-a-go' days, play and recreation options, and targeted events for nearly 5,000 students. The focus is on engaging those who are missing out with unique opportunities while also creating secure and pressure-free environments where students can try something new, find their feet, and gain confidence.

The cluster's first [Kōtiro Festival Day](#) offered a focus on girls who were new to sport and/or physical activity. Attended by 115 girls, have a go activities included skateboarding, Hungerball, cheerleading, hip hop, parkour, Circability and more. An astounding 100% said they would attend a similar event if it was offered again.

"We aimed to instill confidence in the girls to try something new without fear of judgement or failure, empowering them to have fun and be active with friends."

Women and Girls Lead , Sport Waitākere

The waves at Piha Beach also played host to an empowering initiative as 22 Māori kōtiro from the Middle School West bilingual unit immersed themselves in the world of surfing. Taking place on three separate sessions, the kōtiro surf programme aimed to provide a unique space for the kōtiro to explore the sport and 'give it a go' within a comfortable environment. The kōtiro not only learned the fundamentals of surfing but also gained valuable insights into the ocean's dynamics, including tides, currents, rips, and waves. The experience was met with enthusiasm and positive feedback from the kōtiro, who expressed a desire to continue their surfing journey.

CLEANERS COLLECTIVE

Employees in the cleaning industry encounter demanding working conditions that can affect their wellbeing. Working alongside several cleaners from five different businesses, Healthy Families Waitākere has been working to better understand the wellbeing needs and aspirations of people working in the cleaning sector.

Through a series of talanoa (process of sharing space and ideas), the team identified several barriers to cleaners' wellbeing including the need for a centralised hub for information and guidance, and more opportunities for cleaners to encourage and support each other.

After some exploration and theming, a comprehensive wellbeing toolkit was crafted. It includes a tuakana-teina buddy system, so people have a clear way to connect with one another. A feedback circuit was designed so insights and information can be readily shared across the workforce and with management. Understanding employment rights and providing opportunities for professional development was also highlighted during the talanoa and addressed in the toolkit. The next steps for the Healthy Families Waitākere team involves collecting insights from cleaning business owners to broaden the view of the industry's landscape and to test the wellbeing toolkit with cleaners.



"We should be proud to be cleaners, it's an important job."

Talanoa attendee

MINOI

The Healthy Families team has been working alongside West Auckland Pasifika church leaders to empower health and wellbeing within their congregations.

Minoi began with talanoa (process of sharing space and ideas) with church leaders to better understand their views, values, and ideas around the connections of faaleagaga (spiritual) and soifua maloloina le faaletino (physical health).

This led to the formation of a Health Komiti (committee) with the aim to integrate health outcomes with spiritual and cultural connections, fostering a deeper understanding of overall wellbeing. This komiti, with members from various generations and expertise, co-designed initiatives around movement and food systems, drawing on traditional Sāmoan practices.

The Minoi initiative encourages physical activity and family health through cultural storytelling, songs, dance, and games. Meanwhile, food systems practices involve elders teaching traditional methods of growing, harvesting, and preparing food. These initiatives reflect a holistic approach to health, combining spiritual, social, and physical wellbeing.

The ongoing work aims to expand co-design efforts with other churches, with Healthy Families Waitākere supporting church leaders in developing health strategies that resonate with their communities' spiritual and cultural values.

"It has been amazing to have a space to talanoa about our health issues, hearing from all generational perspectives, and more importantly developing solutions as a congregation that integrate our spiritual, social, and physical health."

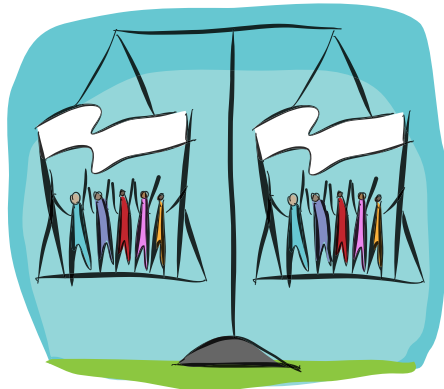
Josie Fruean, Health Komiti Member



3. POLICY, PLANS AND REGULATIONS SUPPORT EQUITABLE ACCESS TO HEALTHY AND ACTIVE LIVES

Our organisational priorities:

- Identify and influence the development and implementation of key policies and plans impacting healthy and active lives.
- Identify and participate in key advisory groups/committees etc that can influence change.
- Produce robust cases for change that can be shared with key decision makers.



