



Fortnightly Report to the Minister for Auckland

For the period Monday 26 May to Sunday 8 June 2025

Date:	5 June 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In confidence	Tracking number:	BRIEFING-REQ-0015373

Ministers	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Simeon Brown Minister for Auckland	Note the contents of this briefing and discuss at the next officials meeting	N/A

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)

Name	Position	Telephone	1st contact
Michael Quinn	Head of the Auckland Policy Office	Privacy of natural persons	
Andy Hill	Director Auckland		✓

The following departments/agencies have contributed content

Ministry of Transport, Department of Internal Affairs and Housing and Urban Development.

Minister's office to complete:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approved | <input type="checkbox"/> Declined |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noted | <input type="checkbox"/> Needs change |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seen | <input type="checkbox"/> Overtaken by Events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> See Minister's Notes | <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn |

Comments

BRIEFING

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Purpose

To provide you with a fortnightly report for the Auckland Portfolio for the period Monday 26 May to Sunday 8 June 2025.

Recommended action

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) recommends that you:

Note the contents of this briefing and discuss at the next officials meeting.

Noted



Michael Quinn
Head of the Auckland Policy Office
05 / 06 /2025

Hon Simeon Brown
Minister for Auckland
..... / /



1. Auckland Portfolio Priorities

Topic/ Contact person	Comment
Auckland Recovery	
Michael Quinn Head of the APO Privacy of natural persons	Closure of the Temporary Accommodation Assistance (TAA) Programme <p>Funding for the Temporary Accommodation Assistance (TAA) Programme ends on 30 June 2025. This programme was set up following the North Island Severe Weather Events (NISWE) and was designed to support a group of homeowners who were displaced from their homes and faced two sets of accommodation costs (temporary accommodation costs and costs for mortgage, rates and insurance).</p> <p>The TAA was due to end in June 2024 but was extended to 30 June 2025. MSD is working with Auckland Council and affected individuals through this winddown period. Around 130 homeowners across Auckland are currently receiving TAA support. The closure of TAA support has been well signposted, and MSD are contacting homeowners to remind them the support is ending soon. MSD will continue to provide a range of financial support (such as food grants) through its standard operations.</p>
Auckland Regional Deal	
	No updates available for this report.
Auckland Transport CCO	
Karen Lyons Auckland Director Ministry of Transport Privacy of natural persons	Transport, Resilience and Infrastructure Committee (TRIC) Meeting 5 June 2025 <i>Programme of operational readiness work for City Rail Link (CRL) opening</i> <p>Work is currently underway to ensure operational readiness for the opening of the CRL. This includes factors like timetabling, day one activations and train and station staffing.</p> <p><i>Rail Upgrade Programme –</i> <i>Easter 2025 Report Back and June and July planned works</i> Highlights of what was achieved over the easter rail closure included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of the construction of Wiri to Quay Park and the Third Main Line ready for its operational readiness phase. • A total of 2.8km of rail reinstatement and 3.9km of drainage for the Rail Network Rebuild. • Ongoing progress on the construction of new Drury and Paerātā train stations. • 4.3km of tamping and 2.45km of rail 'stabilised'.



	<p><i>Auckland Transport Update</i></p> <p>Auckland Transport shared recent highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Office of the Auditor General report noting the significant improvements made in the past two years and giving them areas for improvement.• 44 new electric buses on the WX1 service.• The construction of the Eastern Busway following the easter traffic switch. New traffic lanes and a shared path are now open between Gossamer Drive and Pakūranga Highway. <p>Auckland Transport also provided an update on the Level Crossing Removal Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Design work is 70% complete and public engagement is underway for the station access bridges (Takāanini, Glenn Innes and Te Mahia).• Tenders and landowner engagement are planned for the second half of 2025 for the Takāanini road crossings.• Local elected member engagement is underway for the Western Line crossings, with the September NZTA Board meeting being targeted for programme business case approval.
Law and Order	
	No updates available for this report.
Economic Growth	
<p>Andy Hill Director Auckland MBIE</p> <p>Privacy of natural persons</p>	<p>Auckland Economic Update June 2025</p> <p>Auckland Council has published its monthly economic update for Auckland. The full report is attached in Annex One.</p> <p>Highlights this month include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• real* Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the year ended March 2025 was 1.3% lower than for the year ended March 2024; in the rest of New Zealand, the annual change was 0.9% fall (see notes). Both growth rates were falling since mid-2023; similar to their Covid-related troughs of 2020; below all other periods since 2010.• real* retail sales for the year ended March 2025 were 3.7% lower than for the year ended March 2024; in the rest of New Zealand, the annual change was a 2.7% fall. Both growth rates were among the lowest (most negative) since 2009 (just after the Global Financial Crisis), with Auckland continuing below its 2020 Covid-related trough; but now both growth rates are rising slightly (but still negative).• unemployment rate for the quarter ended March 2025 was 6.4%: the highest quarter since 2015 and worse than during the 2020-2021 Covid lockdowns, but still lower than most of 2010 to 2013.• number of people employed for the quarter ended March 2025 was 1.1% lower than in March 2024 quarter: the third quarter in a



	<p>row of negative annual growth rates despite population growth; similar to during the 2020-2021 Covid lockdowns.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• median house price for the month of April 2025 was \$1,000,000 (in real* dollars: similar to the last several months; similar to ten years ago (2015); 6% lower than a year ago; 35% below the 2021 peak).• number of houses sold for the year ended April 2025 was 22,667: rising continuously for seven months, 24% above the May 2023 trough; similar to 2017-2020; but 38% below the July 2021 peak.• average weekly rent for the month of March 2025 was \$690 (in real* dollars: similar to the last three months, and two years; similar to eight years ago; below 2017 to 2021). For the rest of New Zealand, the figure was \$584: a 10% real fall since February (probably due to seasonality), 1% below March 2024; 1% annual average increase in the last five years.• number of new dwellings consented in the year ended April 2025 was 13,748: 2% below March – similar to the previous 9 months; 37% below the September 2022 peak; 9% below the 2019 pre-Covid peak.• real* value of new non-residential buildings consented in the year ended April 2025 was \$2,372 million: 1% below February, but above January; 26% below a year ago; similar to the 2020 trough and among the lowest since 2016; 31% below the 2022 peak.• real* value of imports by Auckland seaports for the year ended April 2025 was \$30.4 billion, rising gradually since October 2024, still 9% below April 2023, but 16% higher than the 2020 Covid trough. For the rest of New Zealand, the figure was \$30.8 billion: similar to the last several months, 20% above late 2020, and 25% lower than their 2023 post-Covid rebound peak. <p>*Note: real dollars/values are after adjusting for the effects of inflation each quarter, so a similar 'real' level means that a value rose at a similar rate to inflation.</p>
Water Reform Update	
Bex Sullivan Deputy Executive Director Water Services, Department of Internal Affairs	Confidential advice to Government
Privacy of natural persons	



Confidential advice to Government

2. General Auckland Updates

Topic/ Contact person	Comment
Development Contributions Policy Approved	
Vanessa Blakelock Partnerships Director, Department of Internal Affairs	<p>On 29 May 2025, the Governing Body adopted a new Development Contributions Policy with effect from 1 July 2025. Key components of the council's decision following consideration of officer recommendations and changes brought about by consultation feedback on the draft policy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">noted the purpose of development contributions is to enable the council to recover a fair, equitable, and proportionate portion of the total cost of capital expenditure necessary to service growth over the long term from those undertaking development.agreed that development contributions are the appropriate funding source for the growth share of capital expenditure the council intends to incur set out in the Long-term Plan 2024-2034 to meet increased demand for stormwater, open space, community facilities and transport infrastructure in Auckland.endorsed the 30-year programme of proposed works for the Inner Northwest (at Red Hills, Westgate, and Whenuapai) and the Auckland Housing Programme areas at Tāmaki, Mangere, and Mt Roskill, and updates to investment in Drury.agreed that development contributions are the appropriate funding source for the growth share of capital expenditure the council intends to incur over a 30-year period (including the 20 years beyond 2034) to meet increased demand for open space, community facilities and transport infrastructure in Drury, the Inner Northwest (at Red Hills, Westgate, and Whenuapai), and the Auckland Housing Programme areas at Tāmaki, Mangere, and Mt Roskill, and for stormwater in Tāmaki.noted that the Policy includes a decrease to the average contribution price for Drury to \$64,000 for the 2026 financial year, rising at 2% per annum (as compared to the average single fixed price consulted on of \$83,000); and includes a decrease to the average contribution price for the other Investment Priority Areas (Inner Northwest, Tāmaki, Mangere and Mt Roskill) to \$45,000 for the 2026 financial year; rising at 2% per annum (as compared to the average single fixed price consulted on of \$65,000).noted that overall, Contributions Policy includes a decrease to the average contribution price over the whole region to \$33,000 for the 2026 financial year rising at 2 per cent per annum (as compared to the average single fixed price consulted on of \$50,000).
Privacy of natural persons	



	<p>Next steps: Council staff will work on the inclusion of projects beyond 2034 in the City Centre/City Rail Link Stations Investment Priority Areas.</p> <p>The council's report noted that on 28 February 2025, the government announced plans to improve infrastructure funding and financing to support urban growth as part of the Going for Housing growth policy program. The enabling legislation for these tools is planned to be presented to parliament by September this year, enacted in mid-2026, and to come into effect in 2027. The exact form the reforms take will only be confirmed once legislation has passed. Until then, Development Contributions will remain the council's primary mechanism for charging new development for growth.</p>
Relocation of the Alternative National Crises Management Centre	
<p>Michael Quinn Head of the APO Privacy of natural persons</p>	<p>Auckland hosts the National Emergency Management Agency's (NEMA) alternative National Crisis Management Centre (alt-NCMC), which is activated if Wellington's NCMC is unable to operate or if functions need to be temporarily transferred. This month, the alt-NCMC is relocating from the Ellerslie Event Centre to a new site at AUT's Manukau Campus.</p> <p>Confidential advice to Government</p>

3. Ministerial items on hand

3.1 Upcoming significant meetings

Date and venue	Meeting and info
9 June 2025, 4:30pm to 5:00pm	Auckland Officials Meeting
19 June 2025, 11:00am to 12:30pm	Ministerial and Mayoral Forum with Auckland Council

3.2 Other Ministerial engagements related to Auckland

Date	Minister	Meeting Info
None		

3.3 Upcoming significant media and announcements

Timing	Announcement
None	



3.4 Upcoming briefings and aide memoire

Title	Date to Minister	Action for Minister	Key contact	Summary of paper/comment
None				

3.5 Upcoming Cabinet papers

Title	Committee	Expected committee date	Key contact	Summary of paper/comment
None				

3.6 Official Information Act requests (Ministerial and Departmental for consultation)

Due to Minister's office	Statutory due date to requester	Ref	Requester	Organisation	Summary of request
None					

3.7 Ministerial correspondence

Due to Minister's office	Ref	Correspondent	Organisation	Summary of Correspondence
None				



3.8 Proactive release

Date	Title	Comment
13 March 2025	BRIEFING-REQ-0010672 Proactive release of Auckland fortnightly reports and event briefings from 27 January 2025 to 28 February 2025	Requesting your approval to proactively release the proposed redactions of fortnightly reports and event briefings from 27 January 2025 to 28 February 2025. MBIE will release the information on the date your office will advise. <i>Documents in this briefing are within the scope of DOIA-REQ-0011008</i>
10 April 2025	BRIEFING-REQ-0012400 Proactive release of Auckland fortnightly reports and event briefings from 1 March to 30 March 2025	Requesting your approval to proactively release the proposed redactions of fortnightly reports and event briefings from 1 March to 30 March 2025. MBIE will release the information on the date your office will advise. <i>Documents in this briefing are within the scope of DOIA-REQ-0013177 & MOIA-REQ-0013725</i>
30 May 2025	BRIEFING-REQ-0014273 Proactive Release of Auckland fortnightly reports and event briefings from 1 to 30 April 2025	Requesting your approval to proactively release the proposed redactions of fortnightly reports and event briefings from 1 April to 30 April 2025. MBIE will release the information on the date your office will advise. Documents in this briefing are within the scope of MOIA-REQ-0013601
	Cabinet paper Auckland Consolidated Central Government Work Programme	Due to be released on 1 July 2025, a proactive release briefing will be sent to your office on or before 16 June 2025.
	MBIE will provide your office titles for review	Proactive release of May 2025 titles

3.9 Fast-Track Approvals- Auckland

Project Name	Unique Ref No.	Applicant Organisation	Date Received	Due Date to send Comments
Bledisloe North Wharf and Fergusson North Berth Extension	FTAA-2503-1028	Port of Auckland Limited	28 May 2025	27 June 2025
Delmore project	FTAA-2502-1015	Vineway Limited	26 May 2025	25 June 2025



4 Auckland dashboards

Transport environmental scan																				
<div>Karen Lyons</div> <div>Director, Auckland, Ministry of Transport</div> <div>Privacy of natural persons</div>	Public transport patronage update																			
	For the fortnight 5-18 May 2025, public transport patronage totalled 3.05 million boardings across the city’s public transport network.																			
	Patronage increased on buses and ferries for this fortnight compared to the same period last year but decreased slightly on trains. The largest increase was ferry patronage which increased by 7%.																			
	Public transport patronage for the year to 30 April is 88.6 million boardings which has increased on the previous year’s total of 85.7 million boardings. Across all modes, bus patronage saw the largest annual increase of four per cent, whereas ferry patronage has had the smallest annual increase, at less than one per cent.																			
	At 88.6 million boardings, current annual patronage reaches 92% of Auckland Transport’s latest SOI target of 95.9 million annual PT trips for 2024/25.																			
	<table><tr><th colspan="3">PT fortnightly patronage</th></tr><tr><th>Mode</th><th>05 – 18 May 2025</th><th>05 – 18 May 2024</th></tr><tr><td>Bus</td><td>3,054,600</td><td>2,945,415</td></tr><tr><td>Rail</td><td>603,576</td><td>607,143</td></tr><tr><td>Ferry</td><td>115,628</td><td>107,575</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>3,773,804</td><td>3,660,133</td></tr></table>		PT fortnightly patronage			Mode	05 – 18 May 2025	05 – 18 May 2024	Bus	3,054,600	2,945,415	Rail	603,576	607,143	Ferry	115,628	107,575	Total	3,773,804	3,660,133
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<i>Note: Data for annual and monthly patronage may not add up due to rounding. Rail data includes rail replacement services.</i>																				



