



Pūrongo ā Tau Whakarāpopototanga 2024

Annual Report Summary 2024

Ihirangi

Contents

Kia ora and welcome	04
Ngā hua o Highlights of 2023/24	06
Natural environment	06
Community resilience	10
Regional leadership	12
Tā mātou mahi whakarāpopoto Summary of performance	16
Te Taiao Natural environment	16
Manawaroa te hapori Community resilience	17
Hautūtanga ā rohe Regional leadership	17
Te whakarāpopoto o te pūrongo pūtea Financial summary	18
Actual Revenue	18
Actual Operational Spending	18
Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense	19
Statement of Financial Position	19
Statement of Changes in Equity	20
Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows	20
Accounting Policies	20
Summary of Contingent Assets and Liabilities	21
Auditors Report	22



This summary of Northland Regional Council activities is for the year 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 and contains information from our full Annual Report 2024. The full report for the financial year to 30 June 2024 was authorised for issue by resolution of Northland Regional Council on 24 September 2024. The Annual Report Summary was authorised for issue by the Tāhūhū Rangapū – Chief Executive Officer on 25 September 2024. For our full audited Annual Report, visit www.nrc.govt.nz/annualreport

Kia ora and welcome

He Kupu Whakataki nā te Heamana rāua ko te Tumuaki



The 2023/24 year saw us striving once again to balance the future we're working towards, what we're legally required to deliver on, what tāngata whenua and communities want us to be doing, and what our region can reasonably afford to pay for it all.

Thanks to everyone who provided feedback on the draft Freshwater Plan Change over several months from November 2023 to the end of March 2024. We received 577 responses representing a range of views.

Our Proposed Regional Plan is now almost fully operative, with a small number of coastal provisions awaiting approval by the Minister of Conservation.

Over the 2023/2024 financial year we continued with our efforts, in partnership with local hapū, to remove the invasive seaweed exotic *Caulerpa* from Omakiwi Cove in the Bay of Islands. *Caulerpa* represents a significant threat to our marine ecosystem and the cultural, recreational

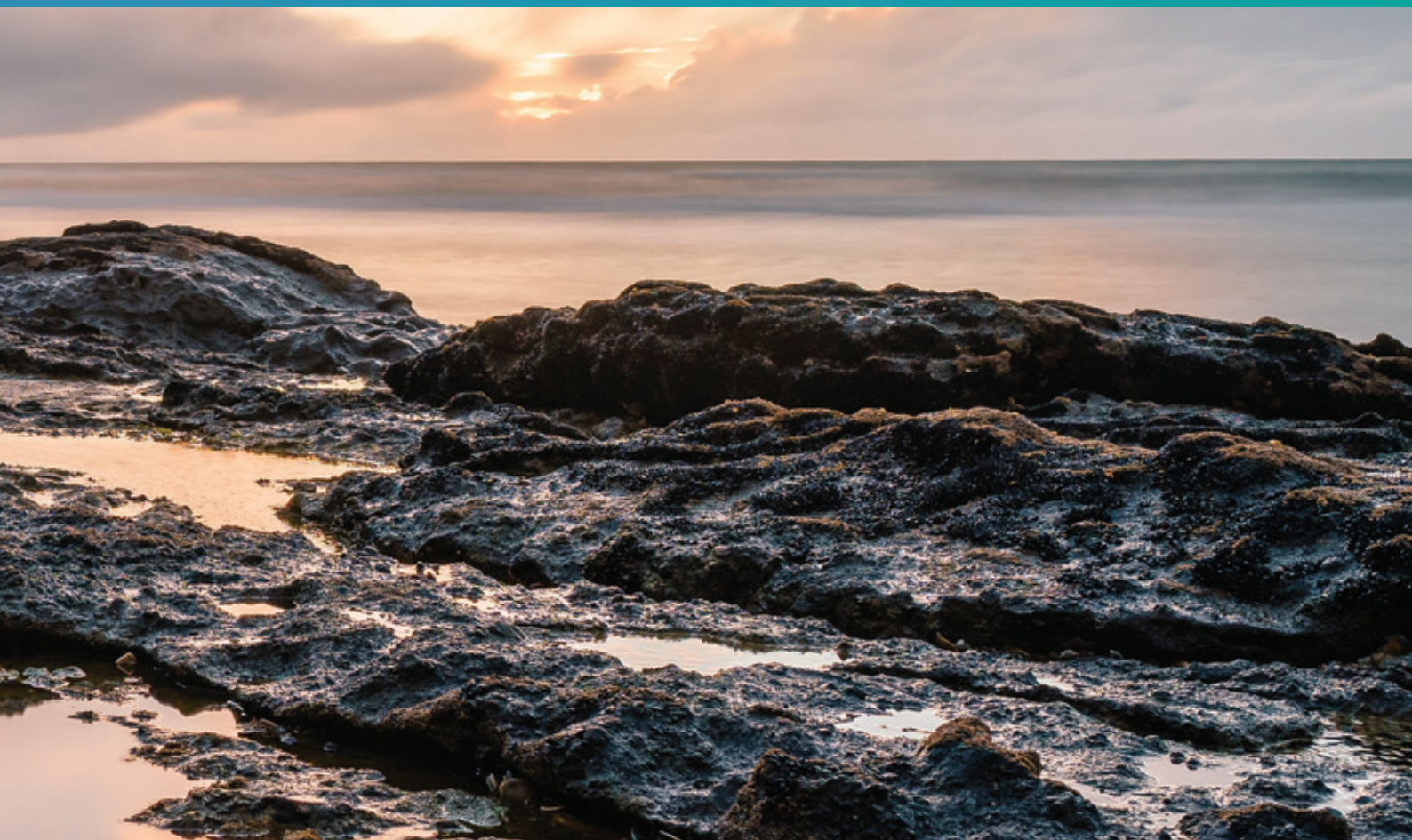
and economic values and activities it supports. Together with our mana whenua partners, we have made significant efforts advocating to central government to step up its investment in getting rid of this devastatingly invasive seaweed.