CLUB SUPPORT AND COMMUNITY CONNECT

Over the past three months, our Sector Support advisor has led an initiative to help clubs, particularly those with significant Māori, Pasifika, and Asian memberships, establish themselves as Incorporated Societies. This project focused on delivering tailored support through webinars and one-on-one consultations with an external expert to draft constitutions and navigate the incorporation process.

A key milestone was the successful incorporation of one club, which is now advancing its strategic plans and funding efforts. Another constitution has been drafted, building the capability of the committee to become an official entity. Central to this approach was the integration of a culturally responsive, talanoa-based method for constitution development, ensuring the support was deeply rooted in the values of whanaungātanga and relationship building.

This process demonstrated the importance of addressing the needs of communities with high Māori, Pasifika, and Asian participation, highlighting how sport and wellbeing can be enhanced through equitable support. Our team aims to leverage these success stories to secure further resources and investments, envisioning a future where clubs in West Auckland can flourish as a vibrant hub for community.

3V3 MĀORI KAUPAPA TOURNAMENT

Five Kura Kaupapa Māori schools recently came together at Massey YMCA for a lively [3x3 basketball tournament](#), celebrating Māori culture and community spirit. Sparked by Kura Kaupapa Māori o Hoani Waititi Marae's desire for their students to engage in basketball within a culturally affirming environment, Sport Waitākere and He Orangā Poutama joined forces to bring this vision to life.

The initiative aimed to provide a platform where tamariki and rangatahi could fully express their cultural identities while participating in the sport. Preparatory workshops were held to enhance skills in Poitūkohu 3x3, building confidence and readiness among the participants. A refereeing session for high school students was also conducted, ensuring that the principles of te reo Māori were integrated into the officiating process.

The tournament featured 143 young players from across the region, competing in Y5-Y6 and Y7-Y8 categories. The event fostered a vibrant atmosphere where players communicated freely in their native language, showcasing their abilities and cultural pride. This kaupapa not only provided a space for Māori youth to thrive but also highlighted the importance of cultural inclusivity in sports.



OLA MALOSI

U Ola Malosi, meaning to live or grow strong, is an initiative supporting the wellbeing of tamaiti (children) and faiaoga (teachers) in aoga amata (Sāmoan language nests). Born out of the Tāfesilafa'i movement, Ola Malosi addresses the scarcity of Sāmoan language educational resources to enhance wellbeing through movement, nutrition, and communication.

The Healthy Families Waitākere team is back boning a dedicated collective of organisations to create a digital resource platform to support this objective. The partnership includes Tapasā, Sosaiete Aoga Amata Samoa i Aotearoa (SAASIA), The Heart Foundation NZ, Talking Matters, and Pacific Kids Learning.

The co-design approach undertaken with faiaoga and the collective ensures that the platform and resources are informed and crafted by experts in many fields. These range from Sāmoan language, early childhood education, digital animation and videography, to movement, nutrition, and communication.



MANA MOTUHAKE O TE KAI

Mana Motuhake o te kai is an approach that embraces an ao Māori worldview to guide kai projects and initiatives towards kai security and kai sovereignty. For those working towards cultivating, gathering, and sharing kai, Mana Motuhake o te Kai can be used as a tool to authentically engage with whānau and community in a culturally appropriate way.

The tool was developed by Hoani Waititi Marae, Community Waitākere and Healthy Families Waitākere, with support and oversight from many partner organisations and community groups throughout its journey. For those committed to enhancing community health outcomes through kai, Mana Motuhake o te Kai offers a pathway that respects and empowers Māori to exercise their mana and worldview.

“MMoTK awakened a deep sense of connection within me. It provided a sense of place, purpose, vision, and hope. Using MMotK we have created our own tikangā [at the Glenavon breakfast club] that begins with karakia to bless the kai and start the day. We greet one another with a kia ora and a handshake and through this process we’re building manaakitangā.”

R.J Thomson, Co-ordinator, Glenavon Community Hub





STREETS FOR PEOPLE

Waka Kotahi recently announced regulatory changes that will make it easier for Councils to collaborate with communities on street modifications, creating more space for people to move freely. Healthy Families Waitākere was thrilled to see that two of our recommendations were adopted:

1. Pilot street changes. Pilots allow communities to be more involved in the process of changing their streets and for continual improvement of the design while it's in place.
2. Support community streets. Community Streets, also known as Play Streets, will make it easier for local communities to work with councils to temporarily restrict traffic on quiet local streets so tamariki can play and communities can connect.

These recommendations were based on findings and insights gathered by Healthy Families Waitākere during the Play Streets innovation. The Healthy Families Waitākere team is looking forward to understanding how Auckland Council and Auckland Transport respond to these national regulatory changes.





