

# Whau Ward Councillor Report

NOVEMBER 2025

**Sarah Paterson-Hamlin**

sarah.paterson-hamlin@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

## Introduction

Kia ora and welcome to my first report as Whau Ward Councillor!

It's been a whirlwind few weeks as I get to grips with my new role and transition out of my mahi at Raukatauri Music Therapy Trust. Thank you for your patience and understanding while I make the necessary adjustments to whānau and mahi life.

## Key updates from Governing Body and Committees

The big news for the month is the confirmation of the Committee structure for this term of Auckland Council.

All Councillors are part of Governing Body and the three Committees of the Whole: Transport & Infrastructure, Policy Planning & Development, and Budget & Performance.

In addition to these, I have been put on the Community Committee, the Hauraki Gulf Forum, and been made Chief Liaison Councillor of the Advisory Panels (Disabilities, Rainbow, Ethnic, Pacific, Seniors, and Youth).

I am thrilled with these appointments and look forward to using my experience in the disabilities and charities sectors in particular to contribute to Auckland.

*Swearing in as Councillor*



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## Other key updates

Some of the significant pieces of work we're focusing on include:

- Plan Change 120
- The Auckland City Deal
- Transport reform (bringing Auckland Transport into Auckland Council)
- Annual Plan (Budget!) 2026/2027

Online and in-person briefings have been organised by Council for PC 120, and I'd recommend jumping on the AK Have Your Say website for information including on making a submission, the background to the plan, and interactive maps to help you explore what it might mean for your rohe.

Submissions are due by 19<sup>th</sup> December and we want to hear from you! You don't have to be a homeowner or permanent resident or citizen to submit. This will impact all of us for generations to come so it's important we hear from as many people as possible as part of the process.

I'm also looking forward to coming along to the Canal Reserve re-opening event this month. Play and recreation are such an important part of our city, and I enjoyed being able to catch up with the Play Portfolio Lead this week as well.

*Bake sale at kapa haka concert,  
Te Kura o Pātiki*





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## Events & meetings attended

- 20.10.2025: Welcome Day event for Councillors
- 21.10.2025: Emergency Management orientation and bus tour
- 22.10.2025: Induction and briefings for Councillors
- 22.10.2025: Meeting with Mayor's Chief of Staff
- 24.10.2025: Meeting with Chief Executive Officer, Phil Wilson
- 29.10.2025: Whau Local Board Inauguration
- 31.10.2025: Inaugural Meeting of Auckland Council Governing Body
- 05.11.2025: Governance Conference (Mayor & Councillors)
- 11.11.2025: Maiden Speech & Extraordinary Governing Body Meeting
- 12.11.2025: Meeting with Principal Advisor for Panels
- 12.11.2025: Budget and Performance Committee briefing on Annual Plan 2026/2027
- 12.11.2025: Meeting with Mayor's Head of Governance
- 13.11.2025: Briefings on Proposed Plan Change 120 & Time of Use Charging
- 18.11.2025: Meeting with Principal Advisor for Panels
- 18.11.2025: Meeting with Group Chief Financial Officer, Ross Tucker
- 19.11.2025: Meeting with Play Portfolio Lead
- 19.11.2025: Councillor Workshops

*Ecomatters stream clean,  
Avondale*