On the climate change front, we've actively sought opportunities to influence central government plans and policies over the past year.

We've also worked on a range of activities including continuing to support improvements to water resilience infrastructure in vulnerable rural communities through grant funding.

We continue to make progress in measuring our organisational greenhouse gas inventory (or carbon footprint) and have achieved the requirements and received certification under the Toitu Carbonreduce Programme for the second year.

Ina tere ngā kapua, he hau kei muri
Progress is built on applying shared values



Significant progress has been made to complete the Otiria and Moerewa flood scheme including the construction of a new \$3.5 million, 60-metre bridge. The Pokapu Rd bridge is a critical part of a scheme designed to better protect the communities of Otiria and Moerewa from the adverse impacts of flooding.

As always, council remains committed to building meaningful relationships reflective of a Te Tiriti o Waitangi partnership. In April we adopted the newest iteration of 'Tāiki ē' – council and TTMAC's Te Tiriti Strategic Intent and Implementation Plan.

In June we formally adopted our Long Term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP), which confirmed our decision to continue funding for emergency and rescue services and regional sporting facilities.

Thank you to our ratepayers and all our partners and stakeholders for working with us over the past 12 months. We look forward to continuing to work with you in the future as we tackle the shared challenges – and opportunities – the new year offers.



Jonathan Gibbard
Chief Executive Officer



Geoff Crawford
Chair

Ngā hua o 2023/24

Highlights of 2023/24

Natural environment

Environmental science and monitoring

Over the past 12 months the Natural Resources team has continued to grow relationships and partnerships with tāngata whenua across Northland working with over 20 kaitiaki roopu.

We have a focus on enabling iwi/hapū environmental monitoring capacity through supporting training, funding, and engagement/participation with council's State of the Environment programmes.

We have completed a number of freshwater catchment investigations, and documented five years of data collection on plastic prevalence in Northland's freshwater and coastal environments.

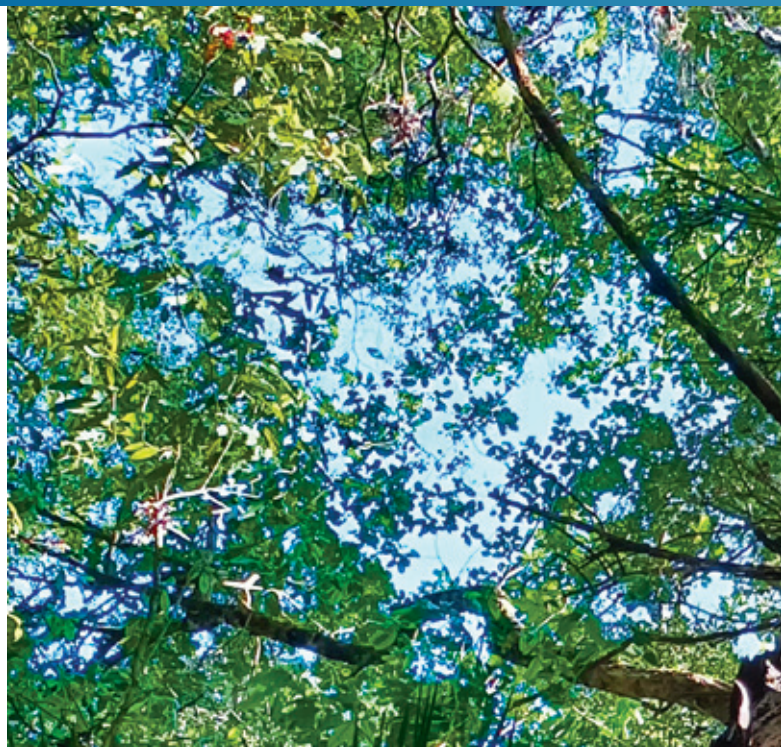
Two water quality lake buoys, developed and built inhouse, have been deployed collecting continuous telemetered water quality information.

We have deployed eight soil moisture (and temperature) sensors at existing rainfall recording station locations in different geologies through Northland and started using drones to capture river surface velocity data for calculating river flows, particularly during high flow/flood events.

Three new coastal groundwater recording stations have been installed at Ngunguru, Pataua, and Mangawhai for monitoring groundwater levels and conductivity (as an indicator of saline intrusion).

We have continued to upgrade critical hydrometric stations to build resilience in the monitoring network, particularly critical flood warning sites.

Regular Drought Risk Assessments were provided through the summer months, during the recent El Nino ENSO event, to communicate how Northland's rivers and groundwater systems were holding up during prolonged dry periods.



Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme

This year, the KMR programme has seen a further 83 plans in development and over 70,000 hours of additional new work committed in contracts. In addition, more than 1.8M plants and trees are in the ground or contracted to be planted this winter, and more than 479ha of planting and 800km of fencing has been completed or contracted.

KMR is currently working with over half of the estimated pastoral landowners in the Kaipara Moana catchment and in May, the value of KMR projects in the sheep and beef sector overtook the value of those in the dairying sector, reflecting KMR's ongoing engagement and scale up. KMR is now the largest recipient nationally of Trees That Count, with over 90,000 free trees provided to Whenua Whānui Fund recipients to support their projects. In both Auckland and Northland regions, KMR was named the Catchment Group Showcase at the Balance Farm Environment Awards to recognise KMR's role as an exemplar in on-the-ground action underpinned by good science.

KMR further supported 96 people in training courses during the year, and a new 'satellite' nursery capability was supported by the Department of Internal Affairs and KMR to ensure adequate availability of salt- and sand-tolerant plant species



for areas not supplied by existing KMR-accredited nurseries. Enabled by KMR's digital tools, KMR continues to work with the NZ Association of Resource Management (NZARM) and other strategic partners to build capability and opportunities.