4. OUR PHYSICAL AND BUILT ENVIRONMENTS SUPPORT HEALTHY AND ACTIVE LIVES

Our organisational priorities:

- Partner with communities to design innovative solutions that support better access to the built environment.
- Elevate community voice and advocate for increased utilisation of community spaces and places for our priority groups.



NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAY SYSTEM

In the heart of Rānui, around Rānui Primary School, a quiet revolution has been transforming the neighbourhood into a play haven for tamariki. This change isn't just about equipment; it's about community-led initiatives where every child's right to play is championed.

The Rānui journey began in 2023 with the [Neighbourhood Play Systems \(NPS\) initiative](#), focusing on understanding the play landscape within a one kilometre radius of Rānui Primary. Tamariki voiced concerns about safety and stranger danger, limiting their freedom to explore.

The NPS mahi led to fantastic changes including the following.

- **Rānui Library Play Initiative:** Funded by the Henderson Massey Local Board, the library now offers Lego sets, chess boards, and more, creating vibrant, interactive spaces for after-school play.
- **Rānui Domain Playground Revamp:** Tamariki input influenced council decisions, resulting in added fencing, shade, water fountains, and picnic areas.



- **Collaborations:** With the Rānui Action Project, NPS advocated for play in housing and community events. Salvation Army housing received over \$10,000 worth of play equipment, benefiting 93 tamariki thanks to Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa.
- **Gear Up Box for Rānui 135:** Courtesy of the Grassroots Foundation, this enriched community play, especially for Pasifika students.
- **Rānui Primary School Initiatives:** Through Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa, the school introduced diverse play equipment and culturally engaging activities for the Te Whakatipu Kakano Māori Immersion Unit.

Future plans include playground markings and painted footpaths in Rānui Domain, funded by the Henderson-Massey Local Board. Rānui's transformation highlights that play can happen everywhere, driven by community efforts. The journey isn't just about changing parts of the system but igniting a collective imagination where play fosters social change and brighter tomorrows for all tamariki.





ACTIVE AND ENGAGED COMMUNITIES

WAITĀKERE RANGES LOCAL BOARD

Carrying on from the mahi undertaken over the previous year, our focus has been on partnering and activating community and whānau. We are proud to have supported two key projects focused around water safety.

We supported United North Surf Life Saving Club with a project that helped develop ocean skills, safety, enjoyment of the environment and gaining water confidence. By using a combination of pool use and time in the ocean, the club was able to achieve their goals. Success was also able to be gained through use of a tuakana-teina model, whereby older rangatahi support tamariki.

Another key highlight was supporting 22 kōtiro from Middle School West Auckland to learn how to surf at Piha. The programme was delivered through a te ao Māori lens, and participants were encouraged to share their knowledge and learnings with whānau.

WHAU LOCAL BOARD

The Sport Waitākere and Whau Local Board partnership has gone from strength to strength over the last year, with partnership across a number of play initiatives, sector support connections and sport activities.

Our Whau Cluster Coordinator successfully ran eight sport and active recreation initiatives that allowed approximately 2,000 tamariki quality experiences in physical activity. One of the highlights of these experiences was the running of our Kōtiro Day which allowed 60 kōhine an opportunity to engage in activity that they may not normally have access too.

We also delivered Gear Up boxes to several community hubs and centres in the Whau area, and encouraged Play on the Way initiatives through stencil drawing inside and outside of local kura.



HENDERSON MASSEY LOCAL BOARD

Over the year Sport Waitākere has undertaken a significant amount of mahi in the Henderson Massey Local Board area.

One of the key highlights of this work is the implementation of the Kāhui Kai Māra project in three schools across the rohe tuku. The ākonga at these schools, including Lincoln Heights School, Don Buck School and Westbridge Residential School, have been learning indigenous practices of cultivating kai from seed to plate.

Thanks to Henderson Massey Local Board funding we were able to work on a codesign project with He Wero o ngā Wahine, the teen parenting unit based at Henderson High School. The initiative helped guide a wellbeing focus for the young wāhine with a strong focus on their relationships, with themselves, each other and the taiao (environment).

“The day planned for our students was an incredible fit. It connected all elements of te whare tapawhā and our students came back buzzing. They were challenged in a safe and supportive way, opening them up to incredible new experiences. This was huge in helping to build their confidence in their own abilities.”