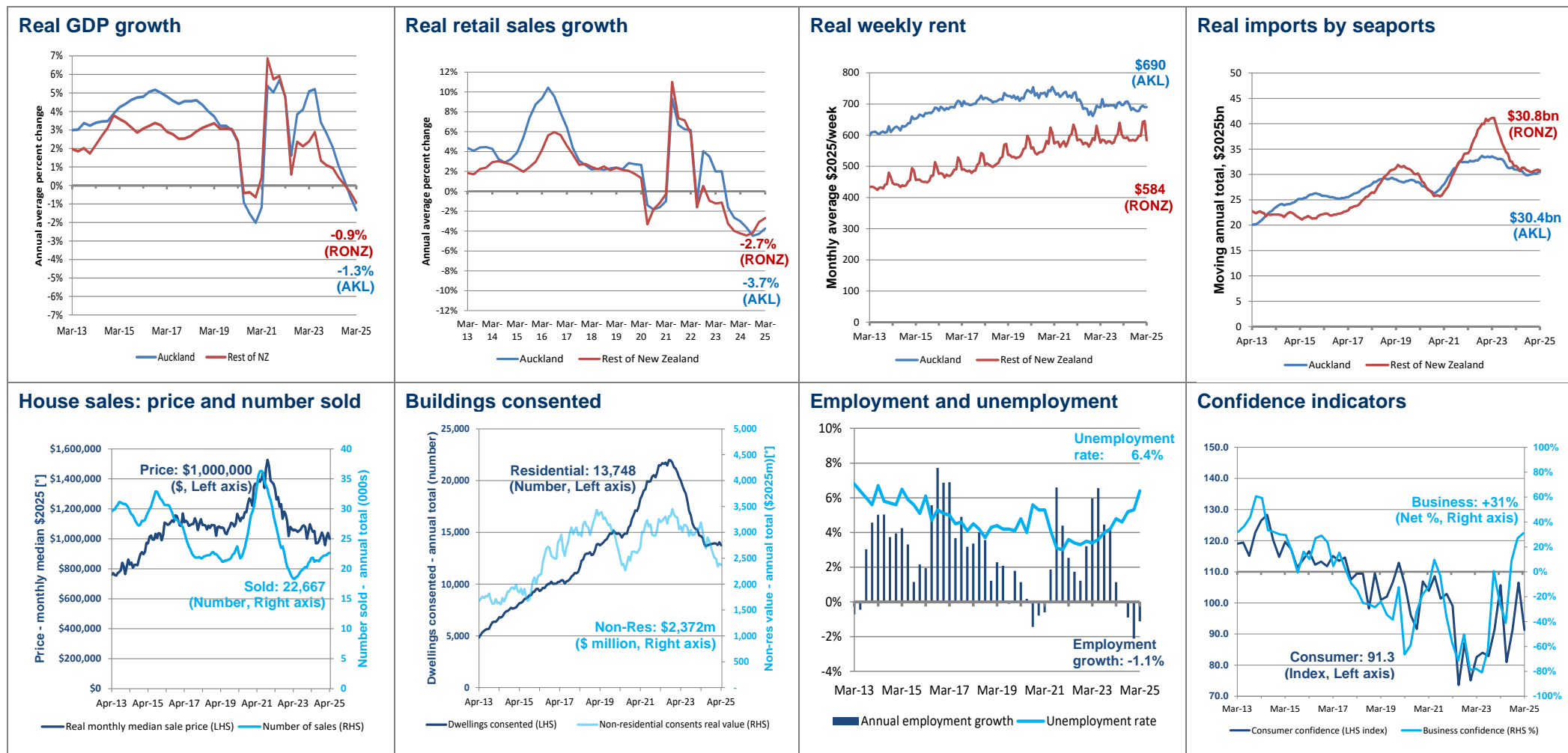
Auckland housing update	
<p>David Hermans Chief Advisor, Policy Ministry of Housing and Urban Development</p> <p>Privacy of natural persons</p>	<p>House price index and median house price (REINZ)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The House price index shows no movement (in April 2024)• Number of sales is up 5.9% since April 2024.• Median House Price is \$1,000,000, which is down 3.8% in the month of April 2025, and down 4.0% since April 2024. <p>HUD commentary:</p> <p>Auckland house prices have remained stable over the past year, in line with the national trend. Prices have shown more variability in recent months as falling lending rates attract some buyers back into the market.</p> <p>The available inventory of houses for sale remains high. This abundance of available homes allows buyers to be more selective, facing less competition. As a result, house prices are not rising significantly, even with increased buying interest due to interest rate cuts.</p> <p>New dwelling building consents (Stats NZ)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New dwelling consents are down 23.5% compared to April 2024.• Total new dwellings consented annually since April 2024 is 13,748, which is down 6.2% compared to the previous year. <p>HUD commentary:</p> <p>Building intentions through dwelling consents have remained stable in Auckland over the last year.</p> <p>Construction activity is yet to rebound, with the actual value of total building work in Auckland for the December 2024 quarter was down 13% compared with the December 2023 quarter.</p> <p>Existing projects are being completed faster than new projects are starting, and construction employment continues to fall. This will be exacerbated by the lag between consenting, financing and getting new projects underway.</p> <p>Longer term optimism in the sector is mounting, with an anticipated increase in building intentions and activity in the medium-term. The pace at which intentions and activity increase will depend on how much interest rates fall and how quickly existing newly built stock clears.</p> <p>Dwelling completions and new land parcels (Auckland Council)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 16,338 dwellings received code compliance certificates (CCC) annually since March 2024.• 507 new residential land parcels (under 5000m²) were created in April 2025 (down 41.3% compared to April 2024) <p>HUD commentary:</p> <p>Annual CCC issuance has decreased over the past few months as building activity has been tightening.</p>

	<p>This is expected to continue over the short-term, as building activity is expected to tighten further.</p> <p>Rental price index</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0.6% decrease annually since November 2023 <p>HUD commentary:</p> <p>Nationally RPI growth remains minimal. Low demand for rental properties, influenced by a decline in net migration, has inhibited rental prices. This is particularly prevalent in Auckland, which acts as the primary inward migration hub.</p> <p>Net migration has begun to stabilise, which may cause upward pressure on rent prices in the longer term.</p> <p>Stats NZ's Rental Price Index (Flow Measure) has not been updated since November 2024 due to upgrades to MBIE's tenancy bond-lodgement system. Work to integrate the new system's data is ongoing.</p> <p>In the meantime, HUD has provided rental price inflation from its own implementation of the Stats NZ RPI engine and data. This is shown as HUD RPI (Flow). This does not replace the Stats NZ RPI but will provide an interim measure until Stats NZ resume production.</p>
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Annexes

Annex One: Auckland Economic Update- June 2025

Auckland Economic Update – June 2025

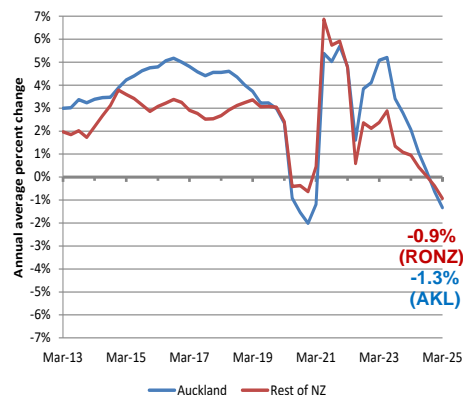


Note: Data is the latest available as at the start of the month, and is for the Auckland region, unless otherwise stated. This is a summary page only. All data sources and technical notes are provided on the next two pages.

Disclaimer: The information in this document is provided in good faith, however, Auckland Council disclaims any liability whatsoever in connection with any action taken in reliance of this document, for any error, deficiency, flaw or omission contained in it.

All enquiries please contact the author Ross Wilson, Economic Analyst, Strategic Advice and Research Unit: Ross.wilson@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Real GDP growth



Auckland's real* Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the year ended March 2025 was 1.3% lower than for the year ended March 2024; in the rest of New Zealand, the annual change was 0.9% fall (see notes). Both growth rates were: falling since mid-2023; similar to their Covid-related troughs of 2020; below all other periods since 2010. Rest of New Zealand was similar to its GFC-related trough of 2009; Auckland was above, but only because its trough in 2009 was even lower.

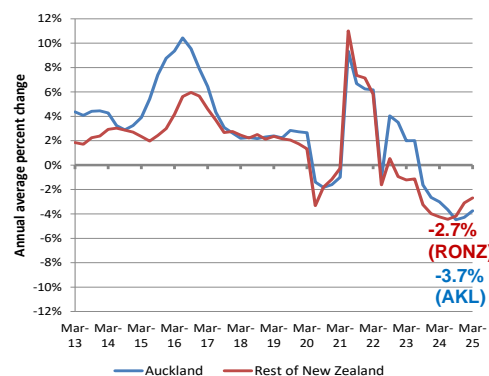
* Real GDP refers to GDP in constant 2022 dollars, to remove inflation.

Lockdowns due to Covid-19 affect results for 2020 onwards. Covid-19 lockdown level 3 began on 23 March 2020.

Latest and historical real GDP figures are modelled estimates, and subject to revision.

Source: Infometrics, Regional Economic Profile/Quarterly Economic Monitor.

Real retail sales growth



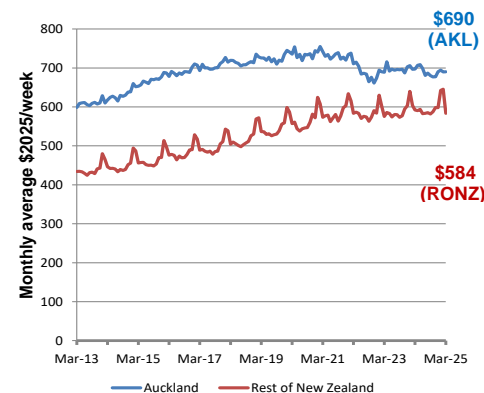
Real* retail sales for the year ended March 2025 were 3.7% lower than for the year ended March 2024; in the rest of New Zealand, the annual change was a 2.7% fall. Both growth rates were among the lowest (most negative) since 2009 (just after the Global Financial Crisis), with Auckland continuing below its 2020 Covid-related trough. Both growth rates had been falling since late 2022, but now Auckland has started to follow the rest of New Zealand in rising slightly (but still negative).

* Real retail sales have been calculated by converting previous quarters' dollars to the latest quarter's equivalent dollars using the quarterly consumer price index (CPI), to remove inflation.

Note: These figures exclude non-retail activity captured elsewhere in the retail sales survey.

Source: Stats NZ, Retail Sales (quarterly); Stats NZ, CPI (quarterly); Auckland Council calculations.

Real weekly rent



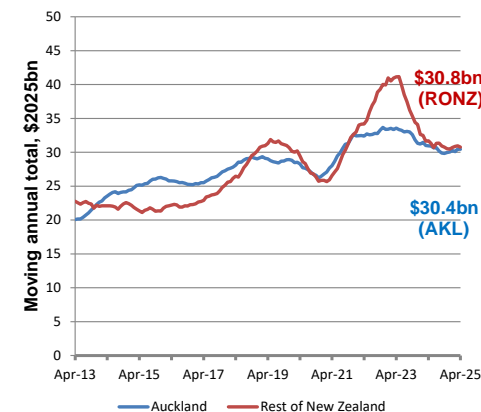
The average weekly rent for the month of March 2025 was \$690 (in real* dollars: similar to the last three months, and two years; similar to eight years ago; below 2017 to 2021). For the rest of New Zealand, the figure was \$584: a 10% real fall since February (probably due to seasonality), 1% below March 2024; 1% annual average increase in the last five years. "Real rent" changes are relative to CPI inflation, so a similar "real" level means rents rose at a similar rate to inflation.

* Real rents have been calculated by converting previous quarters' dollars to the latest quarter's equivalent dollars using the quarterly consumer price index (CPI), to remove inflation.

Note: Dwelling size and quality may vary over time. Rent is for new rental bonds lodged each month with Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, for housing tenancies with private sector landlords (so excludes state housing). Data covers only new bonds, so excludes existing leases from earlier periods whose rent has not changed, or has changed but with no revision to the bond. It also excludes new leases where no bond is lodged. Data is subject to minor revisions.

Source: Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Regional Rental Prices (monthly); Stats NZ, CPI (quarterly); Auckland Council calculations.

Real imports by seaports



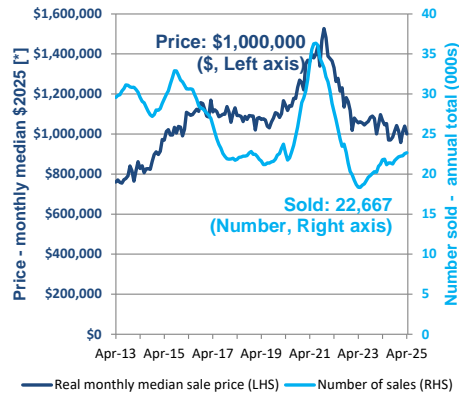
The real* value of imports by Auckland seaports for the year ended April 2025 was \$30.4 billion, rising gradually since October 2024, still 9% below April 2023, but 16% higher than the 2020 Covid trough. For the rest of New Zealand, the figure was \$30.8 billion: similar to the last several months, 20% above late 2020, and 25% lower than their 2023 post-Covid rebound peak. From 2024 on, import values for Auckland and the rest of New Zealand were similar to each other.

* Real import values have been calculated by converting previous quarters' dollars to the latest quarter's equivalent dollars using the quarterly consumer price index (CPI) for tradables, to remove inflation

Note: Import values are cost including freight (CIF). Auckland seaports consist of Port of Auckland on the Waitemata Harbour near the CBD, and Port of Onehunga on the Manukau Harbour (domestic only, no imports); both are owned by Ports of Auckland Limited (POAL).

Source: Stats NZ, Overseas Cargo Statistics-imports-value \$ CIF (monthly); Stats NZ, CPI Tradables (quarterly); Auckland Council calculations.

House sales: price and number sold



The median (not average) sale price of houses sold in Auckland in the month of April 2025 was \$1,000,000 (in real* dollars: similar to the last several months; similar to ten years ago (2015); 6% lower than a year ago; 35% below the 2021 peak).

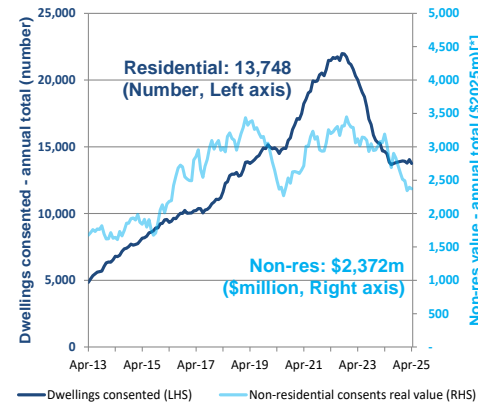
The total number of houses sold in Auckland in the year ended April 2025 was 22,667: rising continuously for seven months, 24% above the May 2023 trough; similar to 2017-2020; but 38% below the July 2021 peak.

* 'Real' prices for previous months are calculated by inflating previous quarters' dollars to the latest quarter's equivalent dollars, using the quarterly consumer price index (CPI).

Notes: The data for 'houses' covers actual sales during the period. Size and quality may vary over time. 'Houses' includes all dwelling types (eg apartments and flats), not just free-standing houses, but excludes sales of undeveloped land. 'Price' is real* actual sale price (not just listed). REINZ revises recent data each month for numbers sold (usually slightly upwards) and prices.

Source: Real Estate Institute of New Zealand (REINZ), Monthly Property Report (monthly – from website); Stats NZ, CPI (quarterly); Auckland Council calculations.

Buildings consented



The total number of new dwellings consented in Auckland in the year ended April 2025 was 13,748: 2% below March – similar to the previous 9 months; 37% below the September 2022 peak; 9% below the 2019 pre-Covid peak.