Marine biosecurity - Caulerpa

Over the 2023/2024 financial year we continued with our efforts to remove the invasive seaweed exotic *Caulerpa* from Omakiwi Cove in the Bay of Islands.

As well as utilising a locally-designed and groundbreaking powerhead attachment to effectively vacuum the unwanted weed from the seafloor, our contractor Johnson Bros designed, fabricated, and tested a trommel-like device, essentially a large rotating drum that separates the *Caulerpa* from sand and other material. This has significantly improved the efficiency of the removal operations and further increased our chances of successfully eradicating *Caulerpa*.

We have been making pleasing progress and are actively lobbying central government for funding to continue this important work.

The 2023/2024 hull surveillance season concluded with 2049 vessels inspected and all incidents responded to promptly and successfully.

Biosecurity partnerships

In collaboration with local groups, our Biosecurity Partnerships team actively engages with Northland communities to reduce populations of invasive species through initiatives like the Biofund, Community Pest Control Area (CPCA), and High Value Area (HVA) programmes. In 2023/2024, 71 Biofund grants were awarded, and funding continued to 15 existing CPCAs. Six new or re-established CPCA projects were initiated, covering a combined 8693ha of management area. In addition to the seven existing HVAs, the new Waipoua HVA was established during 2023/2024, collectively safeguarding over 152,000ha across Northland.

Council has also continued to work in partnership with Kiwi Coast, a collaborative initiative that links 242 iwi and hapū. Community-led conservation projects, many of which are also supported through council funding, are actively managing pest species over a combined 276,894ha.

Tiakina Whangārei, a council-funded urban conservation project, aims to support community-led pest animal and plant control activities across Whangārei. During 2023/2024, Tiakina Whangārei engaged in 10 educational pest control programmes, hosted four community trap giveaways, organized four events aimed at increasing pest

Ngā hua o 2023/24

Highlights of 2023/24

plant awareness, delivered 363 predator control devices to the community, sponsored two local community events, and hosted one event to recognise volunteer efforts. Tiakina Whangārei also supported the Parihaka Community Landcare Group with two toxin operations across 190ha and the installation of a further 30ha of pest control hardware across the Reserve. They also funded a toxin operation in the Coronation Scenic Reserve.

Predator Free 2050 - Whangārei

This programme is in its second year and has moved from a knock-down to a mop-up phase across 1500ha of Te Whara, Taurikura and surrounding farmland. Knock-down of pests has commenced on a further 1400ha, and preparation on a further 3700ha. Pre-elimination monitoring on 3100ha of the buffer area has also been completed with pleasingly low possum numbers reported across several of the blocks that will form the virtual barrier between Parua Bay village and Pataua North. More than 400 landowners have directly supported the project so far by allowing elimination work to be carried out on their land and by getting in behind the wider kaupapa.

Continued partnering with local Pataua South uri will see an elimination plan created and delivered by uri members, with opportunity for expansion into other areas. Ongoing engagement with Whangārei hapū members has progressed well, and opportunities explored for closer kaunihera, hapori and hapū partnerships.

Predator Free 2050 - Pēwhairangi Whānui

This programme spans across three peninsulas (Russell/ Kororāreka, Purerua-Mataroa and Rakaumangamanga) in the Bay of Islands and supports several diverse projects that are working towards making their respective areas predator free.

An ArcGIS mapping and data platform is in use across the three Pēwhairangi Whānui peninsular below to record real-time data and to track results. Promotional videos have been completed for all three projects below that showcase the Predator Free kaupapa in this iconic landscape.



Predator Free Purerua - Russell

Predator Free Russell has received overwhelming community buy-in over the last year shown by almost 100% landowner support across the project area, along with rat catch numbers trending toward zero, and zero possum catches or detection over the last quarter. Servicing almost 6000 devices in the Old Russell Peninsula area and over 1200 devices in the Orongo Bay area, on 10-day cycles, they are now at the end of the knock-down phase and will be moving into the final mop-up phase soon.

Predator Free Purerua - Mataroa

This programme has commenced delivery of elimination mahi and is being delivered jointly by Kiwi Coast and Ngāti Rehia -Te Ahutai. Ngāti Torēhina kaumatua and kuia have provided tīkanga and guidance for the delivery of the project in the eastern zones, with Ngāti Rehia and Predator Free Taiao Lead designing and implementing the western zones mahi. Ngāti Rehia - Predator Free Te Ahutai embarked on an uplifting wananga to name the project and capture the essence of



the kaupapa, and recently completed a pre-knockdown monitoring programme. An experienced Ngāti Rēhia trapper is leading the delivery of the western zone enhanced suppression mahi.

Predator Free Rākaumangamanga

Project design and delivery is being led by Te Rawhiti 3B2 Ahu Whēnua Trust, with project plans and budgets completed and supported by Ngāti Kuta and Patukeha hapū. Significant progress has been made setting up new trap and baiting lines with knock-down underway across 1100ha, and a further 1144ha ready for knockdown commencement in late 2024.

Working towards a deer-free future

In April, a decade-long plan to remove all wild deer from Northland, an area of over 13,000km² and one of New Zealand's most biodiverse regions, was jointly launched by council, the Department of Conservation (DOC), and local hapū. If successful, it will be the largest deer-free area in mainland New Zealand. The first project – which began mid-April – is the \$1.5M eradication of sika deer from the

Russell Forest. This pilot will potentially model for the rest of the region. The sika project is the result of a four-year partnership between council, hapū Ngāti Kuta, Patukeha, Te Kapotai, Ngatiwai Iwi and DOC.

Pest plants

In addition to supporting the community led pest plant work in HVAs, CPCAs, and Biofund delivery, the pest plant team ran 12 workshops and attended 11 community events to help encourage community action on pest plants and develop pest plant identification and control skills, as well as providing advice and support to hapū and other community groups.