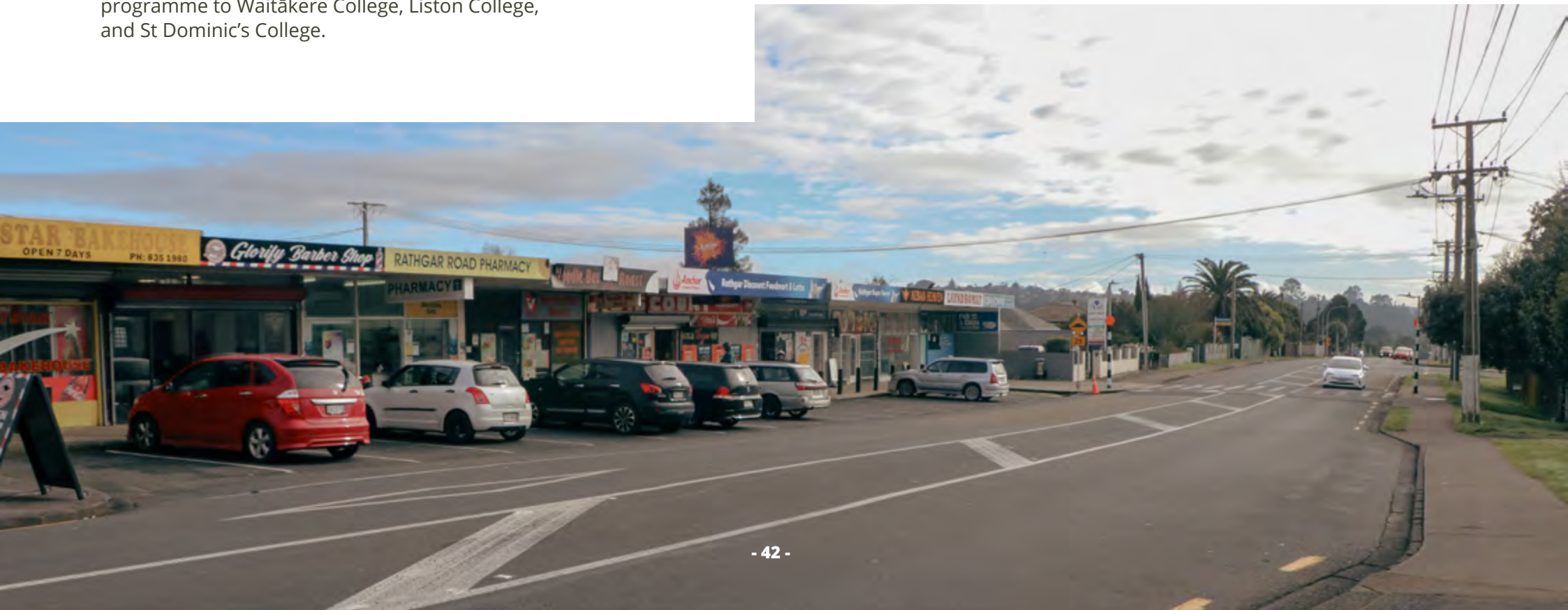
Rhiannon Robertson, Head of the Teen Parent Unit



RATHGAR RD

Healthy Families Waitākere has partnered with schools in the Rathgar Road area to enhance movement in and around school environments, blending Pacific dance and wayfinding traditions into the initiative. By weaving these cultural practices into the project, the aim is to create a safer, more active neighbourhood that reflects the rich traditions of the communities involved.

The initiative has garnered strong community interest, with several key partners joining the effort. Community Waitākere and Te Ohu Whakawhanaunga are leading place-making discussions, and Seed 2 Harvest has added its support by testing student-designed Active Challenges at their Swanson Road location. Active Zone has introduced siva afi (Sāmoan fire dance) at Henderson Intermediate, while ReNiu will deliver their Indigenous Science of Movement programme to Waitākere College, Liston College, and St Dominic's College.



5. MĀTAURANGA MĀORI IS MORE ACCESSIBLE FOR MĀORI COMMUNITIES

Our organisational priorities:

- Increase our understanding and capability in mātauranga Māori.
- Embed te ao Māori frameworks into planning and delivery of initiatives.
- Partner with community/Māori organisations to amplify mātauranga Māori.



"We've learnt lots about gardening and that it's fun and will keep you healthy and happy."

"I like using what I've learned at school with my Dad at home."

Participating tamariki

KĀHUI KAI MĀRA

Teaching tamariki about the origins of their food - from garden to table - is well established in schools. A new approach grounded in indigenous practices and mātauranga Māori is positively impacting learning and wellbeing in several West Auckland schools.

