



## Kia ora Karekare whānau,

Welcome to the December-January edition of the Karekare Community Recovery Newsletter. As the summer holidays gave us a slower pace, we're now stepping into the new year with renewed energy and focus.

As we navigate the road to recovery, almost two years on with all its ups and downs, it's worth remembering that many of the Auckland Transport, Fulton Hogan and Auckland Council staff we work with are West Aucklanders like us. They too have faced the devastating impacts of the January floods and Cyclone Gabrielle, and many are juggling their roles here in Karekare and indeed across the Auckland region in multiple affected communities while their own communities wait for recovery work to begin.

We're continuing to coordinate across multiple departments, and while the pace of progress may sometimes feel slow, we can trust in the genuine care and effort of everyone involved. We also offer a gentle reminder that, compared to many other communities, we have made significant strides in restoring our roads and infrastructure.

We're grateful for the collective effort and resilience of our community and partners as we continue rebuilding and strengthening Karekare together

## Recovery Updates

### Road Repairs

- **Karekare Road:** Our ongoing communication with Auckland Transport led to the potholes being repaired on the last day of January.
- **Lone Kauri Road:** Work resumed on 20 January 2025, with Fulton Hogan addressing the final slip site. This requires a full 24/7 road closure during construction. We will keep sharing updates as they become available.

Auckland Transport has provided a document addressing community concerns about the road closure, which has been shared on our local WhatsApp and Facebook groups. You can also access it on our website at

[www.karekare.org.nz/recovery](http://www.karekare.org.nz/recovery)

### The Glade Restoration

Restoring the Pōhutukawa Glade remains a top priority for the community. We continue to press Auckland Council Parks and Auckland Transport for updates, a clear timeline, and action.

While there have been no major developments, the latest communication at the end of January confirmed that a memo is being prepared for the next Local Board Meeting on 27 February. A community meeting will follow. The plan is to complete this work in the first half of the year, with progress underway to finalise options, obtain consents, and confirm materials. Once these details and approvals are in place, and we're notified, we will share the information with you.





### Inorganic Collection

The contractor has scheduled the collection for April, depending on when Lone Kauri Road fully reopens.

### Deconstruction Update

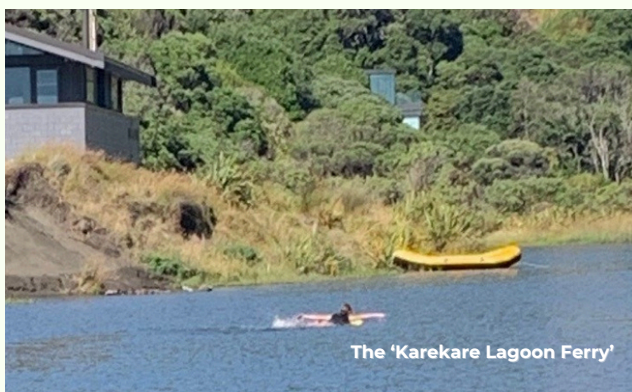
For the purpose of this newsletter, the senior project manager has shared the following progress:

- Steady progress is being made.
- Around ten properties have reached settlement, with more to follow. Asbestos surveys are underway for these properties, and power has been disconnected.
- Plans are still being refined to ensure the work is carried out safely and with minimal impact on the community.

### Karekare Beach Access

Rising stream levels have made it difficult for surf patrols to access the beach this season. To navigate this challenge, the Karekare Surf Life Saving Club worked together with its members to create a 'Ford' Access near the carpark. While this has allowed essential rescue equipment to reach the beach, it's not a quick or easy solution. To further support patrols, club members have also introduced the 'Karekare Lagoon Ferry,' helping lifeguards move between the beach and the club more efficiently during their patrol day.

Despite these creative efforts, the long-term question of managing the stream depth remains a key conversation among beachgoers. Karekare Surf Life Saving Club President *David Munro* shares more details in his update, which you can read in full on our website: [karekare.org.nz/recovery](https://karekare.org.nz/recovery).



### Unitary Plan

The Unitary Plan Natural Hazard Risk Tolerance workshops were successfully completed before Christmas. There were around 20 participants from various different communities affected by the Floods and/or Cyclone Gabrielle. It was generally agreed that this was a fantastic initiative by Auckland Council but that the process had been far too rushed and would most definitely have benefited from taking place over a longer time frame (it was three online sessions - two workshops and one report writing session, two of which went well over scheduled time) and from including more participants and therefore an even broader cross section of viewpoints.

A total of five representatives from the group of participants volunteered to then present the finalised report in person to The Council's Policy and Planning Committee. The whole Policy and Planning Committee Workshop can be viewed on youtube by searching "[Policy and Planning Committee Workshop Auckland Council 11 December 2024](#)".

### Shoreline Adaptation Plan

Following the August 2024 meeting on this topic, Auckland Council's presentation and meeting notes will soon be available on our community website [www.karekare.org.nz/recovery](https://www.karekare.org.nz/recovery) for anyone interested in reviewing them.

### Neighbourhood Watch

As part of the recovery plan and in light of recent theft incidents, many community members have suggested reactivating our local Neighbourhood Watch.

Please note: Cameras cannot be placed on public land. However, if you have cameras on private property, you can register them with Neighbourhood Support to act as a community resource for police in the event of a disturbance or burglary. You can find more information here: <https://www.neighbourhoodsupport.co.nz/community-cam-faqs>

We've set up a **polling form** to gather your input. Please take a moment to share your thoughts on safety and how we can better support each other as a community. The link will be shared on WhatsApp and Facebook groups.

### Christmas Party Recap: Jingle & Mingle

A big thank you to everyone who joined the *Jingle & Mingle* Christmas Party on 14 December! It was a wonderful evening filled with festive carols, shared snacks, and warm company, bringing back the nostalgic tradition of celebrating Christmas in Karekare at the Pōhutukawa Glade.

The beautiful summer evening gave many of us the chance to connect for the first time or reconnect after some time apart. Special thanks to all who helped organise and contribute to this lovely event, notably our generous hosts at Karekare House.

We'd love your thoughts on future events. How do you feel about hosting one main community gathering each season? Share your ideas or suggestions by emailing us at [karekareclrp@gmail.com](mailto:karekareclrp@gmail.com)



### Looking Ahead

Our shared journey of recovery is shaped by your contributions and engagement. If you have ideas, feedback, or wish to get involved, please reach out to us.

For regular updates, visit our dedicated Community Recovery webpage at [www.karekare.org.nz/recovery](http://www.karekare.org.nz/recovery) under the Residents and Locals section.

Ngā mihi nui,  
Eva-Maria Ghannam & Mike Worrall  
Community Recovery Team