Council also led the delivery of the National Wilding Conifer programme in Northland. Over the course of the year, more than 60,000 wilding pines were removed, primarily from dune, gumland and wetland habitats.

Fifty-four nursery inspections were completed to check for nationally and regionally banned pest species.

Regional Plan for Northland

The Proposed Regional Plan is now almost fully operative. The Minister of Conservation approved coastal provisions around vehicles on beaches during the year. A small number of coastal provisions need to be approved by the Minister of Conservation for the Plan to become fully operative.

Freshwater Plan

We received 577 responses representing a range of views. The next version of the plan will be a proposed plan. You'll be able to make a submission on the proposed plan and present your views at a hearing.

The government has extended the timeframe for this part of the process, and we now have until 2027 to complete the next version of the plan. Over this time, the government will be making changes to national freshwater policy and we won't be completing the next version of the plan until the national policy direction is clear.

Ngā hua o 2023/24

Highlights of 2023/24

Community resilience

Awanui Flood Scheme upgrade

We have now entered practical completion phase of the scheme upgrade, with most of the major components completed. Remaining works includes a stopbank setback downstream of SH-10 (85% complete), Quarry and Donald Road bridge upgrade, and some floodwalls near the splitting of the Awanui River and Whangatane spillway.

Otiria-Moerewa flood mitigation spillway and bridge

All three stages of this project have now been completed and an official opening is scheduled for August. Work included a new \$3.5M, 60m bridge built on Pokapu Road on multiple-owned whanau land with the blessing of its shareholders. The bridge is a critical part of the scheme, which is designed to better protect the communities of Otiria and Moerewa from the adverse impacts of flooding.

Climate change resilience

On the climate change front, we've actively sought opportunities to influence central government plans and policies over the past year.

We have also worked on a range of activities, including continuing to support improvements to water resilience infrastructure in vulnerable rural communities through grant funding.

A community-led partnership model has been successful in identifying and working with priority whanau to deliver much needed healthy water supply to those most in need. To date, water tanks have been installed from Whangaroa in the north, to Otiria, Kaikohe and Kaihu benefiting hundreds of whanau.

We have also delivered grants to support consideration and planning for climate change through Iwi/Hapū Environmental Management Plans (IHEMP), providing a foundation for community led action to adapt and build resilience to climate change.

There has been further development of an online map and photo gallery documenting water levels of king tides throughout Northland. The King Tides Taitokerau Project

enables the community to get involved and easily share photos of king tides in their locations. By using photos of today's king tides (higher than normal tides), we can get a feel for how sea level rise will elevate average tides and where they will have the most impact. This essentially gives us a glimpse into the future of what Northland's coastline may look like with sea level rise.

In the emissions reduction realm, we continue to make progress in measuring our organisational greenhouse gas inventory (or carbon footprint) and have achieved the requirements and received certification under the Toitu Carbonreduce Programme for the second year. We have adopted organisational emissions reduction targets and formulated a corporate Emissions Reduction Plan that lays out a pathway for achieving the targets.

Emergency management

The Northland tsunami siren replacement project continues to progress, with 50 out of the 94 new sirens installed across Northland as of July 2024. The project is a joint initiative by all four of Northland's councils, with the Northland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group coordinating the project. Once completed, the new sirens, along with our other warning tools, will help provide more resilient and effective warnings to Northlanders for tsunami threats.

Development of the Multi-Agency Emergency Coordination Centre for Northland also continues, with the final funding required for the centre now secured. Once completed, this will provide a central, purpose-built facility that will allow for improved collaboration between Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) staff, emergency services, and other agencies during responses.

Over the year, Civil Defence Emergency Management professionals monitored and responded to several moderate weather events. The team also supported the 20 June Transpower power outage, where a 220kV transmission tower located in a field near Glorit fell unexpectedly while



A community-led partnership model has been successful in identifying and working with priority whanau to deliver much needed healthy water supply to those most in need.

maintenance work was being carried out, causing the loss of power to approximately 100,000 homes and businesses in Northland.

Community response plans and engaging with community groups remain a focus. Post-Cyclone Gabrielle, demand for marae and community response planning has increased significantly. Over the past year, the team has responded to 13 new requests for new Community Response Groups and 21 community response plan reviews. As part of the recovery from Cyclone Gabrielle, funding was also provided to 51 Community Response Groups across Northland for small infrastructure needs that increased the community's preparedness. CDEM engagement with hapū and iwi Māori continues to grow. Hapū and iwi throughout Te Taitokerau

have been working alongside CDEM groups, enhancing connections and developing hapū-led initiatives. Partnering with marae to develop preparedness plans remains a focus, with over 15 marae preparedness plans currently in development.

Recovery work from Cyclone Gabrielle continues. The aftermath of the cyclone necessitated a comprehensive response, coordinating the efforts of the four Northland councils, lifeline utilities, and non-governmental agencies. Throughout 2023 and 2024, the recovery initiatives were extensive. Notable achievements included launching the Ngā Manga Atawhai project, which aims to remove thousands of trees near rivers, powerlines, and roads to enhance electricity provision during severe weather events. We also

Ngā hua o 2023/24

Highlights of 2023/24

conducted business continuity workshops for farmers, and lifestyle block workshops for landholders. Additionally, we facilitated training for marae and communities interested in establishing Community Led Centres for future events. We've also invested in portable satellite internet technology across Northland's four councils and continued to invest in emergency management training and capability for council staff, ensuring preparedness and effective communication during future events.

Transport

The Regional Land Transport Plan 2021/2027 - Three Year Review (RLTP) was undertaken and following delays to the process caused by the change in government and the late release of the Draft Government Policy Statement on Land Transport 2024 (GPS), NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) deferred the submission date of RLTP's from 30 April 2024 to 1 August 2024.

On 4 July 2024, the Regional Transport Committee approved the release of the Draft RLTP 2021/2027 - Three Year Review to council with the recommendation that it be approved and submitted to NZTA by the specified date. This was subsequently approved and has now been lodged.