Over the last three years, ākonga at Westbridge Residential, Don Buck, and Lincoln Heights schools have built a shared Kāhui Kai Māra (gardening community). Birdwood Primary also joined earlier this year, with each school integrating garden development into their practices.

[The Kāhui Kai Māra initiative](#), funded by Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa, employs a shared kaimahi across the schools to facilitate the approach. This initiative, which aligns with the principles of Mana Motuhake o te Kai and the Kai Village, emphasises authentic engagement with Māori whānau and hapū in cultivating, gathering, and sharing kai.

The indigenised approach ensures tamariki receive nutritional health benefits and cultural connections, and tamariki have expressed enjoyment and learning benefits, enhancing their overall wellbeing.

BILINGUAL SUPPORT: WEETBIX TRIATHLON

In collaboration with SMC Events and funded by Tū Manawa, our team supported the [Kāhui Māori Weetbix Try Challenge](#). This event marked the first gathering of six bilingual units from West Auckland schools, including Henderson North Primary, Prospect School, Rānui School, Western Heights School, Birdwood School, and Te Kura o Pātiki (Rosebank School).

The Kāhui Māori Weetbix Try Challenge was more than a sports event; it was a celebration of collaboration, cultural pride, and the potential for future partnerships among West Auckland's Māori tamariki. The initiative aimed to build lasting relationships with bilingual units, fostering an environment of mutual support and connection. Central to this event was the goal of instilling a deep sense of tūrangawaewae, inspiring pride in identity and cultivating a supportive



community spirit beyond school boundaries. As tamariki enjoyed the course and taonga tākaro activities, it became clear that this event was a milestone in uniting West Auckland's bilingual units.

Following this event, Sport Waitākere engaged with the units' kaiako and tamariki to understand their needs, which led to a successful Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa application. This funding will provide opportunities for tamariki to participate in another Weetbix Try Challenge, Ki o Rahi, Mau Rākau, and Active Whakapapa. These experiences will be delivered by SMC Events, Ki o Rahi Tāmaki, Toi Mauriora, and other Mau Rākau providers, including Te Kawerau ā Maki. Sport Waitākere has also committed to supporting other units outside of the kāhui with their applications.

The strategic vision behind this initiative was to establish enduring relationships with bilingual units, fostering an environment where collaboration and mutual support become intrinsic. Sport Waitākere has worked collaboratively with the units to envision a future where these units not only compete together on the field, but also work in unison to create a more connected and empowered community.

*“Ko te reo Māori te mea tuatahi anō
ia ra, ia ra, ia ra mo ngā tamariki
mokopuna o te kura nei.”*

*“Being able to speak te reo Māori every
day is the most important thing for the
tamariki at our school.”*

Teacher, Henderson North Primary





LEADERSHIP THROUGH SPORT

Sport Waitākere and the Education to Employment team at the Auckland Business Chamber joined forces to create an impactful event combining their [Leadership through Sport](#) and AfterMatch initiatives. Highlighting a significant shift in focus, this annual event, which typically caters to a broader audience, was intentionally designed to prioritise and empower Māori and Pacific student athletes from West Auckland secondary schools.

Recognising hurdles such as mental health struggles and the juggling act of balancing education, employment, and sports, the dynamic day was filled with workshops, team-building exercises and insights from a panel of guest speakers with rich sports backgrounds.

Throughout the day, students absorbed valuable insights, with guiding principles offering inspiration and direction. They learned the importance of family support, perseverance, financial responsibility and planning for life beyond sports, as well as the value of a supportive network, practicing gratitude, and seizing growth opportunities.

ACTIVE WHAKAPAPA

Active Whakapapa is a unique storytelling experience that takes people on a journey through the taiao (natural environment) to highlight significant iwi sites and share local iwi histories.

Developed alongside mana whenua, Te Kawerau ā Maki, these site-specific guided hīkoi (walks) offer low-intensity treks through two locations, Harbourview Orangihina Park and Henderson Park, while wireless Bluetooth headsets narrate prerecorded pūrākau (traditional stories).

To progress the long-term goal of handing the initiative over to Te Kawerau ā Maki, Healthy Families Waitākere worked with the [Pukengā Nui](#) interns to develop capability and create a comprehensive support package to aid in the delivery of this kaupapa.

In April this year, the kaupapa was successfully handed over to Te Kawerau ā Maki to deliver and develop in alignment with their iwi aspirations, with Healthy Families Waitākere stepping into a support role. To date, the iwi has successfully delivered six Active Whakapapa hīkoi with schools, with more community sessions in the works.