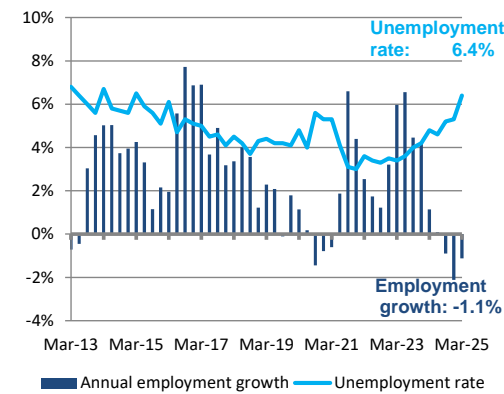
The real* value of new non-residential buildings consented in Auckland in the year ended April 2025 was \$2,372 million: 1% below February, but above January; 26% below a year ago; similar to the 2020 trough and among the lowest since 2016; 31% below the 2022 peak.

* 'Real' values for previous months have been calculated by inflating previous quarters' dollars to the latest quarter's equivalent dollars, using the capital goods price index (CGPI) for non-residential buildings

Note: Projects consented are not necessarily commenced or completed. "New" refers to new buildings (i.e. excludes alterations and additions). Residential number is new dwellings consented, which will exceed new residential buildings as some buildings have multiple dwellings; similarly, it will differ from new residential building consents issued, as some consents are for multiple buildings.

Source: Stats NZ, Building Consents (monthly); Stats NZ, CGPI (quarterly); Auckland Council calculations.

Employment and unemployment



The number of people employed in Auckland in the quarter ended March 2025 was 1.1% lower than in March 2024 quarter: the third quarter in a row of negative annual growth rates despite population growth; similar to during the 2020-2021 Covid lockdowns.

The unemployment rate in Auckland in the quarter ended March 2025 was 6.4%: the highest quarter since 2015 and worse than during the 2020-2021 Covid lockdowns, but still lower than most of 2010 to 2013.

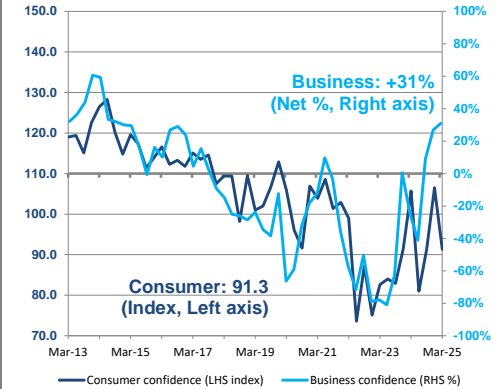
Note: Covid-19 lockdowns began on 23 March 2020, plus wage subsidies, which both affect official employment and unemployment.

Employment data is rebased by Stats NZ each quarter to match latest revisions of historic population estimates.

Both datasets are from a survey (HLFS) so are subject to error margins. Respondents define their own employment status. The survey covers all people aged 15+, so includes school pupils 15+ and people over 65, who might or might not have - or be actively seeking - a job.

Source: Stats NZ, Household Labour Force Survey (HLFS) (quarterly).

Confidence indicators



In Auckland, the Westpac McDermott Miller Consumer Confidence Index (CCI) for the March 2025 quarter was 91.3: mid-range for 2020-2024, but below all of 2009 to 2019.

The NZIER QSBO in Auckland for the March 2025 quarter showed a net 31% of businesses expecting the general business situation to improve over the next three months – the third rise in a row, to well above pre-Covid levels, reaching the highest level in ten years, since late 2014.

Note: Left axis is for CCI (consumers: index). For the CCI, a score of greater than 100 shows more optimism than pessimism. Re-scaled 18/9/2024.

Right axis is for QSBO (businesses: net %). The QSBO calculates a net figure as (% of businesses expecting an improvement) minus (% expecting a worsening). QSBO data used here is not the seasonally adjusted version.

Source: Westpac McDermott Miller, Regional Consumer Confidence Index (CCI) (quarterly – published, but proprietary); New Zealand Institute of Economic Research (NZIER), Quarterly Survey of Business Opinion (QSBO) (quarterly – by subscription).



AIDE MEMOIRE

The Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area

Date:	11 June 2025	Priority:	Low
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	BRIEFING-REQ-0015931

Information for Minister(s)

Hon Simeon Brown

Minister for Auckland

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)

Name	Position	Telephone	1st contact
Michael Quinn	Head of the APO	Privacy of natural persons	
Andy Hill	Director Auckland		✓

The following departments/agencies have been consulted

Department of Conservation

Minister's office to complete:

☐ Approved

☐ Declined

☐ Noted

☐ Needs change

☐ Seen

☐ Overtaken by Events

☐ See Minister's Notes

☐ Withdrawn

Comments



AIDE MEMOIRE

The Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area

Date:	11 June 2025	Priority:	Low
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	BRIEFING-REQ-0015931

Purpose

To provide you with background information on the Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area and the proposed Deed of Acknowledgment being progressed by Auckland Council.

Michael Quinn

Head of the Auckland Policy Office

11 / 06 / 2025

The Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area

1. The Waitākere Ranges, located west of Auckland, are a region of significant ecological, cultural, and historical value. Spanning approximately 27,700 hectares, the area includes rugged ranges, native forests, coastal zones, and the Waitākere Ranges Regional Park, which alone covers about 60% of the heritage area. The ranges have long been a vital part of the West Auckland natural landscape, home to kauri forests and a diverse range of flora and fauna.
2. The Waitākere Ranges hold deep cultural significance for mana whenua, particularly Te Kawerau ā Maki and Ngāti Whātua. These iwi have maintained a spiritual and ancestral connection to the land, which is reflected in traditional place names, stories, and practices.
3. In the 19th century, extensive logging, farming, and urban development significantly altered the landscape. The construction of water catchments and reservoirs to supply Auckland's growing population further impacted the natural environment. By the late 20th century, concerns were mounting over the cumulative effects of development, prompting calls for stronger protections.

The Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area Act

4. In response to these concerns, the Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area Act (the Act) was enacted in April 2008. It is a local act, conferring responsibilities and decision-making authority to Auckland Council, and is administered on behalf of the Crown by the Department of Conservation (DOC). The Act recognises the national, regional, and local significance of the area and aims to protect its unique heritage features for future generations.
5. Key objectives of the Act include:
 - Preserving the area's natural ecosystems, landscapes, and landforms.
 - Recognizing and protecting the cultural heritage of mana whenua.
 - Ensuring that development is compatible with the area's heritage values.
 - Supporting the well-being of local communities living within the area.
6. The Act established a statutory framework for managing the area, requiring Auckland Council to monitor environmental conditions and report every five years on progress toward achieving the Act's objectives.
7. Today, the Waitākere Ranges face ongoing challenges, including the spread of kauri dieback disease, climate change impacts, and pressures from tourism and urban encroachment. The Act provides a crucial framework for balancing conservation with community needs.
8. Auckland Council, in partnership with mana whenua and local communities, continues to implement management strategies, including biosecurity measures, ecological restoration, and public education. The 2022 Regional Parks Management Plan outlines updated goals and actions aligned with the Act's vision.

Deed of Acknowledgment

9. A significant provision of the Act is the ability to establish Deeds of Acknowledgment—formal recognition of the relationship between tangata whenua and specific parts of the heritage area. These Deeds do not confer ownership or decision-making powers but acknowledge cultural connections and promote collaborative management.
10. In 2024–2025, Auckland Council, in partnership with the Crown (represented by DOC) and tangata whenua, initiated a public consultation on a proposed Deed of Acknowledgment. This process aimed to formalize the recognition of Te Kawerau ā Maki's role as kaitiaki (guardians) of the Waitākere Ranges, while also keeping the door open for Ngāti Whātua, who are also named in the Act, to participate in the future.

11. The consultation ran from 24 March to 28 April 2025. It invited feedback from the public on how the Deed could support the long-term care and protection of the Waitākere Ranges, and how tangata whenua, Auckland Council, and the Crown could work together more effectively.
12. In December 2024, Auckland Council agreed in principle to four key elements of the proposed Deed that were included in the consultation:
 - I. Developing a Strategic Plan: A long-term vision and strategy for the care and management of the Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area.
 - II. Creating a Work Programme: A detailed plan to implement the strategic goals, including restoration, conservation, and cultural initiatives.
 - III. Monitoring and Reporting: A framework for tracking progress, evaluating outcomes, and making recommendations for continuous improvement.
 - IV. Establishing a Joint Committee: A governance body under the Local Government Act 2002 with equal representation from tangata whenua, Auckland Council, and the Crown to oversee implementation and foster collaboration.

Scope of the proposed Deed

13. Recent media coverage and public commentary have raised concerns that the proposed Deed of Acknowledgment between Auckland Council, the Crown, and Te Kawerau ā Maki may represent a form of co-governance over the Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area. Critics argue that the establishment of a joint committee with equal representation from tangata whenua, Auckland Council, and the Crown could shift decision-making power away from elected bodies and toward iwi representatives.
14. These concerns have been amplified by related proposals, such as the potential restriction of public access to parts of the Waitākere Ranges Regional Park—an initiative also supported by Te Kawerau ā Maki. This proposal would affect approximately 35% of the park and could result in the closure of 19 walking tracks.
15. Auckland Council has emphasized that the Deed of Acknowledgment is not a governance agreement. Instead, it is a statutory mechanism under the Act designed to formally recognize the historical, cultural, and spiritual relationship of tangata whenua with the land. The Deed applies only to public land managed by the Council or the Crown and does not affect private land or water. It also does not override existing governance structures.
16. The Deed of Acknowledgment will enable tangata whenua, particularly Te Kawerau ā Maki, to:
 - contribute to strategic planning for the care and management of the heritage area;
 - participate in the development of work programmes that support ecological restoration, cultural heritage protection, and community engagement;
 - monitor and report on outcomes, providing recommendations for continuous improvement; and
 - engage in a joint committee with Auckland Council and the Crown to coordinate efforts and ensure alignment with the Act's objectives.
17. While the proposed joint committee would include equal representation from tangata whenua, Auckland Council, and the Crown, it would function as a coordinating and advisory body. It would not have unilateral decision-making authority. All decisions would still be subject to the existing legal and governance frameworks, including oversight by elected officials and statutory agencies.
18. This structure is intended to enhance collaboration and ensure that the voices of mana whenua are meaningfully included in the stewardship of the Waitākere Ranges, without compromising democratic accountability.

19. Section 30 of the Act establishes the purpose of a Deed of Acknowledgment, stating that *'The only purpose of a deed of acknowledgement is to identify opportunities for contribution by tangata whenua to the management of the land concerned by the Crown or the Council.'*
20. It also provides clarity on the impact of a Deed of Acknowledgment on decision making within the Waitakere Heritage Area and how it impacts on people with existing rights in the area. Specifically, it states that a Deed of Acknowledgment:
- a) *does not affect the exercise of any power or the carrying out of any function or duty by any person under any enactment;*
 - b) *must not be taken into account by any person in the exercise of any power or the carrying out of any function or duty under any enactment by the person;*
 - c) *does not permit any person, when considering any matter or making any decision or recommendation under any enactment, to give any greater or lesser weight to the statement of relationship concerned than the person would give under the enactment if the deed did not exist;*
 - d) *does not affect the lawful rights or interests of any person;*
 - e) *does not have the effect of granting, creating, or providing evidence of any estate or interest in, or any rights of any kind in relation to, any land referred to in the deed.*

Next steps

21. Following the close of the consultation, Auckland Council is reviewing public feedback and continuing discussions with Te Kawerau ā Maki and the Crown. Final decisions on the Deed are expected to be made in July–August 2025.

Free and frank opinions

23. If the Deed does proceed, DOC will be represented on the joint committee by its senior Auckland representative. They are available to join a further discussion with you if you have additional questions.



EVENT BRIEFING

Auckland Mayoral-Ministerial Forum

Date:	17 June 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	BRIEFING-REQ-0015975

Action sought		
	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Simeon Brown Minister for Auckland	Note the contents of this briefing.	17 June 2025

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)			
Name	Position	Telephone	1st contact
Michael Quinn	Head of the Auckland Policy Office	Privacy of natural persons	✓
Andy Hill	Director Auckland		

The following departments/agencies have been consulted
Department of Internal Affairs, Health New Zealand, Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (Economic Growth, Energy and Tourism), Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, Ministry of Transport and Treasury.

Minister's office to complete:

☐ Approved

☐ Declined

☐ Noted

☐ Needs change

☐ Seen

☐ Overtaken by Events

☐ See Minister's Notes

☐ Withdrawn

Comments



EVENT BRIEFING

Auckland Mayoral-Ministerial Forum

Date:	17 June 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	BRIEFING-REQ-0015975

Purpose

To provide you with information to support discussions at the Auckland Mayoral - Ministerial Forum on 19 June 2025 at 11:00am to 12.30pm.

Recommendations

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment recommends that you:

- a **Note** the content of this briefing ahead of the Auckland Mayoral-Ministerial Forum.

Noted

Michael Quinn
Head of the Auckland Policy Office
17 / 06 / 2025

Hon Simeon Brown
Minister for Auckland
..... / /

Logistics

1. You have agreed to attend and jointly chair an Auckland Mayoral-Ministerial Forum (the Forum) on 19 June 2025 from 11:00 am to 12:30pm.
2. The meeting will be held in the Reception Lounge, Auckland Town Hall, 301-305 Queen Street (use the Queen Street entrance beside Aotea Square). All Ministerial attendees other than yourself will be joining online and most Council attendees and officials will attend in person.
3. The Forum will be an opportunity to discuss key topics of interest to Local and Central Government. Lead Ministers and Councillors have been identified for each topic area and they will be responsible for introducing and leading discussion on respective agenda items. Not all Ministers have requested notes or suggested talking points from agencies, but where available, we have summarised the key topic areas below.
4. The agenda, including Ministerial and Council leads for each item, is attached at **Annex One**. A list of confirmed attendees is attached at **Annex Two**.
5. You and Mayor Brown will co-chair the session. Your welcome and introductory remarks, alongside those of the Mayor, are an opportunity to establish the objectives of the Forum and expectations for the conduct of discussions.
6. You may wish to forward this briefing to the other Ministers attending the Forum.

Auckland overview and purpose of the Forum

7. Auckland is central to New Zealand's economic performance and international connectivity. It functions as the country's primary hub for trade, investment and migration, and is a key driver of national growth and productivity. Its scale and diversity give rise to both opportunity and complexity, distinguishing it from other regions.
8. Recent analysis suggests that while Auckland continues to grow, its relative international competitiveness is under pressure. The city faces challenges across several fronts, including infrastructure delivery, housing affordability and transport performance. These pressures are not unique to Auckland but tend to manifest at a larger scale due to the city's population density and economic activity.
9. The relationship between Central Government and Auckland Council is an important factor in shaping outcomes. Efforts to improve coordination have been a consistent feature since the Council's creation in 2010. While this is the first time Ministers and the Auckland Council's Governing Body have met under this Coalition Government, similar joint forums were an annual feature between 2012 and 2016.
10. There are good reasons for finding more structured and predictable ways of working together, particularly in areas where joint investment and planning alignment are needed. Housing, transport, infrastructure planning and spatial decision-making are all areas where greater coordination and alignment could support marked improvements in performance.
11. The Mayoral-Ministerial Forum meeting provides an opportunity to explore shared priorities and discuss how Central Government and Auckland Council can better work together to support Auckland's development. Council representatives may raise areas where they see potential for further collaboration, where delivery pressures are most acute, or where they are seeking clarity on Central Government policy settings.