Regional leadership

Appointment of a new Chair

In November 2023, Councillor Geoff Crawford was voted in as council's new Chair and former Chair Tui Shortland became Deputy Chair after her resignation from the leadership role she had held for 13 months. Chair Crawford has a background in farming and has been on council since local body elections in October 2022.

Building a Te Tiriti o Waitangi partnership with tangata whenua of Te Taitokerau

Council is committed to building meaningful relationships that are reflective of a Te Tiriti o Waitangi partnership. Consequently, council is working proactively to strengthen, resource and adapt structures and processes to develop relevant responses for iwi and hapū to engage with council.



These relationships enable council to deliver tangible benefits that build a resilient and thriving region that is committed to working together for the well-being of the environment.

Adoption of Tāiki ē, Te Tiriti Strategy and implementation plan

Council has unanimously adopted the newest iteration of 'Tāiki ē' - council and Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party's Te Tiriti strategic intent and implementation plan. The plan, gifted the name 'Tāiki ē' by TTMAC Co-chair Pita Tipene, signifies a call to collective action and a commitment to a Te Tiriti o Waitangi-based partnership. Reaching this milestone with the updated Tāiki ē reflects the council's long-term commitment to Te Tiriti partnerships and collaborative progress in Taitokerau.

Mana Whakahono ā Rohe agreement

In April, we signed an important agreement covering how the hapū Parawhau and council will work together on resource management issues within the Te Parawhau hapū rohe (area). Mana Whakahono ā Rohe (MWAR) agreements were



introduced into the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) in 2017 by the Crown as a way of improving working relationships among tāngata whenua and councils, and to provide more opportunities for tāngata whenua involvement in RMA decision-making processes.

Te Parawhau ki Tai on behalf of the hapū Parawhau joined an existing Mana Whakahono ā Rohe agreement that had previously been signed in December 2020 with Te Patuharakeke Iwi Trust Board and Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Rēhia. The binding agreement will help to develop greater mutual understanding of the parties' expectations and aspirations across a range of resource management issues and will be a significant step in the practical realisation and implementation, through partnership, of those aspirations.

Māori wards

In April, council formally submitted in opposition to signalled changes from government that would restore the ability for communities to hold binding referendums on whether to introduce Māori wards. The changes would affect all councils that have introduced Māori seats without holding a binding referendum since the previous government amended the Local Electoral Act 2001 to remove the requirement for binding referendums. All four councils in Te Taitokerau would be affected by this.

Economic development

A major focus of work for 2023/2024 was supporting the Joint Regional Economic Development Committee (JREDC). The JREDC was established by Northland Regional Council, Far North District Council and Kaipara District Council to work together on economic development related activities, including the joint shareholder responsibilities for Northland Inc such as the development of a statement of intent.

In 2023/2024 this work included engagement with Whangarei District Council (WDC) to consider becoming a joint and equal shareholder of Northland Inc. WDC consulted on this issue and in July 2024 WDC adopted its 2024-2034 Long Term Plan that included a decision to become a shareholder and provide funding into the Investment and Growth Reserve (IGR). Another important piece of work undertaken by JREDC was to work with Northland Inc, councils and iwi to identify some initial regional growth opportunities for funding through the Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF).

A loan of \$1.35M was provided to Te Tai Tokerau Water Trust (TTWT) under a funding agreement to support the construction of the Kaipara Water Scheme near

Council is committed to building meaningful relationships that are reflective of a Te Tiriti o Waitangi partnership.

Ngā hua o 2023/24

Highlights of 2023/24



Dargaville. A non-binding term sheet was signed with TTTWT covering council's funding commitment from the Regional Projects Reserve to support the construction of the Mid North Water Scheme. Funding is expected to be provided in 2024/25.

Support was also given to Northland Inc to finalise a regional economic development strategy called Te Rerenga. This co-designed and Te Tiriti o Waitangi based strategy takes an intergenerational perspective and was developed in partnership with iwi and hapū, communities and industry sectors, alongside local and central government.

Council continued to lobby central government for improved infrastructure, including digital connectivity, marine industry development, and transport networks such as the Marsden Point Rail Link and the Northland Expressway. Four issues of the Northland Economic Quarterly were published. Work was also undertaken to improve the understanding of the Māori economy in Northland.

Tū i te ora Scholarships 2024

Congratulations to the six winners of our 2024 Tū i te ora Scholarships.

They will each receive \$4000 financial assistance and paid work experience from November 2024 to February 2025, variously joining our Governance and engagement, Biosecurity, Community resilience, and Environmental services groups.

The annual scholarships – now in their fifth year – recognise, encourage, and support students to undertake study, research or training that relates to council's environmental and regulatory functions. They also aim to build Māori capacity within Te Taitokerau, with three of the six scholarships earmarked for Māori who whakapapa to Te Taitokerau.



Northland Agricultural Field Days

At the Northland Agricultural Field Days, council engaged with around 2500 visitors over three days. Partnering with NorthTec | Te Pūkenga Level 4 cookery students, we reintroduced our wild food giveaway, featuring venison bruschetta. Our site showcased freshwater management, pest control, biodiversity conservation, and climate action, earning us the Best Outdoor Site award.

The annual scholarships – now in their fifth year – recognise, encourage, and support students to undertake study, research or training that relates to council’s environmental and regulatory functions.

Tā mātou mahi whakarāpopoto

Summary of our performance

For more information, please refer to the full Annual Report 2024.

Te Taiao Natural environment

13 out of 16 targets met



100%

Time that flood-level monitoring is accurate (to enable flood warnings to be developed) and is made available to the community.

100%

Council environmental networks monitored for water quality and quantity, and ecology, with results made available to the community.

100%

Of the milestones set out in the Kaipara Moana Remediation Project workplan (that council is responsible for) delivered through the contribution of financial, governance, staff and technical support.