Active Whakapapa has demonstrated its effectiveness as a replicable model for delivering iwi pūrākau, successfully tested and scaled across two locations. The sophisticated partnership developed with Te Kawerau ā Maki through Active Whakapapa has successfully engaged iwi as a key partner in the prevention system.



PŪKENG A NUI

The Pūkenga Nui internship was an initiative aimed at supporting Te Kawerau ā Maki in delivering the Active Whakapapa hīkoi (walks). Supported by the Waitākere Ranges Local Board, the programme focused on developing a career pathway for interns, potentially leading them to become tour guides for the hīkoi.

Healthy Families Waitākere played a key role in codesigning the programme that has a focus on skill development for leading hīkoi, administration, deepening connections to whakapapa (genealogy) and building knowledge of the local taiao.

Field training, led by Te Kawerau ā Maki and Adventure Works, was crucial. Te Kawerau ā Maki's sessions focused on crafting pepeha, delivering mihi and karakia, and learning local mana whenua history through pūrakau. Adventure Works is another critical partner whose main focus was to develop outdoor leadership skills, safety protocols, and they also adapted their curriculum to include iwi knowledge and whakapapa.

The internship culminated with interns leading a hīkoi, demonstrating their acquired skills. In April, the Active Whakapapa kaupapa transitioned to Te Kawerau ā Maki, who are now prepared to lead and refine the programme and oversee the Pūkenga Nui internship as needed.



POITARAWHITI POUAKO

Sport Waitākere has partnered with Netball Northern Zone and Netball New Zealand to implement an approach using te ao Māori principles in the accreditation programme for coaches. The Poitarawhiti Pouako initiative looks to enhance support for Māori and Pasifika coaches and create a more culturally responsive experience. Results have been promising, with coaches reporting increased cultural alignment and support.

The next step is to train more Māori coach developers, with the hope that these efforts will inspire similar initiatives in other sports, enhancing their engagement with Māori and Pasifika communities and their commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.





WEST AUCKLAND TOGETHER

"HE WAKA EKE NOA, HE TANGATA, HE WHENUA, HE
WHAKATIPURANGĀ HOU."
"A CANOE WHICH WE ARE ALL IN TOGETHER; IT IS MANNED BY ALL,
PADDLED BY ALL, AND WE ALL BENEFIT FROM ITS JOURNEY."

West Auckland Together (WAT) is a collective of community organisations that share a vision of a thriving West Auckland with a focus on Māori and Pacific people. The long-term aim is to achieve meaningful social change and the West Auckland Together collective is purposely set to create the environment for organisations to participate and be involved in collective mahi.

LET'S COME TOGETHER EVENT

A special event held in July centred around connection and collaboration. It created a space to make new and refresh existing connections, evaluate ideas to address a specific problem or challenge, consider future

aspirations, and profile three collectives including Le Moana West, West Auckland Māori Thought Leadership, and West Auckland Together. Wonderful connections were made alongside engaging discussions, and underpinned by collaborative spirit.

"The spirit of the event was one of real connection and collaboration. Becoming aware of the individuals and organisations working in this space in the WestWAuckland area, and the commitments to find ways to work together to create more impact."

Participant



of working together to achieve a sustainable future for generations to come.

CONTINUING THE KŌRERO AND CONNECTION

WAT hosted eight collaboration hui that provided a platform to connect, have kōrero about key issues impacting the communities in West Auckland, and inform and share updates. From these hui came new connections and opportunities to hear about new initiatives happening in West Auckland.

THE 'ESSENCE OF RELATIONSHIPS'

The year saw a continued focus on strengthening relationships with the West

WALKING TOGETHER TOWARDS ZERO WASTE: WEST AUCKLAND'S COLLECTIVE VISION

A special event brought together collectives from West Auckland Together, Le Moana West, and the Māori Thought Leadership at the new Tipping Point site. With the presence of Waste Solutions, MPHS and Waste Operations, the hui focused on raising awareness around a crucial goal: a sustainable, zero waste future for West Auckland. The event provided a valuable space for talanoa and creative sessions, exploring how collective leadership and collaboration can spark environmental change.

Discussions focused around the evolution of waste practices in our communities and the challenges faced today, while the wisdom of ancestors - who embraced resourcefulness, upcycling, and reusing - resonated deeply throughout the hui. These ancestral practices were not just remembered but recognised as vital tools for creating a sustainable future.

Beyond the kōrero, the hui was filled with moments of connection and collaboration, including creative activities, such as weaving a whiri (plait), symbolising collective responsibility. Each strand represented the hopes, commitments, and unity of those present, reinforcing the importance





Auckland Māori Thought Leadership Collective and Le Moana West Collectives. This was achieved through representation on the WAT Strategy Group, regular connection and providing funding for backbone and support functions of both collectives.