Areas of interest for Auckland Council

12. Transport remains a central concern, particularly the governance and delivery arrangements in Auckland. Council has argued that the current system is not delivering the outcomes Auckland requires and is calling for fundamental reform to improve accountability, integration and performance.
13. Funding tools are another priority. Council is seeking access to new and more flexible funding mechanisms to support infrastructure delivery, arguing that current settings are insufficient to meet the demands of growth and renewal. These include proposals to reduce reliance on rates and explore other funding mechanisms.
14. Council has also highlighted the pressures of ongoing population growth, particularly driven by immigration and tourism. It is seeking an opportunity to work with Government on immigration settings, to ensure growth is better matched with housing, transport and service capacity.
15. There is a strong focus on positioning Auckland as a national centre for science, technology, and innovation. The Mayor recently announced the formation of the Auckland Technology and Innovation Alliance, bringing together leaders from business, research, and government to drive investment, coordination, and strategic leadership in Auckland's tech sector. This is framed as part of a broader ambition to lift Auckland's long-term economic performance and contribution to national growth.
16. Council is seeking greater autonomy over local decision-making. The Mayor has called for less Central Government control over matters that affect Auckland directly and has expressed frustration with what is seen as excessive Wellington involvement in local issues.
17. These issues are expected to shape Council's contribution to the discussion and reflect its current strategic direction. They have also had a strong influence on the Auckland City and Regional Deal proposal that is currently being considered by Cabinet, with the location of the Advanced Technology Institute, funding tools such as an accommodation levy as well as significant transport and housing proposals featuring strongly in Auckland's bid.

Agency notes on agenda items

18. We understand that the intent of the Forum meeting will be to encourage discussion between Ministers and Councillors. Each agenda item has a lead Minister and Councillor who will introduce the topic and lead a conversation. While a number of agencies have provided notes and suggested talking points to Ministers, the nature of the Forum means that not all points will be raised, and discussions may raise some additional perspectives.
19. The sections below provide high level summaries of topic areas for each agenda item.

Finance and Economic Growth – Hon Nicola Willis and Deputy Mayor Desley Simpson

20. Talking points for the Minister of Finance and Economic Growth drafted by Treasury and MBIE respectively are attached at **Annex Three**. Areas covered are:

Finance

- Auckland initiatives in Budget 2025
- Other initiatives that will benefit Auckland
- Summary and insights on the economic situation
- Summary and insights on the fiscal situation

Economic Growth

- The role of Auckland as the engine room of economic growth
- Backing business and investment
- Infrastructure to unlock growth
- Skills, talent and immigration
- Supercharging the screen sector
- Fiscal discipline with a growth focus
- Going for Growth - together

Transport Reform – Hon Chris Bishop and Mayor Wayne Brown; and Housing, Infrastructure and RMA reform – Hon Chris Bishop and Councillor Richard Hills

21. The Ministry of Transport has drafted a briefing for Minister Bishop, with input from relevant agencies, covering both the transport and the housing, infrastructure and RMA reform agenda items. Key areas covered are:

Transport

- Transport governance reform
- Time of use charging
- City Rail Link
- Level crossing removal programme
- Waitematā harbour crossing
- Northwest Busway
- Roads of National and Regional Significance in Auckland

Housing, infrastructure and resource management reform

- Plan Change 78
- Resource management reform
- Going for Housing Growth (Pillar 1 and 2 changes)
- Homelessness in Auckland
- Drury development
- Changes to Urban Development structures
- CRL and urban development

Local Government – Hon Simon Watts and Councillor Christine Fletcher

22. The Department of Internal Affairs have indicated that Minister Watts will focus the Local Government discussion on Water Reform. He will not be speaking on City and Regional Deals because the Forum meeting will take place between CBC and Cabinet deliberations on the next steps for the CRD programme. This will include consideration of the Auckland proposal and details cannot be discussed with Councillors as they are not party to the Non-Disclosure Agreement.

Water Reform

- Auckland's leadership of the water sector and water reforms
- Anticipated receipt of Auckland's stormwater Water Services Delivery Plan in advance of 3 September
- Benefits for Auckland Council with Watercare's financial separation
- The challenges of Auckland's growth

General issues- facilitated by Councillor Christine Fletcher

23. The following questions have been provided by Council:

- Homelessness - recently released statistics show a significant increase in the numbers of rough sleepers in Auckland.

Information on homelessness in Auckland was included in the recent briefing for your meeting with the Auckland City Mission [BRIEFING-REQ-0013724 refers].

- Predator Free New Zealand - the implications for Auckland of the recent decision to disestablish the organisation.

*If Minister Potaka is able to attend he will respond to this item. Talking points have been included at **Annex Three**.*

- Hauraki Gulf Marine Protection legislation - concerns about the delayed passage of the Bill.

*If Minister Potaka is able to attend he will respond to this item. Talking points have been included at **Annex Three**.*

- Dog control - Auckland Council is contending with significant and escalating challenges arising from the increasing dog population across the region. Without substantive intervention, these issues are expected to intensify. Council respectfully seek a clear and firm commitment from the Government to engage with Auckland Council on reforms to the Dog Control Act 1996 within this current term of Parliament.

Minister Watts will be prepared to respond to this topic.

- Flood preparedness - what is the Government's current framework for climate adaptation and infrastructure resilience, and what level of investment is being committed to Auckland to ensure proactive preparation for future severe weather events, rather than responding reactively?

Minister Watts will be prepared to respond to this topic.

- Energy – what is the Government's position on an energy strategy for both Auckland and New Zealand?

Minister Watts will be prepared to respond to this topic.

- Special Housing Areas – question regarding the lack of rail connections to the Special Housing Area in Huapai.

Minister Bishop will be prepared to respond to this topic.

- Police – the visible increase in Police on the beat in the central city is welcome, but what about the rest of Auckland? What is the Government doing to ensure suburban hotspots like Papatoetoe receive appropriate investment and Police resourcing?

Given Minister Mitchell is not attending the meeting, we suggest that the offer is made to refer this question to the Minister of Police for response.

Risks and mitigations

24. The Forum will take place between the CBC and Cabinet deliberations on the next steps for the CRD programme, including consideration of the Auckland proposal. Care will be required during any discussions on the status or substance of the Auckland City and Regional Deal proposal.

Communications / Media

25. Both you and the Mayor have publicly expressed a desire for closer engagement between Central and Local Government in Auckland. The Forum is a positive initiative to advance closer engagement and a joint statement to that effect maybe a useful outcome of the Forum.

Contacts

Name	Position / organisation	Telephone	Will meet you on arrival
Stu Mullin	Head of Governance, Office of the Mayor	Privacy of natural persons	✓
Michael Quinn	Head of the APO		

Annexes

Annex One: Agenda

Annex Two: Confirmed Forum participants

Annex Three: Portfolio talking points

Annex One: Agenda

Auckland Mayoral – Ministerial Forum

AGENDA

19 June 2025, 11:00-12:30pm

Item	Subject	Ministers and Councillors
11:00am-11:10am	Welcome from the Minister and Mayor	Hon Simeon Brown Mayor Wayne Brown
11:10am-11:30am	Finance and Economic Growth	Hon Nicola Willis Deputy Mayor Desley Simpson
11:30am-11:40am	Transport	Hon Chris Bishop Mayor Wayne Brown
11:40am-12:00pm	Housing, Infrastructure and RMA reform	Hon Chris Bishop Councillor Richard Hills
12:00pm-12:15pm	General issues	All Ministers Councillor Christine Fletcher
12:15pm-12:30pm	Local Government	Hon Simon Watts

Annex Two: Attendees

<u>Co-Chairs:</u>	<u>Attendance:</u>
-------------------	--------------------

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| • Hon Simeon Brown | In person |
| • Mayor Wayne Brown | In person |

<u>Ministerial attendees:</u>	<u>Attendance:</u>
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- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| • Hon Nicola Willis ¹ | Online |
| • Hon Chris Bishop ² | Online |
| • Hon Brooke van Velden | Online |
| • Hon Simon Watts | Online |
| • Hon Andrew Hoggard | Online |
| • Hon Tama Potaka ³ | Online |
| • Hon Todd McClay | Online |

<u>Councillor attendees:</u>	<u>Attendance:</u>
------------------------------	--------------------

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| • Desley Simpson - Deputy Mayor | In person |
| • Andy Baker | In person |
| • Josephine Bartley | In person |
| • Angela Dalton | In person |
| • Chris Darby | In person |
| • Julie Fairey | In person |
| • Alf Filipaina | In person |
| • Christine Fletcher | In person |
| • Lotu Fuli | In person |
| • Shane Henderson | In person |
| • Richard Hills | In person |
| • Mike Lee | In person |
| • Kerrin Leoni | In person |
| • Daniel Newman | In person |
| • Greg Sayers | In person |
| • Sharon Stewart | In person |
| • Wayne Walker | In person |
| • John Watson | In person |
| • Maurice Williamson | In person |
| • David Taipari Chair, Houkura
(Independent Māori Statutory Board) | Online |

<u>Council officials:</u>	<u>Attendance:</u>
---------------------------	--------------------

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| • Phil Wilson, CEO | In person |
| • Megan Tyler, Director policy, planning
and governance | In person |
-

¹ Only available to attend from 11:00am-11:30am.

² Only available to attend from 11:15am-12:15pm.

³ Forum clashes with Estimates Hearing so attendance will be limited, if at all.

- Max Hardy, Director group strategy In person

Mayor's Office:

Attendance:

- Jazz Singh, Chief of Staff In person
- Stu Mullin, Head of Governance In person
- Josh Van Veen, Policy & Communications In person

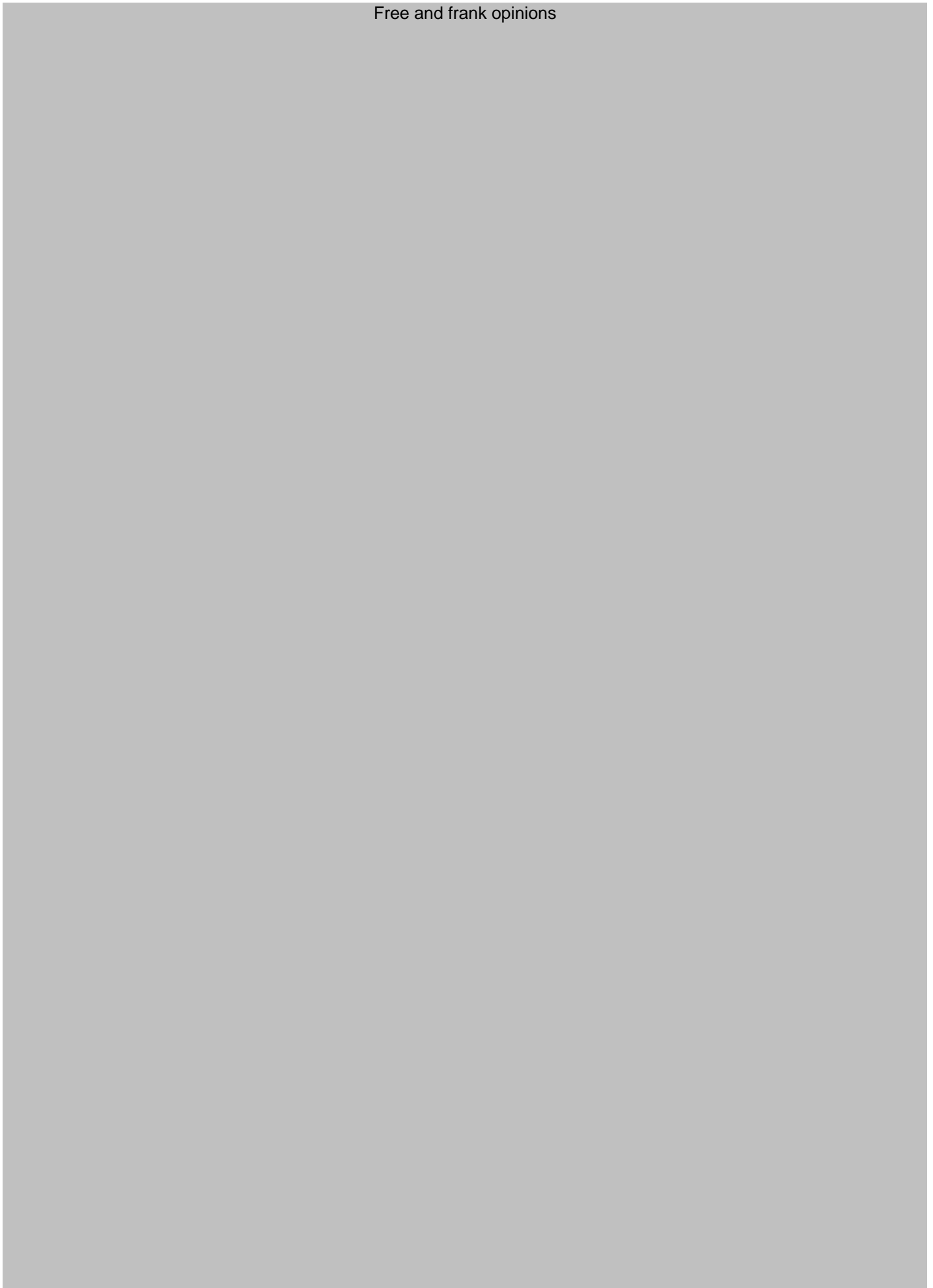
Government officials:

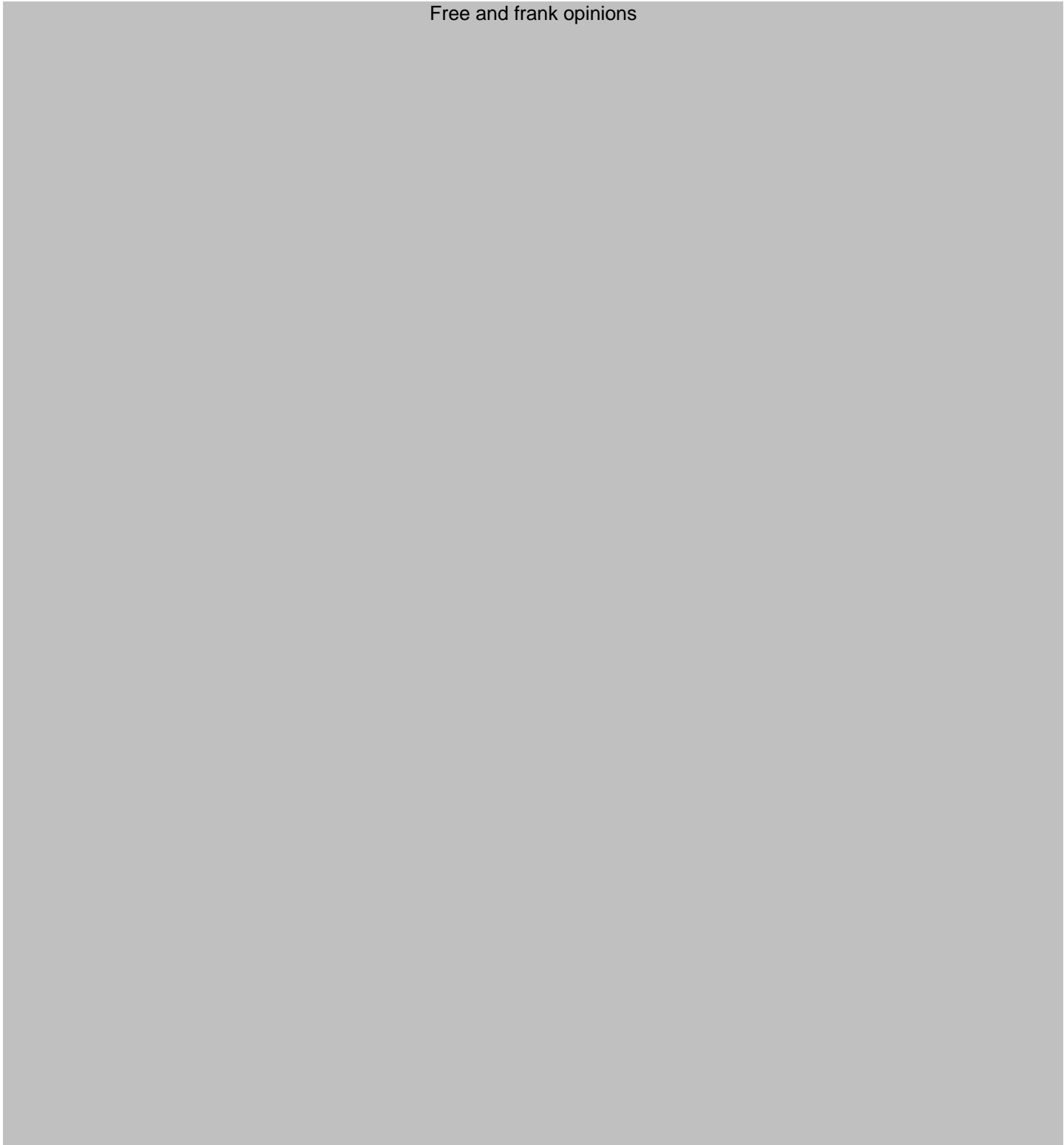
- Michael Quinn, Head of the APO In person
- Andy Hill, Director Auckland, MBIE In person
- Karen Lyons, Director Auckland, MOT In person
- David Hermans, Chief Advisor, HUD In person
- Ben Wells, Head of Auckland Policy and Coordination, Treasury In person

