

Rodney Community Team Guidelines 2026

What we do, and how we can support you



Version 1 2026

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Table of Contents

3 Welcome to the Rodney Community Team

4 Rodney Community Delivery Framework

5 How can the Rodney Community Team support you

5–6 Resourcing for community projects, activities and initiatives

- Eligibility
- Higher priority projects

7 Process and how to make contact with the team





Nau mai, haere mai Welcome to the Rodney Community Team

The Rodney Community Team was established by the Rodney Local Board to support the development of more community-led, locally delivered activities, programmes, events and placemaking activations across Rodney.

The team is focused on delivering the community priorities that local people have said they would like to see more of in Rodney. These are included in the draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026 and reflected in the Rodney Community Delivery Framework (page 4).

At the core of the team are five part-time, place based Community Facilitators, each covering a different community in Rodney:



Ko wai mātou – who are we?

The Rodney Community Team is a Rodney based and focused community development team that works together as an integrated unit. The community facing roles are five **Community Facilitators**, a **Play, Youth & Recreation Coordinator**, a **Community Arts Coordinator** and a **Community Places Coordinator**. There is also a **Community Emergency Group Connector** who provides Rodney specific community development and resilience support for community emergency groups.

At the core of the team are five part-time, place based Community Facilitators, each covering a different community in Rodney: South Kaipara, Dairy Flat to Warkworth, Mahurangi East to Leigh, Kumeū and Wellsford.

The facilitators work alongside local people and community groups to help develop and deliver their ideas for events, programmes and activities in their communities. They have a wide variety of skills, both individually and as a team to support this work, and they also have some project resourcing available for their areas.

The Play, Youth & Recreation Coordinator is a full-time role that covers all of Rodney. This specialist role is focused on coordinating and organising the delivery of exciting new recreation, leisure and play opportunities for all ages and abilities, as well as supporting youth development initiatives.

Placemaking

A primary objective of the Rodney Community Team is to increase placemaking initiatives in Rodney. We want to create public and community spaces (including community centres, community living rooms, parks, venues for hire) in Rodney's towns and villages that are attractive and vibrant. We want to see lively places with more playful, interesting things to do and look at, focal points that support community life and provide opportunities for people to meet and connect with each other.

Rodney Community Delivery Framework 2026

RODNEY LOCAL BOARD COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

(from the draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026)

- Connected, resilient, thriving communities
- Inclusive, flexible parks, spaces and facilities for all ages and abilities
- Strong, capable local leadership and community champions
- Vibrant welcoming public spaces, town centres, villages and local hubs
- Strong local identity and rural character
- More quality recreation, play, arts, culture, events and activities
- More community-led programmes, activities and initiatives
- Improved access to learning, training and skills development opportunities
- Increased support for Māori aspirations and outcomes
- Resilient, adaptable communities, prepared for growth, change and emergencies

Rodney Community Team delivery — 7 key priorities

1 Strengthen community groups and local leadership

Provide resourcing and support for programmes and activities that will grow community capacity and resilience and nurture local leadership.

2 Recreation, leisure and play activities

Increase recreation, leisure and play opportunities and offer a wider mix of activities across community facilities, parks, recreation spaces and public spaces.

3 Placemaking in towns and villages

Work with local communities on placemaking activations that will make our towns, villages and community spaces more welcoming, vibrant and attractive.

4 Community events, arts, culture and programmes

Work alongside local communities to provide more arts, culture, programmes, events and activities for all ages, abilities and interests across Rodney.

5 Mana whenua/Māori priorities and aspirations

Support local initiatives that reflect mana whenua/Māori priorities, ensure Māori identity and stories are reflected in local places and design, and support Māori-led programmes and events.

6 Local skills development, training and learning

Improve access to local opportunities for learning and literacy programmes, youth programmes, skills development and job readiness training.

7 Strengthen community voices and participation

Initiate and facilitate conversations with communities to identify local needs, interests and solutions, and support them to get involved in community issues that matter to them.

How can the Rodney Community Team support you?

The Rodney Community Team works with individuals, communities and groups. Our goal is to support the development and delivery of community projects, activities, events, programmes and placemaking initiatives that provide wider community benefit and align with the outcomes and priorities identified in the Rodney Community Delivery Framework 2026.

We work in ways that encourage local communities to do things for themselves, and walk alongside people and groups who need a hand getting going with their ideas. The Community Facilitators role is to work with you to help develop and deliver your project, programme, event or idea.

We can provide assistance with

- Planning your project
- Finding venues, and in some cases helping with the cost of venues
- Finding other people to work with who might support your project
- Connecting groups with other community organisations or potential partners.
- Negotiating and understanding council processes
- Landowner approvals (permission to use a public space)
- Consulting with your community
- Finding additional financial support
- Marketing and promotion
- Governance

We have small amounts of financial support available to help with projects, initiatives, events and placemaking activations.

Eligibility

- Applicants can be individuals, community organisations, informal community groups, small businesses
- Projects must demonstrate that they fit with the outcomes and priorities in the Rodney Community Delivery Framework (page 4)
- Projects must show a clear benefit to the Rodney community
- Applicants must be residents of the Rodney Local Board area, or have a strong demonstrated connection to Rodney
- Projects must take place within the Rodney Local Board area
- Projects must be inclusive and accessible (free or very low cost to attend)
- Applications are generally limited to one per year



Project resourcing priorities



Higher priority

- Community-led or community partnered
- Collaborative projects
- Open and freely available to the wider Rodney community
- New, creative and innovative programmes that are currently not available locally
- Supports Māori aspirations
- Caters for the needs and interests of groups in the community who are currently not well served
- Strengthens community connections and local networks
- Enhances and grows community capacity in Rodney for people and groups to do more for themselves
- Creates new safe and welcoming community spaces where people can connect and participate
- Activates and utilises existing community spaces and places

Exclusions

- Commercial entities unless they have a community based focus, clear community outcomes and are for the delivery of a specific community project
- Projects and activities in schools unless clear benefits to the wider community and contribution to wider community wellbeing can be shown
- If resourcing is for an individual, it must have a community-based focus, clear community outcomes and be used for the delivery of a specific project
- Fundraising activities
- Initiatives that can be funded by central government or other mainstream funders
- Activities that promote religious, ministry or political purposes
- Projects and activities already funded by the Rodney Local Board
- Wages/salaries only if for an entirely noncommercial purpose with no profit made

Process and how to make contact with the team



The starting point is easy, check out rodneycommunity.org.nz for more info.

Make contact with the local Community Facilitator for your area and have a chat about what you are interested in doing.

Before you contact us, it helps if you've thought about:

- Who is your project or event for?
- What are you planning to do?
- When would you like it to happen?
- Where will it be held?
- Why are you running it, and what do you hope to achieve?
- Budget/costs involved?

Having these details ready will help us understand your idea and provide the most appropriate support.

Contact details:



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