Funding included support to the initial two phases of the 'Mai i te Aituā ki te Marama' research initiative, which is a co-created and collaborative initiative designed by the West Auckland Māori Thought Leadership Collective. The objective of this initiative is to investigate the long-term and ongoing impacts for West Auckland Māori, of the global Covid-19 pandemic (2020-2023), the Auckland Anniversary weekend floods (January 2023)

and Cyclone Gabriel (February 2023).

FUNDING — LOOKING AT IT DIFFERENTLY

A new project was established to explore the funding system in West Auckland and from this, a funding network was set up. Part of the scope for this initiative is to map the grant funding flow to West Auckland not for profit organisations.

BUILDING RESILIENCE IN WEST AUCKLAND

Through the West Auckland Together network we were able to support two key pieces of research; the West Auckland Emergency report

which captured the community responses to the 2023 Anniversary Weekend Floods, and Cyclone Gabrielle. This report was commissioned by Community Waitākere and supported by West Auckland Together, Healthy Families Waitākere, Vision West, MPHS, and Auckland Council. The study focuses on what happened from the perspectives of a range of West Auckland organisations and groups to inform future risk reduction, readiness, response, and recovery. The second report was the Recovery Needs Assessment report focusing on Henderson for the Recovery Office.

WAT representatives also participated in a J R McKenzie Reflection Circle hui with other ngā kaikōkiri to share learnings from mahi and network. It was a great opportunity to be involved in this hui and leverage off the collective knowledge in this space.

The power of collaboration within WAT has highlighted how collective efforts foster trust, support, and positive outcomes for the community.

Sport Waitākere continues to be one of the key members of West Auckland Together, with representation in the strategy group and participation in some working groups. Sport Waitākere also employs the Collaboration Broker and holds funds on behalf of the collective.



Kāwhiri and Pōhaka (3
minutes)

- Kāwhiri (Kāwhiri) and Pōhaka (Pōhaka) are the two main areas of focus for the project.
- The project aims to improve the quality of life for the people living in these areas.

GOVERNANCE

MANA WHAKAHAERE

Sport Waitākere is governed by a Board of Trustees, made up of nine members chaired by Dr Katie Bruffy. As a group the Board has expertise across fields including community sport, community leadership, health, finance, education, business, te ao Māori, Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and governance.

The Board of Trustees is committed to meeting its partner obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and embedding the Treaty principles of partnership, protection and participation within the organisation, with this year seeing intentional learning and practice of tikanga throughout board engagements.

These Trustees generously volunteer their time and play an important role in overseeing the governance and strategic direction of the organisation, working closely alongside Chief Executive David George.

During this reporting period, the Board recruited three new board members, and farewelled one (Jarrod Walton) upon the completion of his third three year term, the maximum allowed within our board charter. In total, the Board committed to and attended 11

board meetings including one full day strategy workshop in May 2024.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Our Board is committed to identifying and overseeing potential risk to the organisation. The finance and risk committee meets regularly to review finances and oversee the annual external financial audit process.

There are several processes in place to formally support this including conducting a full annual review of risks and reviewing and renewing the risk register together. Sport Waitākere's health and safety policy is reviewed regularly to ensure it meets necessary legislative requirements.

The Sport Waitākere Board is ably supported by Karyn Hill, specifically with tasks related to administration of meetings, policy and process.

SUB-COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

Our Board operates a number of sub-committees and working groups to ensure

focused governance and actions in line with the organisation's strategic priorities. The current sub-committees and working groups are as follows.

Sub-committees

- Finance and Risk: Nicola Mills (Chair), Katie Bruffy, Jarrod Walton (to May 2024) and Graeme Read (from March 2024)
- Māori Effectiveness: Robin Taua-Gordon, Michael Holmes and Darna Appleyard (from March 2024)
- High Performing Board: Ivan Harré (Chair), Katie Bruffy, Janet Tuitama (from August 2024) and Darna Appleyard (from August 2024)
- CEO Development: Jarrod Walton (Chair, to May 2024), Katie Bruffy and Nick Rowland (from May 2024)

Working groups

- Increasing Investment: Nick Rowland and Darna Appleyard
- Sustainability and Climate Action: Emerging group