14,672

(target: 16,000)

Plants provided through the CoastCare Programme.

2049

(target: 2000)

Hulls were surveyed for marine pests.

100%

Of all resource consent applications were processed within statutory timeframes.

Manawaroa te hāpori Community resilience

4 out of 7 targets met



Zero

Floods occurred as result of failures of flood protection systems below specified design levels for the Awanui, Whangārei, Kāeo, Panguru and Otiria/Moerewa schemes.

100%

Implementation of the regional adaptation strategy for climate change is underway in collaboration with Climate Adaptation Te Taitokerau members.

100%

Of engaged communities subject to significant hazards are supported in developing community response plans to guide their responses.

Hautūtanga ā rohe Regional leadership

2 out of 8 targets met



99.2%

(target: 100%)

Of official information requests were responded to within 20 working days.

88%

(target: 100%)

Economic development: 14 of 16 key performance indicators as set out in Northland Inc's draft annual report were met.

65%

(target: maintain or increase)

Of customers surveyed were satisfied with the quality of service received after an interaction with council (2022/23 result: 69.50%).

100%

Of councillors and Executive Leadership Team participated in annual core cultural competency training.

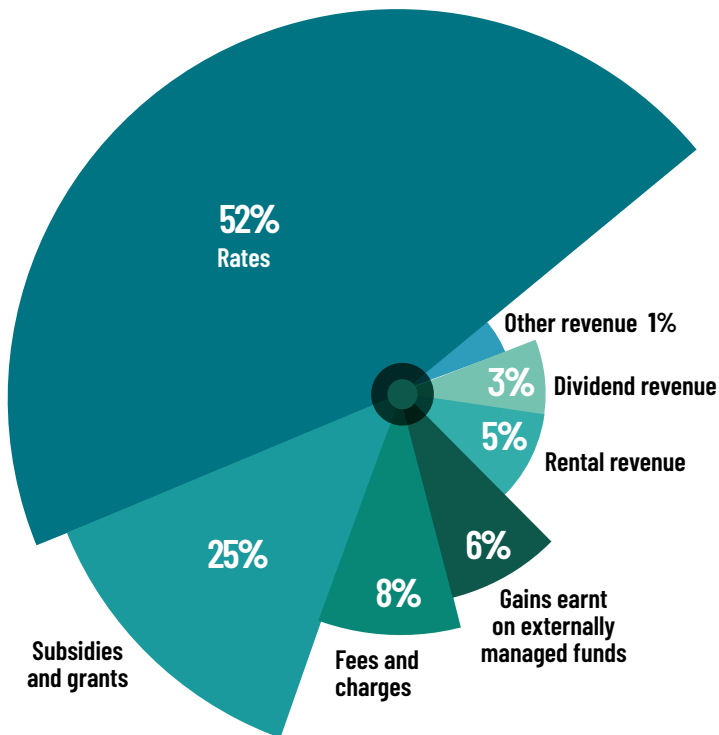
Incomplete

Independent Treaty health check completed annually (delayed due to specific council decision to undertake this bi-annually, to focus on recommendations made and implementation alignment with Tāiki ē. Completion due December 2024).

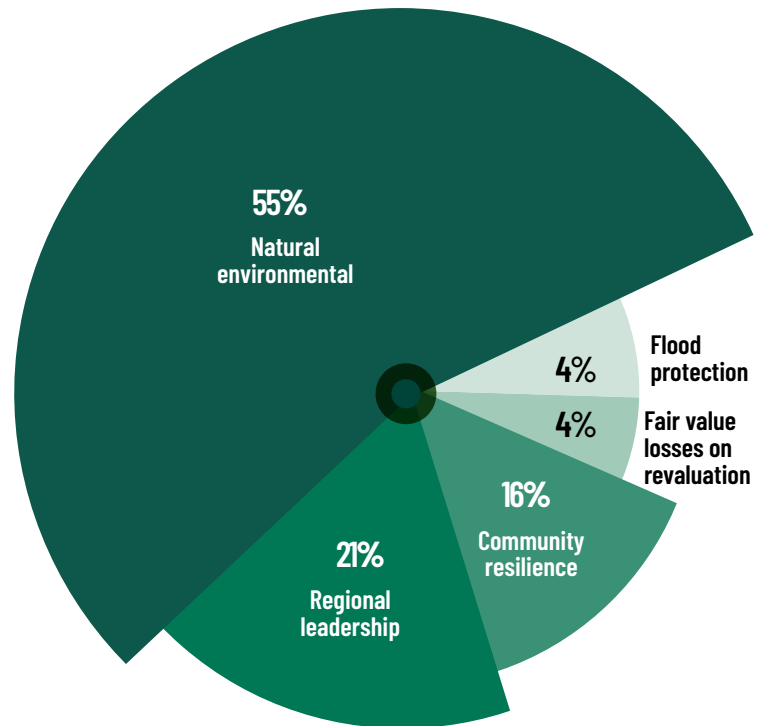
Te whakarāpopoto o te pūrongo pūtea

Financial summary

\$91M Actual Revenue



\$83M Actual Operational Spending



Councils total expenditure for the 2023-24 financial year was \$5.8m more than its 2023-24 Annual Plan, predominantly due to:

- » Higher than budgeted expenditure on subsidy funded programmes including councils Caulerpa response, stopbank and river clearing programmes, pest control programmes, hill country erosion mahi; offset by lower than budgeted personnel costs due to delays in staff recruitment in a number of operational activities. Also an unbudgeted non-cash decrease in councils investment property portfolio of \$3.1m is recognised as expenditure.

Councils revenue for the 2023-24 financial year was \$14.1m more than its 2023-24 Annual Plan, mainly due to:

- » Unbudgeted, and higher than budgeted, central government subsidies received for a range of environmental and infrastructural projects.
- » Higher than budgeted contributions from other councils for collaborative projects.
- » Higher than budgeted gains generated from councils externally managed fund portfolio.
- » Higher than budgeted rates revenue and interest revenue earned on cash deposits and loans issued.
- » Higher than budgeted RMA application fees

Partially offset by: » Lower than budgeted dividends received.

