

# VICTORIA SHORT

## Albany Ward Councillor Report April - May 2026



### Appointments:

- Deputy Chair of Value for Money Committee
- Deputy Chair of Audit and Risk Committee
- Member of Appointments and Performance Committee
- Member of the Hauraki Gulf Forum
- Pacific Peoples Panel

### Committee of the Whole (CoW):

- Member of Policy, Planning and Development Committee
- Member of Budget and Performance Committee
- Member of Transport and Infrastructure Delivery Committee
- Member of the Governing Body Committee

### Update on Matters:

#### Replanting of St Mary's by the Sea – Torbay to Browns Bay

Over the past month, I have been contacted by the Browns Bay Business Improvement District (BID) and a significant number of local residents regarding concerns about the proposed replanting of St Mary's by the Sea. The primary issues raised relate to the social enterprise component of the project and the potential impacts on the Browns Bay town centre. Residents and the BID have highlighted a range of uncertainties that, to date, have not been adequately addressed by the church.

I have been closely monitoring this matter, along with relevant Council staff. I have held discussions with both the Compliance team and the Community Wellbeing team. Their advice is clear: this is a private venture on private land. Provided the church meets all permitted activity, regulatory, and compliance requirements, the decision to operate a social enterprise model is a commercial one for the landowner.

An email response has been sent, which fully outlines my position, the concerns raised, and Auckland Council's stance on the matter. This response (21.04.26) has also been provided to the East Coast Bays Electorate Office, the Hibiscus & Bays Local Board and Cr Watson.

#### Local Board Reorganisation

On 21 April 2026, the Governing Body voted on whether to support the proposed Local Board Reorganisation for the 2028 elections. The motion was carried by a vote of 20 to 1, with the majority deciding not to proceed with the reorganisation.

Feedback received from Local Boards indicated little support for the current reorganisation proposal. However, there was strong support for broadening the scope of the work to include a review of the wider Council family, including the Governing Body itself.

During the discussion, members raised concerns about the capacity required to undertake the work and the associated costs. There was also significant interest in incorporating this review into the Long-Term Plan (LTP) to ensure adequate budget is allocated.

A good deal of discussion focused on whether the Governing Body should be prioritising



this work or directing its energy towards more immediate and pressing matters. From my perspective, there appeared to be a genuine appetite around the table to consider a broader review of the Council family in the future, in line with suggestions made by several Local Boards.

Initiator	Seconder	Action	Vote For	Vote Against	Vote Result
Wayne Brown	Shane Henderson	Division	Wayne Brown, Desley Simpson, Andrew Baker, Josephine Bartley, Bo Burns, Julie Fairey, Alf Filipaina, Christine Fletcher, Lotu Fuli, Shane Henderson, Richard Hills, Mike Lee, Daniel Newman, Sarah Paterson-Hamlin, Greg Sayers, Victoria Short, Ken Turner, John Watson, Maurice Williamson, Matt Winiata	John Gillon	CARRIED
<b>Motion Text:</b>					
That the Governing Body:					
a. receive / whiwhi local board feedback on a potential local board reorganisation					
b. agree / whakaae to not progress a local board reorganisation for implementation by the 2028 local elections					
c. note / tuhi tipoka that local boards provided feedback on potential boundary changes in specific areas where communities of interest may no longer align with existing boundaries, including Drury, Whitford and Beachlands, old Flat Bush, and Milldale/Ara Hills.					

**Annual Plan 26/27**

Thank you to Chair Atkinson, Deputy Yang, Chair Poppelbaum and Member Parfitt for taking the time to present to the Budget and Performance Committee (CoW) on your boards plan for the upcoming financial year. Both presentations were insightful and informative for my colleagues to hear and have already sparked some valuable offline conversations.

As Deputy Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee, we recently received a report on the Annual Plan process. This review confirms that proper processes were followed and that potential risks are being appropriately managed. It is very clear that fuel price volatility remains the most immediate and material threat. While staff have put forward mitigation options, the combination of rising fuel costs, economic uncertainty, shortfalls in asset sales, and potential rates capping creates a very tight operating environment for 2026/27. On a positive note, it was pleasing to see that the procedural and compliance risks were well managed by the Project Control Group for the annual plan.

Happy to discuss any of the above



**Victoria Short**  
Albany Ward Councillor  
15 May 2026



Date	Meeting/ Event
09.04.26	Weekly catch up with CSA
13.04.26	Catch up with Chief of Staff
14.04.26	Policy, Planning and Development Committee meeting
15.04.26	Meeting with ChildFund CEO
	Weekly catch up with CSA
	Policy, Planning and Development workshop
	Appointments and Performance Review Committee workshop
16.04.26	INVITATION: Opening of Upper Waitemata Marine Centre
	Hauraki Gulf Forum Extraordinary meeting
17.04.26	Meeting with Browns Bay BID
20.04.26	Elected members briefing
	Value for Money - Pre-agenda meeting
	Meeting with finance staff - revenue/savings ideas
	Meeting with constituent via teams
	Meeting with Grants department with Cr Paterson-Hamlin
21.04.26	Governing Body Extraordinary meeting
	Budget and Performance Committee meeting
22.04.26	INVITATION: Cleantech Expo at AUT
	Advisory Panel liaison CR morning team
	Budget and Performance Committee workshop
	Policy, Planning and Development Committee workshop
23.04.26	Phone call with constituent
	Weekly catch up with CSA
	Appointments and Performance Committee meeting
	Phone call with Browns Bay BID
	Interview with Auckland University on Open Strategy
24.04.25	Meeting with Community Brokers and Cr Paterson-Hamlin
	Meeting with Kainga Ora - Catalina Bay
	Meeting with Windsor Park Trust
25.04.25	ANZAC DAY 2026
28.04.26	Transport and Infrastructure Delivery Committee meeting
	Governing Body Confidential briefing
29.04.26	Direction setting for the Long Term Plan 2027 - 2037
	Budget and Performance Committee meeting workshop
30.04.26	Weekly catch up with CSA
04.05.26	Elected members briefing
	Meeting with staff regarding playgrounds
	Policy, Planning and Development workshop
	Value for Money - Agenda run-through
05.05.26	Governing Body Committee meeting
	INVITATION: Iconic Auckland Eats
06.05.26	Budget and Performance Committee workshop
07.05.26	Weekly catch up with CSA
	Value for Money Committee meeting
08.05.26	INVITATION: Sherwood Primary School Green- Gold celebration
	Introduction to Face Forward
	Meeting with Kainga Ora regarding Bomb Point
09.05.26	INVITATION: Surf Life Saving Club Awards
11.05.26	Direction setting for the Long Term Plan
	Weekly catch up with CSA
	Transport Reform Legislation Summary and Q&A
12.05.26	Policy, Planning and Development Committee Meeting