Free and frank opinions



Free and frank opinions







Fortnightly Report to the Minister for Auckland

For the period Monday 9 June to Sunday 22 June 2025

Date:	19 June 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In confidence	Tracking number:	BRIEFING-REQ-0016010

Ministers	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Simeon Brown Minister for Auckland	Note the contents of this briefing and discuss at the next officials meeting	N/A

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)

Name	Position	Telephone	1st contact
Michael Quinn	Head of the Auckland Policy Office	Privacy of natural persons	
Andy Hill	Director Auckland		✓

The following departments/agencies have contributed content

Ministry of Transport and Department of Internal Affairs.

Minister's office to complete:

☐ Approved

☐ Declined

☐ Noted

☐ Needs change

☐ Seen

☐ Overtaken by Events

☐ See Minister's Notes

☐ Withdrawn

Comments



BRIEFING

Fortnightly Report to the Minister for Auckland

For the period Monday 9 June to Sunday 22 June 2025

Date:	19 June 2025	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:	In Confidence	Tracking number:	BRIEFING-REQ-0016010

Purpose

To provide you with a fortnightly report for the Auckland Portfolio for the period Monday 9 June to Sunday 22 June 2025.

Recommended action

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) recommends that you:

Note the contents of this briefing and discuss at the next officials meeting.

Noted

Michael Quinn
Head of the Auckland Policy Office
19 / 06 /2025

Hon Simeon Brown
Minister for Auckland
..... / /



1. Auckland Portfolio Priorities

Topic/ Contact person	Comment
Auckland Recovery	
Michael Quinn Head of the APO Privacy of natural persons	<p>Auckland Storm Recovery Update</p> <p>Auckland Council recently met with the DPMC Cyclone Recovery Unit (CRU) and NIFFCo to review Crown funded activities. Auckland Council has shared their presentation to the CRU and NIFFCo with us for information. The following highlights are focused on strategic level issues that relate to delivery performance, fiscal exposure, public confidence and policy or reputational risk.</p> <p>The Crown has so far paid 52% of its committed funding for the programme, not including claims for activities in this month. Any costs above the government's contributions will be covered by Auckland Council.</p> <p>Buyouts of Category 3 properties are progressing, with 748 settlements completed to date. The Recovery Office is working towards having all sale and purchase agreements in place by 19 December 2025. There is a delivery risk if reclassifications or individual complexities delay agreements beyond this date, which could result in settlement activity continuing into 2026.</p> <p>Progress on Category 2P relocation grants have been slower than anticipated. The Recovery Office has begun more active management of homeowner engagement but reports that grant agreements may not be in place for all eligible properties by year-end. It also notes that many Category 2P projects will likely take longer than the two-year timeframe originally assumed at the time of categorisation. This may require public communication to manage expectations.</p> <p>Several Category 2C flood mitigation projects are advancing, but some are facing consenting and delivery delays. At Clover Drive and Wairau, risks include delays in property acquisition, ecological constraints and community opposition. The Takapuna Golf Club has actively opposed aspects of the Wairau design, with the Recovery Office noting legal risk and staff time being diverted by ongoing public correspondence and media interest. Use of the Fast-track Approvals Act is being considered to maintain project momentum.</p> <p>The volume and complexity of categorisation and valuation disputes is increasing. This has implications for programme timing and homeowner confidence, particularly if market dynamics shift or disputes escalate further. Additional resource has been allocated to manage this.</p> <p>A Storm Affected Land Policy has been approved by councillors to guide the optimisation of the safe utilisation of categorised land. Around 1,200 properties will be purchased by the end of 2025, making this one of the largest land acquisition programmes undertaken in Auckland. Under the new policy, the council will retain a large number of properties for flood resilience projects, other council services or where hazards such as unstable land must be safely managed. The</p>



	<p>council will also consider opportunities to sell some properties that can be used safely for other purposes.</p> <p>The Auckland Transport recovery programme reports strong progress. Of 811 road reinstatement sites, 733 have been completed. Major bridge and road repairs remain underway and are expected to continue into 2026. By the end of May, Auckland Transport had spent \$306 million, representing 78% of the total forecast recovery cost.</p> <p>Finally, the council has begun a lessons-learned exercise for the recovery programme. This will have key observations and lessons for other councils and Government. We will report back with key findings when they are available.</p> <p>We have included Auckland Council's quarterly report for your information. (See Annex One)</p>
Auckland Regional Deal	
	No updates available for this report.
Auckland Transport CCO	
Karen Lyons Auckland Director Ministry of Transport Privacy of natural persons	Confidential advice to Government
Law and Order	
	No updates available for this report.
Economic Growth	
	No updates available for this report.
Water Reform Update	
Bex Sullivan Deputy Executive Director Water Services Department of Internal	Confidentiality

Affairs	Confidentiality
Privacy of natural persons	

2. General Auckland Updates

Topic/ Contact person	Comment
Fast Track substantive application - Delamore	
Andy Hill Director Auckland MBIE Privacy of natural persons	<p>You have been invited to comment on the Delamore Fast Track proposal which has been referred to an expert panel for consideration. Any comments you wish to make will be provided into that substantive process.</p> <p><u>Project Summary</u></p> <p>The Delamore development proposal by Vineway Limited is a large-scale residential and infrastructure project located in Orewa, covering approximately 109 hectares.</p> <p>The proposal aims to subdivide land and construct around 1,250 residential dwellings. It includes associated infrastructure such as parks, open spaces, and stormwater systems. A key component is the delivery of a new State Highway 1 Grand Drive interchange and improved connections to the Wainui area, enhancing regional accessibility. The application includes detailed assessments of ecological, archaeological, geotechnical, and stormwater impacts, along with plans for wastewater, water supply, and utilities.</p> <p><u>Key Economic Benefits stated in the proposal</u></p> <p>The project is expected to generate approximately 1,200–1,500 full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs during the construction phase. Post-construction, around 100–150 ongoing jobs are anticipated in areas such as maintenance, landscaping, and local services.</p> <p>The development proposes delivery of approximately 1,250 new homes, contributing significantly to Auckland’s housing stock and helping to address housing shortages.</p> <p>The total economic output from the project is estimated to be over \$500 million, with a direct GDP contribution of around</p>



	<p>\$250 million during the construction phase. Increased population in the area would boost demand for local goods and services, supporting retail, education, healthcare, and hospitality sectors, and the development is expected to stimulate investment in surrounding infrastructure and amenities.</p> <p>The proposed State Highway 1 Grand Drive interchange would improve regional connectivity, reducing travel times and enhancing productivity.</p> <p><u>Key issues</u></p> <p>Orewa is not an area of Auckland Council focus for infrastructure funding over the next 30 years.</p> <p>More specifically, the Watercare website states that it is <i>'planning to invest about \$500million in wastewater infrastructure for the Hibiscus Coast between now and 2034, and that includes a major upgrade to the Army Bay Wastewater Treatment Plant. However, it's possible that the treatment plant could reach capacity before we are able to upgrade it. We are therefore closely managing new connections to our wastewater network in area'</i>.</p> <p>The Watercare Network Capacity table dated June 2025, identifies the area as an area with <i>'no capacity right now'</i> with an expected timeframe for solution of 2031.</p> <p><u>High level consideration</u></p> <p>While there are likely significant economic benefits from the proposal, there are potential issues with connections to the wastewater infrastructure.</p> <p>Free and frank opinions</p>
Fast Track substantive application - Bledisloe North Wharf and Fergusson North Berth Extension	
<p>Andy Hill Director Auckland MBIE</p> <p>Privacy of natural persons</p>	<p>You have been invited to comment on the Bledisloe North Wharf and Fergusson North Berth Extension Fast Track proposal which has been referred to an expert panel for consideration. Any comments you wish to make will be provided into that substantive process.</p> <p><u>Project Summary</u></p> <p>Ports of Auckland Ltd. (POAL) seeks resource consent and wildlife approval for the Construction of a new 330m long, 27.5m wide Bledisloe North Wharf and extension of the Fergusson North Berth by 45m x 34m. These developments are located at the Port of Auckland, specifically within the land and coastal marine area at 1–19 Quay Street.</p>



In early 2024, POAL agreed to sell the Captain Cook and Marsden wharves back to Auckland Council. These sites are intended to be transformed into public waterfront spaces for recreation and tourism. To facilitate this transition, POAL needs to relocate key port operations, including cruise and roll-on/roll-off (RoRo) shipping, to other parts of the port.

The northern face of Bledisloe Terminal was identified as the most suitable location for these operations, prompting the proposal for a new wharf and cruise terminal.

Mayor Brown has publicly endorsed the proposal, emphasising its role in enabling the transfer of Captain Cook and Marsden Wharves for public use. He views the project as a critical step in realizing the Council's long-term waterfront strategy including enhancing port infrastructure to accommodate larger vessels and increased freight capacity, improving cruise ship facilities and enabling improved public access.

Key Economic Benefits stated in the proposal

The proposal is expected to deliver strong economic benefits by boosting cruise tourism, supporting vital freight and vehicle imports, and improving port efficiency. It is intended to enable larger cruise ships to dock, increasing tourist spending, while replacing lost Roll-on/Roll-off capacity due to waterfront redevelopment. The upgraded infrastructure would reduce congestion and enhance logistics, and the release of waterfront land for public use would support urban revitalisation and long-term economic growth.

Key issues

Environmental groups have urged caution, highlighting stormwater discharge and impacts on marine processes and biodiversity as areas of concern.

High level consideration

The development of the new wharf infrastructure is necessary to realise Auckland Council's plans for the waterfront. Significant decisions have already been made and this application represents the next step in this ongoing development. It is intended to provide long term resilience for POAL and new opportunities for the cruise industry, enabling an increase in both vessel size and visit frequency.

As with any development in the marine space, there would be environmental impacts that require careful management.

Free and frank opinions



Confidential advice to Government

Karen Lyons

Auckland Director

Ministry of Transport

Privacy of natural persons

Confidential advice to Government

City Rail Link

Karen Lyons

Auckland Director

Ministry of Transport

Privacy of natural persons

Confidential advice to Government

Update on Auckland Level Crossing Removal Programme

Karen Lyons

Auckland Director

Ministry of Transport

Privacy of natural persons

Pre-City Rail Link level crossings (Group One) are continuing to progress well and are on track to be completed by October this year.

The Takāanini Cluster forms the Group 2 level crossings (seven crossings in Takāanini and one in Glen Innes). Work on the Takāanini Cluster of level crossings is also progressing well. Auckland Transport is on track to award contracts to preferred suppliers in June (for the station access bridges) and July (for the road bridges). Auckland Transport has commenced community engagement on the station access bridges, seeking feedback to finalise designs. Final cost estimates will not be confirmed until the evaluation of tenders has been completed and a preferred supplier has been identified.

On the wider level crossing programme, refinements continue to be made to the Single Stage Business Case, which is expected to be endorsed by the Auckland Transport Board in August and the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) Board in September 2025.



Auckland Project Updates

Karen Lyons

Auckland Director

Ministry of Transport

Privacy of natural persons

Steve Mutton

Director Regional
Relationships, Northland
and Auckland

NZTA

Privacy of natural persons

Confidential advice to Government



Confidential advice to Government

Auckland Council rating valuations released

Vanessa Blakelock

Partnerships Director,
Department of Internal
Affairs

Privacy of natural persons

On 10 June 2025, Auckland Council released its new property valuations to enable it to update rates from 1 July 2025, following approval from the Valuer-General. The rating valuations are based on property market trends and recent sales activity as of 1 May 2024. The valuations are not intended to accurately reflect current market value. Instead, the information will help enable rates to be shared across Auckland's 630,000 properties. The overall CV movements between June 2021 and May 2024, by property type for Auckland are:

- Industrial +5%
- Lifestyle +4%
- Rural + 4%
- Commercial -5%
- Residential -9%

Valuation movements over that period also varied across the Auckland region. Residential properties in centrally located local board areas tended to see a bigger reduction than those further out. The valuations do not change how much the council takes in rates –



	<p>this is set annually following community consultation. For 2025/2026, Auckland Council has approved an overall average rate increase of 5.8% for residential ratepayers. The council has noted that it has kept the rates increase down, due to the commitment made as part of the council's Long-term Plan 2024-2034, along with good progress in savings.</p> <p>For 2025/2026, the annual rates for an average residential property (CV \$1.29 million) will be \$4,069. The 5.8% average increase for 2025/2026 will equate to \$223 per year or around \$4.30 per week.</p>
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3. Ministerial items on hand

3.1 Upcoming significant meetings

Date and venue	Meeting and info
19 June 2025, 11:00am to 12:30pm	Ministerial and Mayoral Forum with Auckland Council

3.2 Other Ministerial engagements related to Auckland

Date	Minister	Meeting Info
None		

3.3 Upcoming significant media and announcements

Timing	Announcement
None	

3.4 Upcoming briefings and aide memoire

Title	Date to Minister	Action for Minister	Key contact	Summary of paper/comment
None				

3.5 Upcoming Cabinet papers

Title	Committee	Expected committee date	Key contact	Summary of paper/comment
None				



3.6 Official Information Act requests (Ministerial and Departmental for consultation)

Due to Minister's office	Statutory due date to requester	Ref	Requester	Organisation	Summary of request
None					

3.7 Ministerial correspondence

Due to Minister's office	Ref	Correspondent	Organisation	Summary of Correspondence
None				