Other budget variations

- » Councils current assets are higher than its 2023-24 Annual Plan predominantly due to receivables at year end being larger than anticipated when compiling the annual plan, councils forestry carbon credits being held for resale and a higher level of term deposits held as part of a derisking strategy.
- » Councils non current assets are higher than its 2023-24 Annual Plan predominantly due to greater than budgeted flood protection capital works being undertaken (and funded with unbudgeted subsidies received), greater than budgeted expenditure in relation to the tsunami siren replacement project (also funded with greater than budgeted subsidies), greater gains generated and attributed to the externally managed funds at year end. There was a delay in a commercial development project which along with a decrease in the valuation of the overall investment property portfolio is reflected in a lower than budget investment property balance. The unspent funding relating to the delay in the commercial development is reflected in a higher than budget other financial asset balance.
- » Councils current liabilities are higher than the 2023-24 Annual Plan predominantly due to trade payables at year end being larger than anticipated when compiling the annual plan.
- » Councils non-current liabilities are lower than the 2023-24 Annual Plan as loans were not drawn down as anticipated for the construction of the CDEM building as this project had not commenced during the year.

Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense

For the year ended	Council 30 Jun 24 \$000	Annual Plan 30 Jun 24 \$000	Council 30 Jun 23 \$000	Consolidated 30 Jun 24 \$000	Consolidated 30 Jun 23 \$000
REVENUE					
Operating revenue (excluding share of associate and joint venture company surplus and rates)	43,429	29,683	37,413	51,380	44,475
Rates	47,676	47,280	43,515	47,676	43,515
Total revenue	91,105	76,963	80,928	99,056	87,990
EXPENDITURE					
Operating expenses (excluding finance expense)	81,869	75,778	68,325	94,022	77,529
Finance costs	852	1,151	555	2,702	2,180
Total expenditure	82,721	76,929	68,880	96,724	79,709
Share of associate and joint venture company surplus	14	-	51	7,960	8,186
Income tax	-	-	-	(488)	(25)
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) AFTER TAX	8,398	34	12,099	9,804	16,442
Attributable to:	-	-	-	-	-
Northland Regional Council	8,398	34	12,099	7,765	12,784
Non-controlling interest	-	-	-	2,039	3,658
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE REVENUE AND EXPENSE - Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive revenue and expense					
Gains/(loss) on property revaluations (other than investment properties)	(745)	-	282	(2,306)	(5,962)
Gains/(loss) on carbon credit revaluation	245	-	(629)	245	(629)
Gains/(loss) on infrastructure asset revaluation	-	-	2,559	-	2,559
Net hedging movement	-	-	-	(643)	423
Total other comprehensive revenue and expense	(500)	-	2,212	(2,704)	(3,609)
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE REVENUE AND EXPENSE	7,898	34	14,311	7,100	12,833
Attributable to:	-	-	-	7,100	12,833
Northland Regional Council	-	-	-	6,084	11,876
Non-controlling interest	-	-	-	1,016	957
	-	-	-	7,100	12,833

Statement of Financial Position

As at:	Council 30 Jun 24 \$000	Annual Plan 30 Jun 24 \$000	Council 30 Jun 23 \$000	Consolidated 30 Jun 24 \$000	Consolidated 30 Jun 23 \$000
Current assets	28,570	22,591	27,631	30,182	28,304
Non-current assets	244,806	237,659	230,574	430,451	418,611
TOTAL ASSETS	273,376	260,250	258,205	460,633	446,915
Current liabilities	(16,127)	(13,067)	(15,284)	(17,710)	(16,405)
Non-current liabilities	(25,102)	(26,348)	(18,672)	(60,744)	(52,844)
TOTAL LIABILITIES	(41,229)	(39,415)	(33,956)	(78,454)	(69,249)
NET ASSETS/EQUITY	232,147	220,834	224,249	382,179	377,666

Te whakarāpopoto o te pūrongo pūtea

Financial summary

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the year ended	Council 30 Jun 24 \$000	Annual Plan 30 Jun 24 \$000	Council 30 Jun 23 \$000	Consolidated 30 Jun 24 \$000	Consolidated 30 Jun 23 \$000
OPENING BALANCE	224,249	220,800	209,938	377,666	367,897
Total comprehensive revenue and expense for the year	7,898	34	14,311	7,100	12,833
Dividends paid	-	-	-	(2,587)	(3,064)
CLOSING EQUITY	232,147	220,834	224,249	382,179	377,666
Attributable to:					
Northland Regional Council	232,147	220,834	224,249	308,329	302,245
Non-controlling Interest	-	-	-	73,850	75,421
	232,147	220,834	224,249	382,179	377,666
COMPONENTS OF EQUITY					
Accumulated funds	168,165	180,933	158,976	208,259	199,702
Asset revaluation reserve	8,712	7,699	9,212	44,522	45,859
Hedging reserve	-	-	-	278	623
Special reserves	55,270	32,201	56,061	55,270	56,061
Minority interest	-	-	-	73,850	75,421
	232,147	220,834	224,249	382,179	377,666

In the summary financial statements the "council" column includes the Northland Regional Council. The "consolidated" column includes Marsden Maritime Holdings Limited. The summary financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$000), unless otherwise stated.