ATTENDANCES

2023/24

Katie Bruffy (Chair)	11	
Michael Holmes (Deputy Chair)	8	
Nicola Mills	10	
Nick Rowland	7	
Ivan Harre	8	
Robin Taua-Gordon	7	
Graeme Read	5	Appointed February 2024
Darna Appleyard	3	Appointed February 2024
Janet Tuitama	4	Appointed February 2024
Jarrold Walton	10	Stepped down May 2024 - Max 3 x 3 year tenure completion
Stephanie Bidois	-	Stepped down September 2023 (Maternity)

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE REVENUE AND EXPENSE

SPORT WAITĀKERE TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

	2024	2023
Revenue		
Revenue from exchange transactions	585,686	410,467
Revenue from non-exchange transactions	4,692,497	4,946,212
Total Revenue	5,278,183	5,356,678
Expenses		
Costs related to providing goods or service	627,570	917,993
Depreciation and amortisation	160,536	111,767
Employee and volunteer related costs	2,670,543	2,431,312
Grants and donations made	1,042,651	1,397,015
Interest expense	20,482	27,754
Other expenses	346,534	367,005
Total Expenses	4,868,316	5,252,906
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	409,867	103,772
Total Comprehensive Revenue	409,867	103,772

This Statement should be read in conjunction with the 'Statement of Accounting Policies', 'Notes to the Performance Report' and 'Independent Auditor Report' available at www.charities.govt.nz

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

SPORT WAITĀKERE TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

	30 JUN 2024	30 JUN 2023
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	2,419,992	274,284
Other Current Assets	-	-
Prepayments	25,156	3,039
Receivables	298,835	519,855
Short Term Investments	-	2,000,000
Total Current Assets	2,743,983	2,797,179
Non-Current Assets		
Property, Plant and Equipment	326,592	432,344
Total Non-Current Assets	326,592	432,344
Total Assets	3,070,575	3,229,523
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Payables	96,197	96,949
Employee entitlements	77,512	77,708
Finance Leases - Current	47,400	60,422
Tū Manawa Funds	97,812	236,295
Income in advance	1,069,301	1,420,259
Total Current Liabilities	1,388,221	1,891,633
Non-current Liabilities		
Finance Leases - Non Current	150,814	195,466
Income in advance - Non Current	279,250	300,000
Total Non-Current Liabilities	430,064	495,466
Total Liabilities	1,818,285	2,387,099
Net Assets	1,252,290	842,424
Equity	1,252,290	842,424
Accumulated comprehensive revenue	1,084,916	675,050
Reserve fund for continued operations	167,374	167,374
Total Equity	1,252,290	842,424

This Statement should be read in conjunction with the 'Statement of Accounting Policies', 'Notes to the Performance Report' and 'Independent Auditor Report' available at www.charities.govt.nz

OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT COMMITMENT

This year Sport Waitākere partnered with Sundry, a carbon accounting software, to assess our carbon footprint.

We took a best-practice approach and used both transaction-based and activity-based approaches to our organisational greenhouse gas emissions assessment.

We measured emissions across different categories of our expenditures, from purchasing fuel for our vehicles to waste we generate in our office.

Our initial focus was on accurate data collection. We can now confidently report on Scope 1 and Scope 3 emissions.

	2024	2023
Scope 1*	13,587 kg of CO ²	12,648 kg of CO ²
*Scope 1 is total mobile combustion based on litres of fuel (petrol and diesel) used over the year		
Business travel, including flights & accommodation	10,383 kg of CO ²	13,077 kg of CO ²
Purchased goods and services	147,062 kg of CO ²	170,174 kg of CO ²
Waste generated	14,417 kg of CO ²	24,135 kg of CO ²
Others	5,524 kg of CO ²	49,888 of CO ²
Total Scope 3**	177,386 kg of CO ²	257,274 kg of CO ²
**Scope 3 emissions include all other indirect sources of greenhouse gases from the operations. For Sport Waitākere, these are connected to materials and supplies. Scope 3 is always a challenge and we take an education-first approach to it.		

Over the last year, Sport Waitākere's commitment to controlling greenhouse gas emissions included, but was not limited to the following initiatives:

- Analysing Sport Waitākere's CO² emission and looking for ways to minimise our footprint.
- Replacing the petrol cars with the PHEV fleet.
- Prioritising West Auckland businesses for purchasing products and services.
- Enabling work-from-home arrangements for staff.
- Making electric bikes available for staff.
- Acknowledging high traffic hours on the motorways and allowing staff to avoid it through mindful planning of the meetings.
- Encouraging carpooling.
- Prioritising West Auckland residents in hiring processes.
- Integrating climate change considerations into our decisions on funding.
- Educating and upskilling kaimahi on activities that trigger excessive greenhouse gas emissions.