3.8 Proactive release

Date	Title	Comment
13 March 2025	BRIEFING-REQ-0010672 Proactive release of Auckland fortnightly reports and event briefings from 27 January 2025 to 28 February 2025	Requesting your approval to proactively release the proposed redactions of fortnightly reports and event briefings from 27 January 2025 to 28 February 2025. MBIE will release the information on the date your office will advise. <i>Documents in this briefing are within the scope of DOIA-REQ-0011008</i>
10 April 2025	BRIEFING-REQ-0012400 Proactive release of Auckland fortnightly reports and event briefings from 1 March to 30 March 2025	Requesting your approval to proactively release the proposed redactions of fortnightly reports and event briefings from 1 March to 30 March 2025. MBIE will release the information on the date your office will advise. <i>Documents in this briefing are within the scope of DOIA-REQ-0013177 & MOIA-REQ-0013725</i>
30 May 2025	BRIEFING-REQ-0014273 Proactive Release of Auckland fortnightly reports and event briefings from 1 to 30 April 2025	Requesting your approval to proactively release the proposed redactions of fortnightly reports and event briefings from 1 April to 30 April 2025. MBIE will release the information on the date your office will advise. <i>Documents in this briefing are within the scope of MOIA-REQ-0013601</i>
15 May 2025	MBIE provided your office of briefing titles for review	Proactive release of briefing titles for April 2025
16 June 2025	Cabinet paper Auckland Consolidated Central Government Work Programme	Due to be released on 1 July 2025, a proactive release briefing has been sent to your office.
9 June 2025	MBIE provided your office of briefing titles for review	Proactive release of briefing titles for May 2025

3.9 Fast-Track Approvals- Auckland

Project Name	Unique Ref No.	Applicant Organisation	Date Received	Due Date to send Comments
Delmore project	FTAA-2502-1015	Vineway Limited	26 May 2025	25 June 2025
Bledisloe North Wharf and Fergusson North Berth Extension	FTAA-2503-1028	Port of Auckland Limited	28 May 2025	27 June 2025



4 Auckland dashboards

Transport environmental scan																				
<div><div>Karen Lyons</div><div>Auckland Director</div><div>Ministry of Transport</div><div>Privacy of natural persons</div></div>	Public transport patronage update																			
	For the fortnight 19 May – 1 June 2025, public transport patronage totalled 3.7 million boardings across the city’s public transport network.																			
	Patronage increased by 5% for this fortnight compared to the same period last year. Ferry patronage increased by 12% and bus patronage increased by 7%. However, train patronage declined by 6%, likely reflecting the impact of the long weekend rail closure.																			
	Public transport patronage for the year to 30 April is 88.6 million boardings which has increased on the previous year’s total of 85.7 million boardings. Across all modes, bus patronage saw the largest annual increase of 4%, whereas ferry patronage has had the smallest annual increase, at less than 1%.																			
	At 88.6 million boardings, current annual patronage reaches 92% of Auckland Transport’s latest SOI target of 95.9 million annual PT trips for 2024/25. This also represents 86% of the pre-pandemic 12-month public transport patronage level in the year to December 2019 of 103.2 million boardings.																			
	<table><tr><th colspan="3">PT fortnightly patronage</th></tr><tr><th>Mode</th><th>19 May - 1 June 2025</th><th>19 May - 1 June 2024</th></tr><tr><td>Bus</td><td>3,014,059</td><td>2,821,323</td></tr><tr><td>Rail</td><td>541,505</td><td>578,631</td></tr><tr><td>Ferry</td><td>107,117</td><td>95,799</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>3,662,681</td><td>3,495,753</td></tr></table>		PT fortnightly patronage			Mode	19 May - 1 June 2025	19 May - 1 June 2024	Bus	3,014,059	2,821,323	Rail	541,505	578,631	Ferry	107,117	95,799	Total	3,662,681	3,495,753
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Data: AT Metro daily patronage report.																				
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Ferry	4,904,000	4,882,200																		
Total	88,635,800	85,680,100																		
Data: AT Metro daily patronage report.																				
<i>Note: Data for annual and monthly patronage may not add up due to rounding. Rail data includes rail replacement services.</i>																				



Annexes

Annex One: Storm Recovery Progress Update 10 June 2025

Auckland Storm Recovery

– Progress update

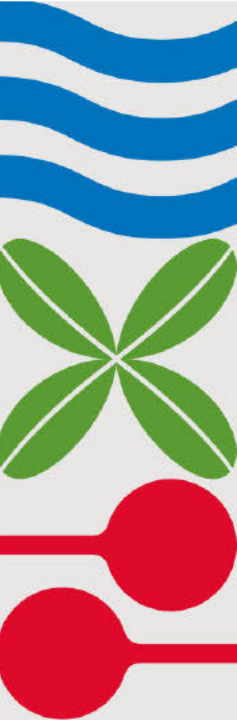
Crown / Council Quarterly Governance meeting

10 June 2025



Agenda

1. Actions from last meeting
2. Overall status - Snapshot
3. Progress update
 - a) Categorisation, Category 3 buyouts and Category 2P
 - b) Category 2C / flood risk mitigation projects
 - c) Storm Readiness project update
 - d) Transport programme
4. Other business



2. Overall status - Snapshot



Updated position against funding agreement

Funding details	Total	Crown Funding	Council Funding	Claims to date	Forecast to end of programme (Crown Funding)
Category 3 Buyouts (incl transaction costs)	\$ 1,248,186,000	\$ 624,093,000	\$ 624,093,000	\$ 459,099,765	\$ 624,093,000
Category 2P Risk Mitigation Projects	\$ 38,775,806	\$ 24,041,000	\$ 14,734,806	\$ 2,017,438	\$ 24,041,000 ¹
Category 2C Blue-Green Networks (Tranche1)	\$ 53,361,290	\$ 33,084,000	\$ 20,277,290	\$ 2,817,097	\$ 33,084,000 ⁵
Category 2C Resilience Programme	\$ 138,358,065	\$ 85,782,000	\$ 52,576,065	\$ 157,000	\$ 85,782,000
Auckland Transport	\$ 110,000,000	\$ 110,000,000		\$ 68,034,840	\$ 110,000,000
Total	\$ 1,588,681,161	\$ 877,000,000	\$ 711,681,161	\$ 532,126,140	\$ 877,000,000⁴
Key stats	Forecast	Assumption		Current settled	
Number of Category 3 homes	1,215	1,215		767	
Average purchase price incl trans costs (GST ex)	\$1,011,496 ²	\$1,014,000		\$1,037,578 ³	

- Category 2P forecast – Average grant is forecasted at \$275k
- The average buyout purchase price used for the forecast is \$1,011k incl transaction costs, excl GST. This reflects 1,215 Cat 3 properties plus an additional 19 properties to adjust the average for multiunit purchases.
- Average \$1,037,578 is based on the year to date spend of \$796m. This reflects 747 settlements as at 31 May, purchasing 767 properties (includes 20 properties bought as multi units).
- Recovery Office is actively monitoring expected final number of Category 3 properties – allowing for disputes, feasibility of Category 2 projects and other variables. Based on current category 2P and category 3 forecast, we expect to utilize the full Crown funding allocation. Any costs above the Crown allocation will be fully funded by Council.
- Recent Category 2C (Tranche 1) forecasting anticipates \$5.4m contingency underspend. If the underspend eventuates, the intent is to either hold in contingency for traffic management or seek approval to transfer this budget to tranche 2.



Key Messages

1. Crown Agreement / Fund Allocation

- 52% of Crown Funding claimed for the programme (excludes June claims)

2. Categorisation

- 1 property left to be categorised - Will be complete before the end of June.

3. Category 3

- On target for sale and purchase agreements to be in place by the end of the calendar year (subject to Cat 2P feasibility).

4. Category 2P

- In progress with CRU / NIFF – Updates to PDP and finalising the project schedule.
- Progress with homeowners is slower than anticipated, we have commenced active management with homeowners to increase the pace. There is a risk that we won't have all grant agreements in place by the end of the calendar year if this management isn't successful.
- Still tracking behind agreed milestones for funds to be claimed.

5. Category 2C

- Mangere: Vegetation clearance for both projects completed, road closures from August
- Wairau Stage 1: Designs refined, alongside risk management with Takapuna Golf Club
- Clover Drive: Consent and acquisition approaches to be confirmed by committee in July/August in order to progress work at pace.
- Identifying opportunities to speed up design delivery

6. Auckland Transport

- 62% of Transport funding claimed
- 733 sites completed overall (90%)



3. Progress update

- a) Categorisation, Category 3 buyouts and Category 2P



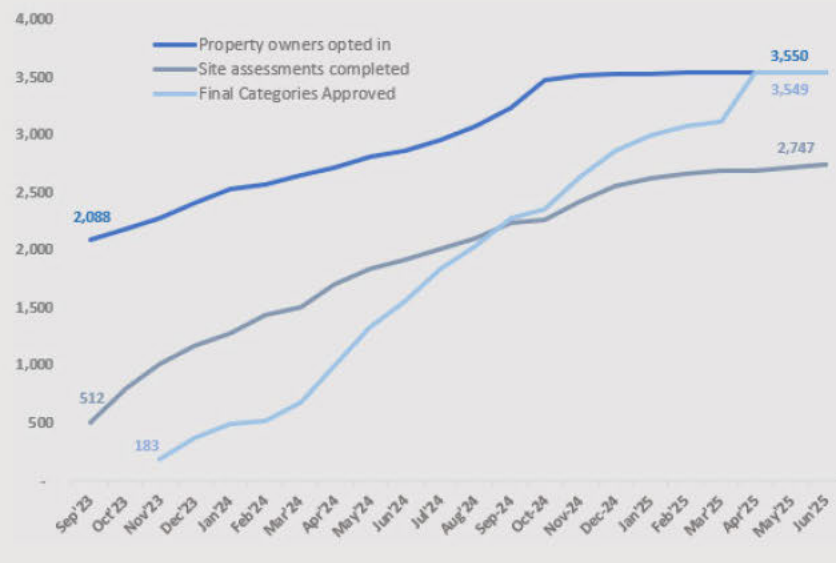


Categorisation programme update

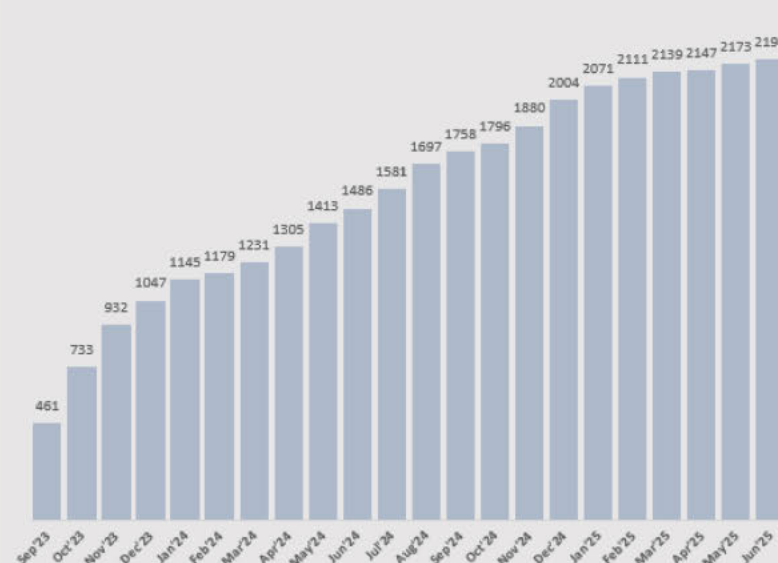
Categories Issued	Actuals																	Forecast (Jan'25)
	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep'24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	4/06/2025	
Category 1	442	539	792	974	1,099	1,277	1,376	1,417	1,545	1,648	1,716	1,763	1,828	1,864	1,988	1,989	1,988	1,984
Category 2P	7	25	38	54	66	75	86	96	106	117	123	126	134	139	147	146	145	141
Category 2C	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	2	2	10	11	19	23	32	32	32	38
Category 3	187	283	380	487	548	675	734	777	889	943	985	1,005	1,069	1,089	1,195	1,198	1,200	1,215
Ineligible				16	16	19	22	22	22	22	165	168	170	175	184	184	184	170
Total	640	851	1,214	1,535	1,733	2,051	2,223	2,317	2,564	2,732	2,999	3,073	3,220	3,290	3,546	3,549	3,549	3,548

- 3,550 total registrations
- 1 property pending final risk assessment

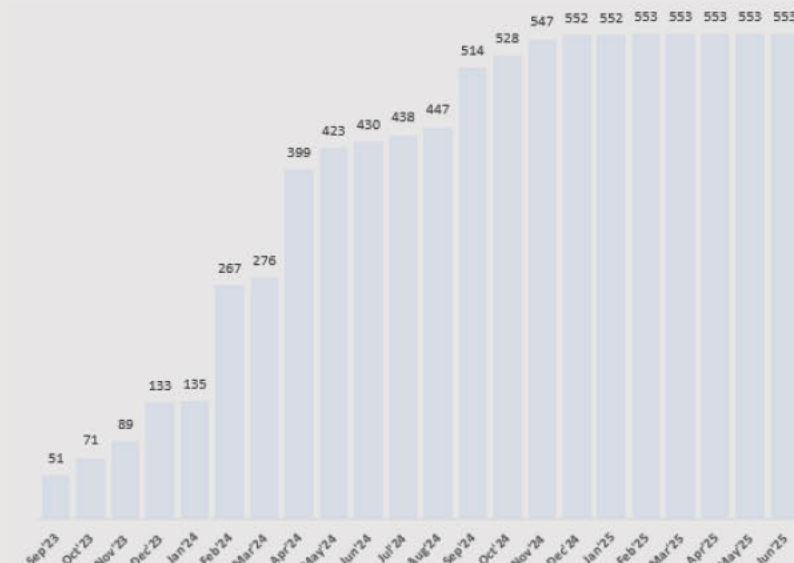
Total categorisation



Flood - site assessments completed



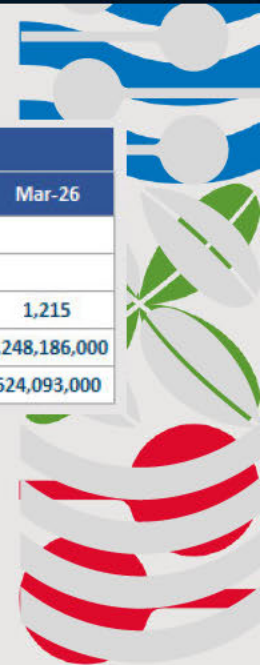
Landslide - site assessments completed



NB: a notable increase in Feb which includes 117 from Piha & Karekare properties. Previous statistics (Sep'23 to Jan'24) did not include Piha & Karekare.