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended	Council 30 Jun 24 \$000	Annual Plan 30 Jun 24 \$000	Council 30 Jun 23 \$000	Consolidated 30 Jun 24 \$000	Consolidated 30 Jun 23 \$000
Net cash from operating activities	7,163	(2,109)	5,081	11,494	10,467
Net cash from investing activities	(10,590)	(2,867)	(6,532)	(13,684)	(9,411)
Net cash from financing activities	6,100	7,359	4,400	5,003	1,736
Net increase/(decrease) in cash, cash equivalents and bank overdrafts	2,673	2,383	2,949	2,813	2,792
Cash, cash equivalents and bank overdrafts at the beginning of the year	7,477	(1,397)	4,528	7,550	4,758
Closing cash, cash equivalents and bank overdrafts at the end of the year	10,150	986	7,477	10,363	7,550

Accounting Policies

Northland Regional Council is a local authority governed by the Local Government Act 2002 and the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002. It's domiciled and operates in New Zealand.

Audited statements of the council and group for the 12 months to 30 June 2024 have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 and the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014

which include the requirement to comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand (NZ GAAP).

The council has designated itself and the group as Tier 1 Public Benefit Entities (based on size). The summary financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Tier 1 Public Benefit Entity (PBE) accounting standards, as they relate to summary financial statements, and comply with Public Benefit

Entity Financial Reporting Standard 43 (FRS43) Summary Financial Statements. The full financial statements of the council comply with PBE accounting standards.

The Annual Report Summary has been audited for consistency with the full Annual Report and the audit opinion issued by Deloitte, on behalf of the Auditor-General is included as part of this document. The full Annual Report received an unmodified Audit Report and was adopted by council on 24 September 2024.

In this summary "council" refers to Northland Regional Council only. The terms "consolidated" and "group" refer to Northland Regional Council and Marsden Maritime Holdings Limited (53.61% owned).

All entities are incorporated and domiciled in New Zealand.

The 2022 Omnibus Amendments include several general updates and amendments to several Tier 1 and Tier 2 PBE accounting standards. The revised PBE standards were adopted in the year ending 30 June 2024 and have not had any significant impact on the parent or group financial statements.

Related party transactions

As all council transactions with related parties are within a normal supplier or client/recipient relationship and are all arms-length transactions, there are no related party transactions that require disclosure.

Summary of Contingent Assets and Liabilities

Contingent assets

At 30 June 2024 the council and group has no contingent assets.

Contingent liabilities

Council is a guarantor of the New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency (NZLGFA). As part of the arrangement council has guaranteed the debt obligations of the LGFA along with other guaranteeing shareholders and participants of the LGFA in proportion to its level of rates revenue.

At 30 June 2024, the NZLGFA had borrowings totalling \$23,030m (2023: \$17,684m).

During the year, a complicated civil claim was lodged against Council, and 4 other parties, seeking damages of \$3.5m for alleged negligence in performing its responsibilities regarding the granting and monitoring of a resource consent.

Council is defending the claim and in June 2024, the high court issued a direction that a case management conference be convened on the first available date after the 18 October 2024.

The outcome of these proceedings and any financial exposure for this claim is uncertain at the end of the reporting period. Council intends to approach its insurers to cover any resulting damages.

Disclosing a contingent liability does not represent either an admission that the claim is valid or an estimation of the possible amount of any award against the council.

Other legal claims

At year end the Council was a respondent or defendant in a number of other legal proceedings against council that had not been heard before the court or ruled upon which may result in a liability should council not successfully defend the proceedings. Consistent with the nature of the Councils activities, these legal claims predominantly involve Environment, Māori Land, High and District court proceedings resulting from decisions made by the Council as a planning and consenting authority under the Resource Management Act.

The amount claimed or the maximum potential exposure for the council is not considered material and excludes any interest or costs that may be claimed if these cases were decided against council.

Breach of legislation

No significant breaches of legislation during the year.

Events after balance date

Subsequent to balance date, Marsden Maritime Holdings Limited declared a fully imputed dividend of 5.75 cents per share to be paid on 30 September 2024.

There were no other significant events after balance date.



Independent Auditor's Report

To the Readers of Northland Regional Council's Summary of the Annual Report for the Year Ended 30 June 2024

The summary of the annual report was derived from the annual report of the Northland Regional Council (the *Regional Council*) for the year ended 30 June 2024

The summary of the annual report comprises the following summary statements on pages 16 to 21:

- the summary Council and Consolidated Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2024;
- the summaries of the Council and Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2024;
- the Disclosures to the Summary Financial Statements; and
- the summary Statement of Service Performance of the Regional Council.

Opinion

In our opinion:

- the summary of the annual report represents, fairly and consistently, the information regarding the major matters dealt with in the annual report; and
- the summary statements comply with PBE FRS-43: *Summary Financial Statements*.

Summary of the annual report

The summary of the annual report does not contain all the disclosures required by generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand. Reading the summary of the annual report and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the full annual report and the auditor's report thereon.

The summary of the annual report does not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our auditor's report on the full annual report.

The full annual report and our audit report thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the information we audited in the full annual report for the year ended 30 June 2024 in our auditor's report dated 24 September 2024.

Council's responsibility for the summary of the annual report

The Council is responsible for preparing the summary of the annual report which includes preparing summary statements, in accordance with PBE FRS-43: *Summary Financial Statements*.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary of the annual report represents, fairly and consistently, the information regarding the major matters dealt with in the full annual report and whether the summary statements comply with PBE FRS 43: *Summary Financial Statements*.

Our opinion on the summary of the annual report is based on our procedures, which were carried out in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Professional and Ethical Standards and the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

Independence

We are independent of the Regional Council and Group in accordance with the independence requirements of the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the independence requirements of Professional and Ethical Standard 1: International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

In addition to our audit, we have carried out assurance engagements with respect to a limited assurance report pursuant to the Council's Trust Deed, and maintenance of the register of security stock. We have also provided a fraud and corruption risk assessment and fraud and corruption risk focussed detection analytics and agreed procedures report in relation to the Kaipara Moana Remediation project. These services have not impaired our independence as auditor of the Council. Other than these engagements we have no relationship with or interests in the Regional Council or its subsidiaries and controlled entities.



Bennie Greyling
for Deloitte Limited
On behalf of the Auditor-General
Auckland, New Zealand
24 September 2024

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