

Nau mai, haere mai

# Tāmaki Makaurau Recovery



**24 Nov  
2023**

## Auckland Recovery update

Auckland Council, via the Tāmaki Makaurau Recovery Office, is leading recovery efforts for the region following severe weather events early this year. So far, the scope of work includes over \$2 billion of flood recovery and resilience works across transport and water infrastructure, and targeted support for private properties with an intolerable risk to life.

### Infrastructure recovery

Council's core role in recovery is with infrastructure, parks, and facilities, and 1838 out of 3425 rebuild/repair and resilience projects have been completed.

[Auckland Transport](#) has cleared about 53% of its recovery work after more than 1300 slips were reported. Works are currently underway to remove 30 major slips around the region, including reopening [Glenvar Road](#) on the North Shore, and also [Tahekeroa Road](#) in Helensville (where around 35,000 cubic metres of earth was removed from the slip and 95% reused). A programme of repairs for 500+ medium-large scale slips is expected to take two to three years to complete and cost around \$300m.

About 48% of parks and community facility repair projects have been completed with hundreds still to go. Many of these are track projects (including Waitākere Ranges, Te Henga and Muriwai). Most of the repairs will be completed by the end of autumn, and the centrally located repairs earlier.

### Water

[Watercare](#) identified over 200 issues affecting water and wastewater infrastructure in the wake of these events, and robust temporary solutions were put in place so that there were no impacts on residents or the environment. Permanent repairs have been prioritised and bundled into work programmes, with business cases in progress. Most of this work will be in west Auckland and the North Shore, including water treatment plants at [Muriwai \(now in service\)](#) and Pukekohe (which remains out of service). Over the summer, Watercare will take advantage of forecasted dry weather to undertake repairs at landslip sites, particularly around its dams.

Council's Healthy Waters team continue to clear and remediate pipes and waterways across Auckland, with almost 12,000 requests for service received this year. For example, 500 cubic metres of silt has been removed from two 3-metre diameter culverts at Mahunga Drive, where the Te Ararata stream discharges to the Manukau Harbour. Design concepts are being prepared to assist in business

cases for the [Blue-Green Networks](#) programme, which will address a number of community-based flooding risks.

## Private property risk

Despite having no duty or obligation, Auckland Council has agreed to provide highly targeted assistance for property owners where future weather events pose an intolerable risk to life. This forms part of its agreed [co-funding package with the Government](#).

### Categorisation

The recovery office has completed 1300 desktop assessments, contacted around 1000 property owners to arrange an onsite visit, and completed almost 900 site visits. So far, it has provided final category notifications to 386 property owners and a number of initial category notifications. With policies and schemes now in place, we expect to be confirming categories more consistently.

Most of the final Category 3 and 2 notifications completed so far are in the Muriwai area, and most initial category notifications are in Piha/Karekare with final notifications coming soon. We also expect to begin confirming final categories for flood-affected properties in the wider Auckland area over the coming weeks.

Property Category	Property owners notified (at 21 Nov)
Cat 3	47
Cat 2P	10
Cat 2A	6
Cat 1	323
<b>Total Notified</b>	<b>386</b>

Given the large number of properties registered, most homeowners will not receive a final decision until 2024. We anticipate our work on property assessments continuing until March and category confirmations through to mid-year 2024 - with most geotechnical and priority situations sooner.

## Recovery foundations

With [Category 3 \(buyouts\) policy and details](#) and [Category 2P policy details](#) already in place, the Governing Body has just confirmed that support for 2P property owners will be in the form of two grants to help them mitigate an intolerable risk to life at their property:

- a design and consent grant to help homeowners obtain the necessary technical advice and consents and confirm the project's feasibility
- a construction grant supporting the homeowner to undertake the consented works.

The grants are a maximum of 25% of the property's Capital Value (CV), and the works must be completed within two years to meet the 2P category criteria. About 100 to 120 properties are expected to be in the 2P category, and the cost of the grants scheme will be shared with the Government.

### Disputes

A new [dispute process](#) is now up and running for storm-affected property owners who want to dispute elements of the categorisation and buy-out process. Property owners can dispute the property risk category they are given and the market valuation (as at 26 January 2023) to be used in the buy-out offer. They have three months from receiving their property categorisation to dispute the category and one month after receiving the market valuation to dispute the valuation.

The recovery office has also proactively released the decision documents relating to the funding agreement with the Government and the Category 3 Buyouts. These documents were confidential when the decisions were being made and are now available on the [Recovery website](#).

## Personal & community support

The recovery is an opportunity to partner with mana whenua, mataawaka, marae and Māori businesses. Regular contact from the Recovery Office will strengthen relationships with mana whenua and ensure they can participate meaningfully in the recovery effort. There is active engagement with mana whenua, with a series of hui contributing to developing the Tāmaki Makaurau Recovery Plan.

### Navigators

A team of [Navigators](#) is now providing one-on-one support, walking alongside affected residents through the process and connecting them to the support they need. Visits and [drop-in clinics](#) are taking place across the region. Residents can discuss their options, decisions being made about their home, their insurance situation, access financial assistance or support to deal with the emotional and mental toll.

The Storm Recovery Navigation Service is growing. The number of households being supported by Navigators has increased substantially, from 176 to 581 households. Fourteen organizations, including iwi and NGOs, will partner with the Recovery Office to host one or two Navigators, funded by the Ministry of Social Development. The first group of iwi and NGO Navigators are starting this month.

### Community recovery grants

A [Storm Recovery Community Grant programme](#) has been established to assist residents and community groups supporting local recovery efforts. The grant, opening in two rounds, will help groups to fund a coordination role, create regular meetings, updates and deliver activities. Groups will be able to apply for up to \$10,000. The grants will be funded from an allocation of \$250,000 for community-led recovery activities within the Recovery Office Budget.

### Key sources of information for property owners:

- [The Tāmaki Makaurau Recovery Office website](#)
- [Milestones for property owners](#)
- [FAQs for property owners](#)
- [Category 3 and 2P explainer](#)



### Need help?



Visit: [ourauckland.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/recovery](https://ourauckland.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/recovery)  
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