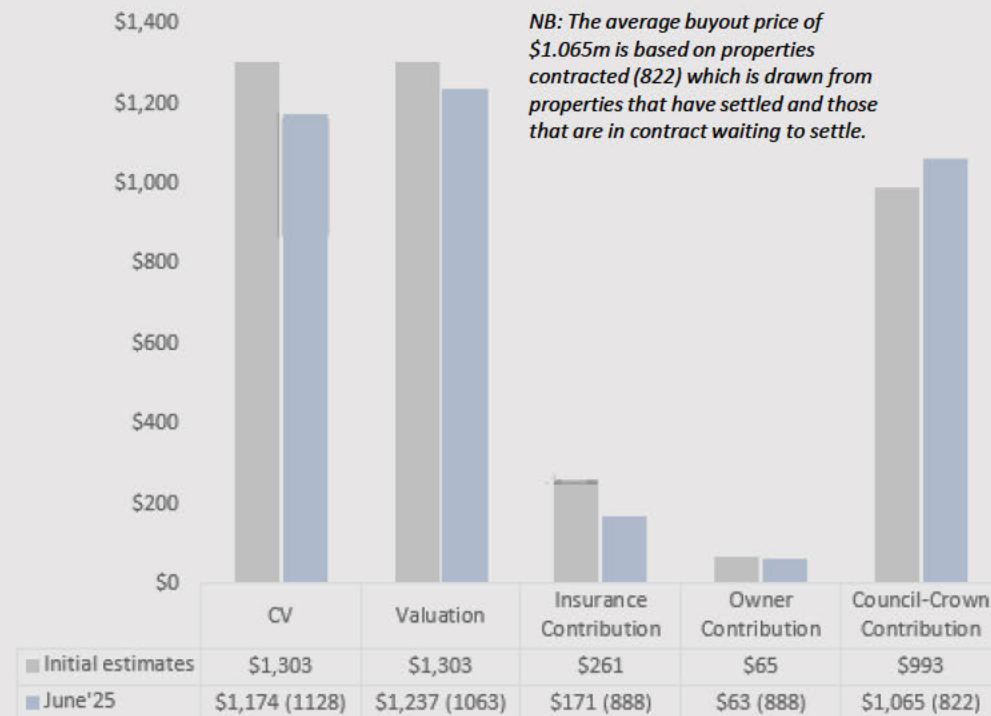
Category 3 Buyout Programme



Category 3 buyout programme (cumulative)	May'24 Forecast	Jan'25 Forecast	Actuals										Forecast (cumulative)			
			Mar-24	Jun-24	Sep-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	4/06/2025	Jun-25	Sep-25	Dec-25	Mar-26
Cat 3's categorised	904	1,215	283	548	777	985	1,008	1,069	1,195	1,195	1,198	1,200				
# Signed Agreements			55	164	359	558	601	664	715	729	782	817	861	1,068	1215	
# settlements			33	124	286	508	538	577	631	643	710	748	790	966	1,154	1,215
Buyout costs paid out to date	895,949,166	1,248,186,000	46,050,366	136,783,286	294,217,214	517,106,806	552,503,684	609,016,260	670,248,361	670,248,361	795,822,858	795,822,858	837,386,139	1,007,505,611	1,189,224,138	1,248,186,000
Claims - Crown funding \$	447,346,500	624,093,000	34,515,706	78,804,651	183,877,340	312,014,609	312,014,609	357,268,812	436,642,817	436,642,817	459,099,765	*459,099,765	481,552,409	565,749,824	603,810,546	624,093,000

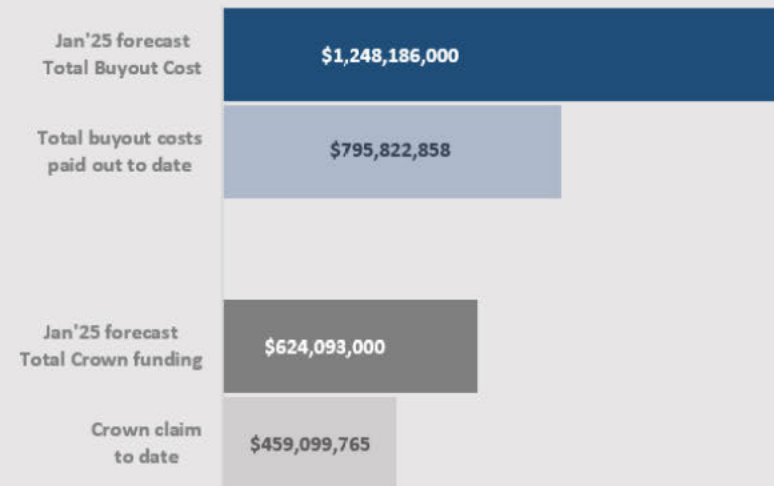
June claims
not included

Category 3 Buy-outs - Average costs GST exclusive (\$'000)



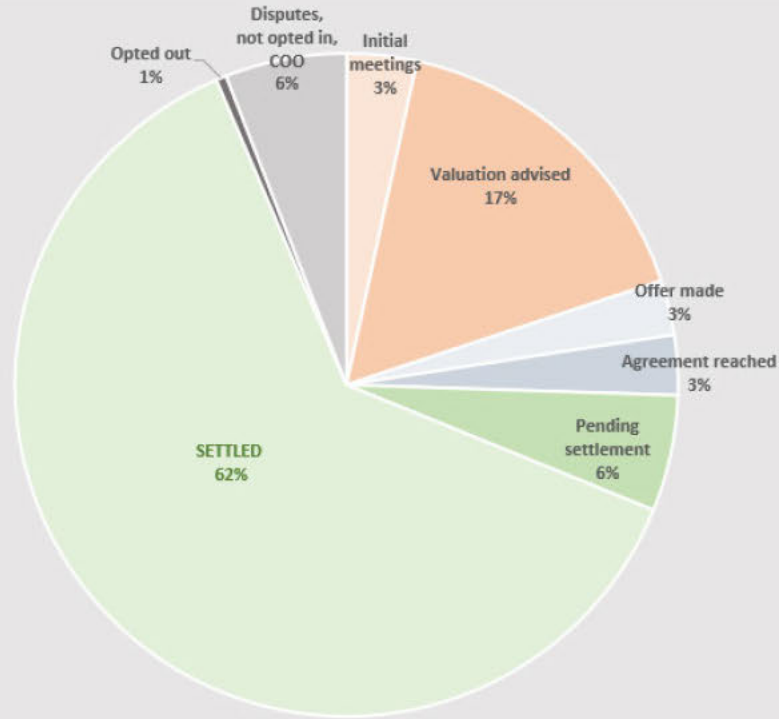
(number of properties)

Category 3 Buyout payments and Crown claim progress



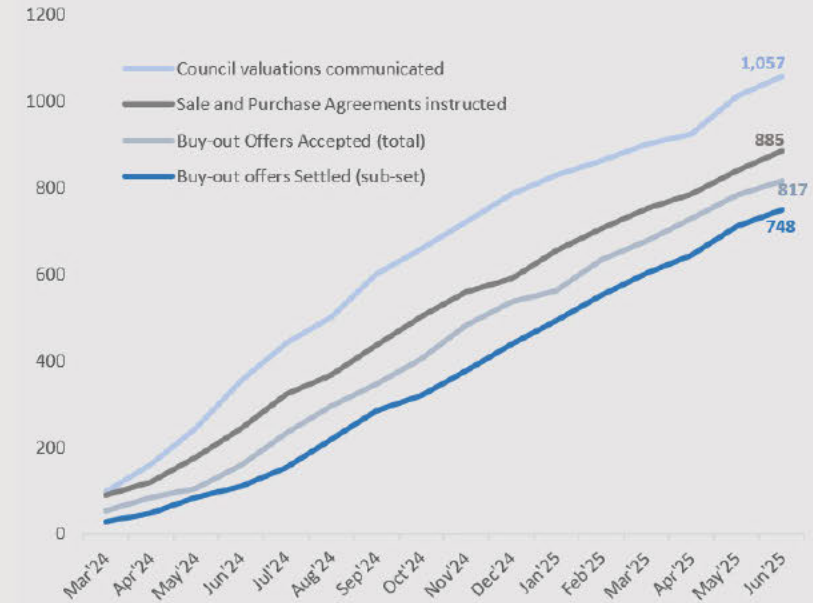
Category 3 Buyout Progress

Breakdown of total 1,200 category 3 properties



- 6 Cat 3 properties have opted out of the buyout process
- Analysis completed shows delays in buyout process generally reflect situations where homeowners are:
 - settling insurance claims
 - awaiting confirmation of eligibility after change of ownership
 - having other sensitive or complex factors to their settlements
- The buyout programme has increased its level of active support to some owners in ensuring that properties have a signed sale and purchase agreement by 19 December 2025.

Category 3 Buyouts status - cumulative



Total Final Risk Category 3 properties	1,200
Number opted in to buyout	1,121
Council valuations communicated	1,057
Sale and Purchase Agreements instructed	885
Buy-out Offers Accepted (total)	817
Buy-out offers Settled (sub-set)	748
Properties opted out	6
Properties remaining in buyout programme	1,194
Not opted in to buyout	37
Properties under Dispute	19
Change of Ownership	17

Includes two successful disputes (move to Cat 3) since 15 May



Buyout stages		Category 3 advised	Owner opts in	Council valuation advised	Offer provided	Agreement reached	Settlement
Oct'24	Number of properties (814 Cat 3)	718	601	404	345	284	
	Median number of working days	8 days	25 days	24 days	12 days	23 days	
Feb'25	Number of properties (1,069 Cat 3)	955	858	681	630	623	
	Median number of working days	7 days	27 days	33 days	11 days	23 days	
Apr'25	Number of properties (1,195 Cat 3)	1,046	923	786	729	643	
	Median number of working days	7 days	27 days	36 days	12 days	24 days	
Jun'25	Number of properties (1,200 Cat 3)	1,121	1,057	885	817	748	
	Median number of working days	8 days	27 days	36 days	12 days	24 days	
Key drivers		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Category disputesSpecial circum. reviewsProperty owners timing for opting in	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Owner signs Preliminary AgreementOwner availability for valuation inspection	Active management to completion: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Require S & P signed by 19 Dec – communicate scheme endingCommunicate process deadlines to homeowners3 months for category reviewSpecial circumstances option closes 1 month from receiving councils offer Repair reimbursements: <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Approved to date – 358✓ \$38.4m repair cost reimbursed✓ Approx \$7.5m saved from repairs and reimbursements checks to date		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Owner considers contractSettlement statement from owners	

Median working days from Cat 3 advised date to settlement is 107 days @ 748 settled properties
(Oct'24 - 92 days @ 284 settled properties)

Median working days from Owner opts in to Agreement reached is 75 days @ 817 properties
(Oct'24 - 61 days @ 345 properties)





Category 2P Programme update

Category 2P risk mitigation grant scheme	2P PDP Forecast	2P Revised Forecast Jan'25	Actuals								Forecast (cumulative)					
			Mar-24	Jun-24	Sep-24	Dec-24	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	4/06/2025	Jun-25	Sep-25	Dec-25	Mar-26	Jun-26	Sep-26
Category 2Ps handed over	175	141	25	66	97	123	141	147	146	145						
# design grant applications approved				5	31	38	86	97	99	104	129	141				
# construction grant applications approved					3	4	18	21	23	25	32	81	141			
# projects completed					0	3	15	16	18	22	23	23	32	66	131	141
Grants approved					1,947,000	2,925,934	7,565,563	8,479,254	8,936,991	9,936,952	13,409,117	24,894,218	38,775,806			
Grants - spend		38,775,806					4,985,361	6,003,311	6,526,848	6,971,054	8,851,878	15,213,898	21,774,612	36,892,556	38,506,306	38,775,806
Crown Funding commitment (62%)	57,025,938	24,041,000			0	702,905	2,017,438	2,686,740	2,851,418	3,047,247	5,488,164	9,432,617	13,500,259	22,873,385	23,331,797	24,041,000
Crown Payment Milestone	35,356,082	24,041,000				1,109,800	2,976,000				7,298,107	12,111,426	16,628,188	22,958,135	23,924,560	24,041,000

Category 2P Stages

2P Property Stages	No. of properties
Initial discussions	12
Design and Consent Grants	
Pework	31
Application submitted	3
Design in Progress	53
Design documents submitted & Consenting	10
Assessment complete	9
Construction Grants	
Application submitted	1
Funding agreement sent	1
Construction in progress	3
Total Active 2P Properties	123
2P project close out	22
Closed - re-categorised to Category 3	28

145 total
Cat 2P
properties

Category 2P Funding, Grants & Crown claim progress

Forecast funding to complete	\$38,775,806
Total Grants committed	\$9,936,952
Design & Consent committed	\$5,361,069
Construction committed	\$4,575,883
Total Grants paid	\$7,322,852
Re-categorised to Cat 3 (non claimable - Council cost)	\$311,055
Design & Consent paid	\$2,907,576
Construction paid	\$4,104,221
Total Crown Commitment	\$24,041,000
Claimed to date	\$2,017,438





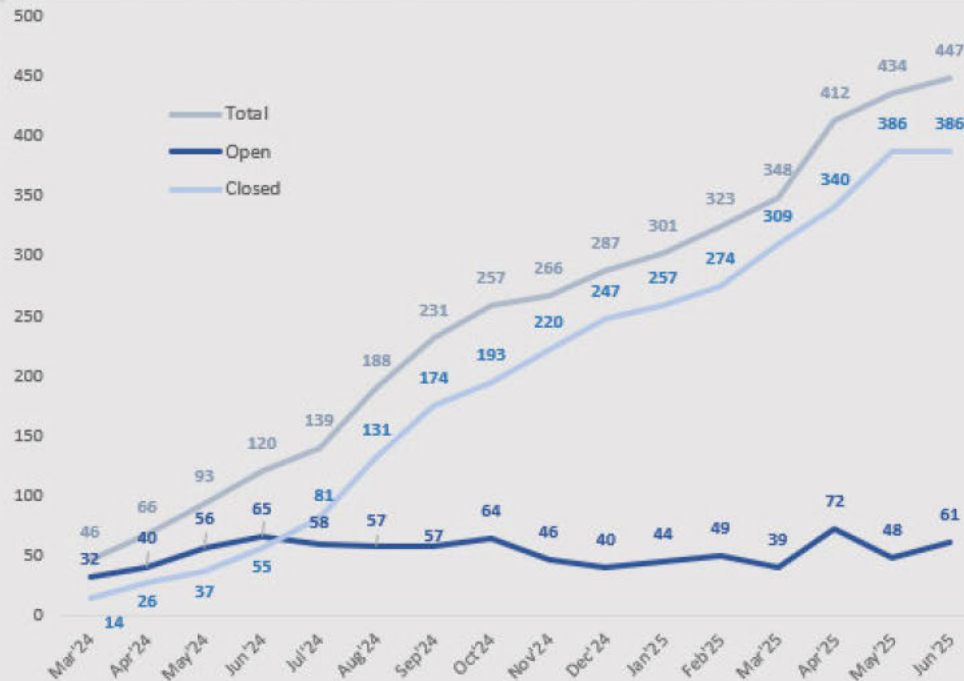
Disputes, Special circumstances applications and Category reviews

Requests breakdown	Number of requests			Average resolution (working days)			% description	% approved	Request type
	Jan 2025	Mar 2025	Jun 2025	Jan 2025	Mar 2025	Jun 2025			
Categorisation disputes	152	196	218	60 days	62 days	62 days	6% of properties categorised	31% approved (67 requests)	-22% (15) flooding - 75% (50) geotech - 3% (2) geo / flood
Valuations disputed	7	8	8	25 days	25 days	25 days	1% of valuations communicated	100% accepted by owners	
Special Circumstances & Insurance	123	162	177	37 days	40 days	39 days		18% approved	
CE Reviews	19	*46	44	21 days	22 days	26 days		13% approved	
Total reviews to date	301	366	447						

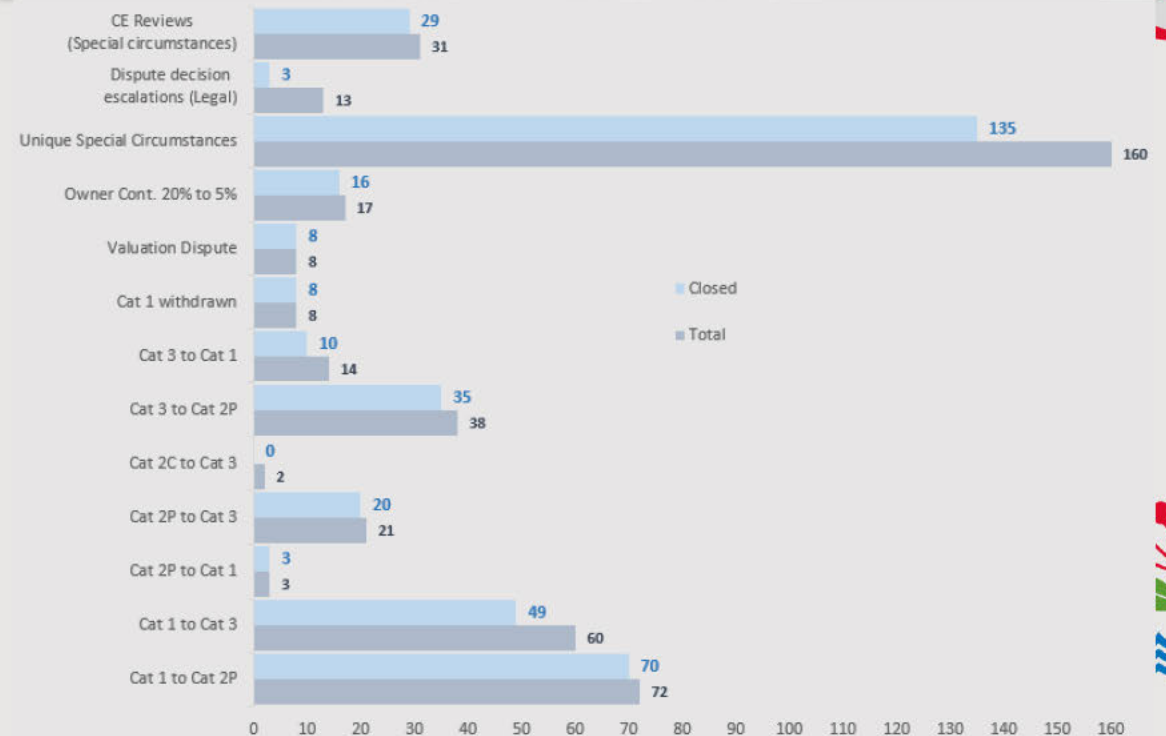
NB: Reporting approach updated in March '25.
Total requests now treats a CE review as a new case

NB: average resolution days for CE reviews, involves one complex decision contributing to an increase in the average number of days this month

Monthly – total vs open and closed cases (447 total reviews to date)



Total and closed cases – requests breakdown



Key Risks: Categorisation, Cat 3, Cat 2P and Disputes

1. Category 3 buyout process

- Not all sale and purchase agreements are in place by December 19th 2025, leaving more properties to be settled in the first quarter of 2026. Mitigation - more actively manage homeowners through process.
- Timing of feasibility outcomes for Category 2P properties – if move to Category 3 late in year it will impact ability to have sale and purchase agreements in place by the end of 2025. Mitigation - Reviewing 2P scheme rules and increasing resource to progress 2P feasibility assessments.
- Resource availability of once the volume of work dials down, / suppliers with competing priorities. Mitigation - Actively manage suppliers and the allocation of work.
- Average purchase price higher than planned due to reducing insurance contributions (higher repair reimbursements) – No risk to Crown funding.

2. Category 2P

- Projects may take longer than two years post categorisation to complete implementation. Mitigation – Additional resource in pace to expedite applications. Two years was set as part of categorisation criteria – delays beyond two years will not mean projects are not funded / completed.
- Pace of delivery for 2P projects. Mitigation - Actively manage the delivery process once we have got through the grant approval applications

3. Disputes

- Complexity is increasing – delays in dispute / review decisions may impact the delivery programme. Mitigation - Allocated more resource to the Disputes process to accelerate categorisation and special circumstances decisions.
- Valuation disputes could increase now the market is turning.



3. Progress update

b) Category 2C / Flood risk mitigation projects



June 2025



Confidential advice to Government

Design Stage	Purpose/Milestone
Optioneering	Decide on preferred option
Concept Design	Approved Initiate Business Case
Preliminary Design and Consenting	Resource Consent granted
Detailed Design	Contract inc. IFC drawings and Approved Final Business Case
Construction/Delivery	Deliver the works

- Full site establishment complete, significant vegetation removal
- Supplier Recommendation Reports completed and submitted to NIFF – awaiting final gateway approval.
- Latest total cost projection \$47,334,541
- Approx \$5.4m potential saving following construction costings – hold in contingency for traffic management or reallocate to other tranche 2 blue-green network projects
- Principal risks are damage to other lifeline assets (Watercare) and impact from road closure

Project	May highlights	June-July focus	Emerging risks and issues
Tranche 1 Māngere (Te Ararata and Harania)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Full site establishment complete• Bailey bridge and footpath foundations and decking completed• Supplier Recommendations Report complete for main works and submitted to NIFF• Public engagement meeting held to all Cat 2C and 3 property owners.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Award the main construction contract.• Complete final Crown gateway approval prior to construction• Managing service diversions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Significant traffic management requirements for bridge closure risks cost escalation and public disruption• Engineering Planning Approval not yet received for the final design.

Māngere projects

June 2025



	Spend to date (at 30 April)	Claims to date	Co-funded budget	Forecast spend
Te Ararata	\$2,580,507	\$1,406,284	\$24,080,000	\$23,965,202
Harania	\$2,488,556	\$1,410,812	\$29,280,000	\$23,369,339
Total	\$5,069,064	\$2,817,096	\$53,360,000	\$47,334,541
Crown total (62%)	\$3,142,820		\$33,083,200	\$29,347,415



- Budget is \$86 million which is based on most recent cost estimate provided by Council). Cost estimate to be updated next quarter.
- Confidential advice to Government
- First Community Advisory Group meeting planned for 26 June

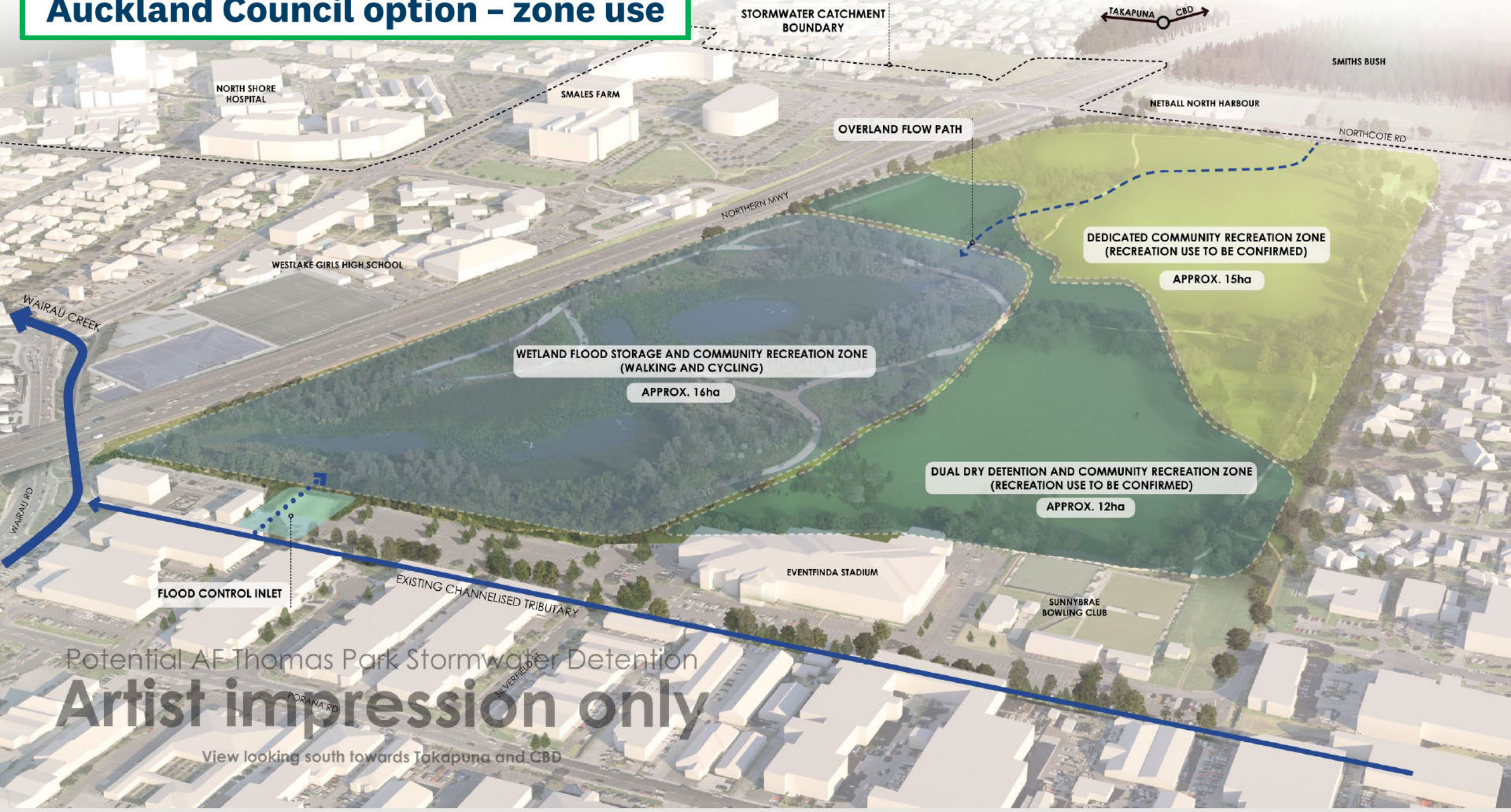
Project	May highlights	June-July focus	Emerging risks and issues
Clover Drive	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Completed terrestrial ecology survey, utility investigation, consent strategy, geotechnical study, Camphora Place flood risk assessment, communications and engagement strategy.Confidential advice to GovernmentProgressed discussions with AT regarding bridge conceptInitial land use workshop completedProject Ecologist procurement underwayUpdated Henderson-Massey Local BoardFirmed up scope for Preliminary Design – Meadowcroft Way included	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Complete Design Services procurement and approvalsFirst Community Advisory Group meeting on 26 June.Begin work with Project Ecologist and Landscape Architect.Confidential advice to GovernmentConfirm delivery timeframesVector asset investigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Confidential advice to GovernmentTraffic management for Don Buck Road bridge may impact cost and delivery timeframes.Dependency on Category 3 settlement timeline and signed agreements may result in delays.



- Budget (stage 1) is \$58.1 million which is based on most recent cost estimate. Cost estimate to be updated next quarter
- Continued pressure from Takapuna Golf Club delaying design, engagement, and consent processes
- Public event on 21 May with 250+ attendees from across Wairau catchment received balanced review from media

Project	May highlights	June-July focus	Emerging risks and issues
Wairau St1 and St2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Completed renders for AF Thomas Park design (next slide)Continued to respond to LGOIMA requests and media enquiries.Mana Whenua working group working productivelyEstablished community advisory groupCommunity engagement event held 21 May.Confidential advice to GovernmentConfirmed delivery approach for Woodbridge Lane bridge removal with Recovery Office.Strong support from elected membersCoordination with Watercare regarding works in the Wairau Catchment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Conclude review of Takapuna Golf Club design (delayed) and confirm preferred designConfidential advice to GovernmentOngoing proactive media and communications.Complete Design Services procurement and approvals for Stage 1First Community Advisory Group meeting 17 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Responding to strong golfing lobby through media, correspondence, and LGOIMAs diverting staff resource. Risk of legal action.Delay to programme associated with assessment of alternative golf course design (\$100k estimated cost).Dependency on Category 3 settlement timeline and signed agreements may result in delays.

Auckland Council option – zone use



Potential AF Thomas Park Stormwater Detention

Artist impression only

View looking south towards Takapuna and CBD

c) Storm Readiness Funding

May 2025



Workstream	February spend	Spend to date	Allocated fund
Community grants scheme for physical improvements	Completed	\$386,862	\$400,000
Operational maintenance and support	\$55,632	\$1,328,323	\$1.4m
Flood-ready homes and businesses campaign	Completed	\$187,158	\$200,000



Community

- Sub-project now complete

Operations

- Funding agreement has been extended to end of October
- Alligator weed removal and planting in Oakley creek will be done June-September

Communications

- Sub-project now complete



Auckland Transport Flood Recovery Programme report

June 2025



Programme

Over 2000 slips occurred during the 2023 North Island Weather Events on Auckland's Roads

811 minor and major sites in the Auckland Road Network Reinstatement Programme

Completed to the end of May 2025: **733**

Total number of major sites: **214**

177 major sites have been completed to the end of May 2025 and a further **8** are under construction.



Leigh Road, Leigh complete



Programme Completion

**Auckland Road
Network
Reinstatement -
Completion
December 2025**

**Manukau Heads
Road – completion
September 2025**

**Mill Flat Road
Bridge – completion
in June 2026**



Manukau Heads Road - pr



Financial Performance

By the end of May 2025, Auckland Transport had spent \$306m million addressing sites on the Auckland Road Network affected by the 2023 weather events.

This is 78% of the projected total forecast Flood Recovery cost of \$390 million.



Red Hill Road, Te Arai completed in May 2025

Auckland Transport Flood Recovery Programme forecast FY25

July (Actual)	August (Actual)	September (Actual)	October (Actual)	November (Actual)	December (Actual)
\$12,385,857	\$12,263,291	\$11,425,289	\$14,531,133	\$11,076,769	\$8,728,852
January (Actual)	February (Actual)	March (Actual)	April (Actual)	May (Actual)	June
\$9,963,975	\$6,647,873	\$7,914,277	\$5,505,392	\$5,462,229	\$4,959,520



Funding

Forecast Recovery
cost of \$390m

In April AT received
payment from
National
Infrastructure
Funding and
Financing for
\$6.9m.



Whatipu Road, Whatipu con





Auckland Transport Flood Recovery by numbers – June 2025

2000+ slips from 3 storm events

1200 slips cleaned up quickly

811 Sites needed more work

733 Sites complete at 31 May (90%)



Major sites summary






Minor sites summary



Programme Summary – Major sites only (>\$250k)

Programme summary June 2025 Major sites only (>\$250k)



Area	 Number of major sites	 Sites under construction	 Completed sites
North Rural	67	1	64 (96%)
North Urban	40	2	35 (88%)
West	72	5	46 (64%)
Central & Islands	14	0	12 (86%)
South	21	0	20 (95%)
TOTAL	214	8	177 (83%)



Programme Summary – Minor sites only (<\$250k)

Programme summary June 2025 Minor sites only (<\$250k)



Area	Number of minor sites	Sites under construction	Completed sites
North Rural	256	0	256 (100%)
North Urban	74	1	72 (97%)
West	119	0	110 (92%)
Central & Islands	27	2	25 (93%)
South	9	0	5 (55%)
Scour	112	0	88 (78%)
TOTAL	597	3	556 (93%)



4. Any other business

