

Sport Waikato Annual Report 2022

Mahia te mahi hei
painga mo te iwi

*We strive every day to 'do the work
for the betterment of the people'*

-Te Puea Herangi



**SPORT
WAIKATO**

Hei painga mo te iwi

Let's Move Waikato - January 2022



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Phil Taylor
Board of Trustees Chair



Matthew Cooper
Chief Executive

On behalf of the Sport Waikato Board and staff in our 36th year, we present the 2022 Annual Report. After two very disruptive years living through and navigating the Covid-19 pandemic, during the last 12 months - while not absolute business as usual - we welcomed a sense of normality in the workplace and with our external facing partners. While there have indeed still been challenges in a world where Covid-19 continues to linger, Sport Waikato's way of working has enabled us to remain connected with and influencing our region's key partners and deliverers of physical activity - our Councils, our education providers, our national, regional and local sporting organisations and community groups.

Sport Waikato's focus and drive continues to be aligned to Moving Waikato - the region's strategy for play, active recreation and sport. Our elevator pitch at Sport Waikato is that we are targeted in approach: 0 to 18 years with additional lens up to 24 years for women. We place resource and energy towards positive outcomes through play, active recreation and sport for Maaori, disability, women and girls and high deprivation areas of the rohe - those groups most at risk of dropping out and/or who tend to miss out.

Sport Waikato is very fortunate to have been gifted two beautiful tongikura by Waikato Tainui that encapsulate in essence the way we work, the way we behave and the way we care.

Why do we exist? "Mahia te mahi, hei painga moo te iwi - do the work for the betterment of the people" (Te Puea Herangi). Sport Waikato exists to increase the physical activity



On the horizon, always, is our BHAG of 75% of Waikato adults and youth meeting the national physical activity guidelines by 2030. This is our stretch goal that we constantly remind ourselves of. This annual report provides solid evidence despite the pandemic, that we are heading on the right course.

levels of people in the Waikato region. We do this by providing high-value strategic and influential regional leadership in play, active recreation and sport to improve physical activity outcomes and access for the people of the Waikato, all with the aim of increasing wellbeing outcomes for our communities.

How do we work? *“Kotahi te koohao o te ngira e kuhuna ai te miro maa te miro whero me te miro pango - there is but one eye of the needle through which the white, red and black threads must pass” (Kiingi Pootatau).* This looks like and portrays this Regional Sports Trust being very clear about its role, its 'why' and its goal and importantly, working in partnership both internally and externally to achieve positive outcomes for our communities. We influence strategically and we work collaboratively with those who make decisions about play, active recreation and sport. We don't deliver! But instead, we work with the deliverers to support them to understand the barriers and preferences of our communities and make good decisions about investment and delivery.

On the horizon, always, is our big, hairy, audacious goal (BHAG) of 75% of Waikato adults and youth meeting the national physical activity guidelines by 2030. This is our stretch goal that we constantly remind ourselves of. This annual report provides solid evidence despite the pandemic, that we are heading on the right course.

We are delighted with our 'one team' approach to working where we are now capitalising on the complementary strengths of our super

enthusiastic Sport Waikato staff who are subject matter experts in the areas that they work. We are working together to collectively contribute towards our focus and increase the impact of our mahi. This approach is backed by an Organisational Performance Team who professionally support the 'business' and enable the 'story' to be told. A hierarchical approach and siloed way of operating are yesterday's language.

Equally we have made excellent progress in our own bi-cultural journey because it's right, it's appropriate and Sport Waikato genuinely and authentically wants to get better. We greatly value the support of the Sport Waikato Kaumatua, Pokaia Nepia who has walked alongside the organisation for 13 years as an excellent source of cultural support and safety. Alongside our engagement with Pokaia, we have also worked together to grow one another and to embed Te Ao Maaori and Tiikanga into our everyday practices. Sport Waikato has taken this approach to ensure that we have a workplace culture and values that have been deliberately designed and are bi-cultural in nature.

Sport Waikato is one of a national network of 14 Regional Sports Trusts and since late 2020 the Chief Executives of each of the Trusts have been working together to identify ways in which the network can work more effectively together. This initiative has been supported by Sport NZ as key sponsor, and a steering committee and governance structure has been put in place to coordinate the work programme this collective is responsible

for. The main objective of the initiative is to increase the impact of the RST network as a collective and within each RST's respective region. Sport Waikato is supportive of this initiative as while every region is unique and has its own challenges, there is common ground for the RST network in terms of our objectives - and because of this, there is an opportunity for the network to collaborate, share knowledge and learnings, and advocate as one voice where deemed appropriate. The emerging work from this newly established focus is the preparation of a business case that has been presented in draft format to Sport NZ and focuses on the channelling of resource to support priority communities, typically high deprivation, within each region. Growing the RST network's bi-cultural competency is the second key emerging workstream, which again is an opportunity for shared learning across a diverse group.

Finally, when reflecting on the year, I can't help but reminisce the recent Rugby World Cup in New Zealand and the performance of our Black Ferns. There was drama, then pure ecstasy if you were a New Zealander - this tournament was a breath of fresh air for women's sport and it wasn't just because of the quality on-field performances, but also because of the atmosphere, hype and support the nation showed.

Sport Waikato has long been an advocate for women and girls' participation in sport and physical activity through our This is ME® initiative. Simply put, This is ME® encourages, supports and celebrates girls and women of all ages getting out there and active, whatever way they choose to! While the words 'rugby' in New Zealand have traditionally conjured images of the men's game - and in particular, the All Blacks - the Black Ferns have really put women's participation in rugby on the big stage in October and November.

But, importantly, it's not just the Black Ferns' personalities, self-awareness and sense of humour, fun and flair that is drawing people in, it's the actual rugby! Undoubtedly, we will now have a generation of young females (and perhaps young males) in the Waikato region who might be thinking, might be dreaming, "that could be me" and that links to all sport and recreational opportunities.

It is increasingly important that moving

forward into a new year, 2023, that we make it possible for these young New Zealanders (and importantly, our young people in the Waikato) to experience sport in ways that work for them - ways that are fun, engaging, inclusive, supportive and that celebrate their individuality and meet their needs. We're excited to have already begun this work and will continue to work hard to support young people in our region to participate.

In terms of our full year financial result, 2021-2022 was another challenging year for Sport Waikato to manage responsibly due to the ongoing effects of the Covid-19 pandemic and in particular, the disruption caused by both the August to November lockdown period for the Waikato region and the Omicron outbreak in the early part of 2022.

As a positive, our income was as budgeted and is reflective of the strength of the relationships we have with our core funders and the support they extend to Sport Waikato, not just financially but also for the work we do - we are forever grateful for this. Some of our operating costs were reduced because of the impact of the lockdown period and in particular, remuneration costs were less than budgeted mainly due to the challenge of filling vacancies in a tight labour market and doing so while in lockdown.

These operational cost savings were offset by losses resulting from long-term investments of some of our cash reserves which again, reflects the volatility of the market in a pandemic era. The net effect of all of this being that we are reporting a total surplus from continuing operations for the year of \$285k. This is a pleasing result given the overall volatility of the environment created by the pandemic, and is a testament to how the operational and governance teams of Sport Waikato have worked well together to navigate our way through this period.

GOVERNANCE

It was an honour and privilege to become the 6th Sport Waikato Chairman since our inception in 1986. I acknowledge again the excellent commitment, service and legacy my predecessor Mark McCabe left over his tenure. Sharleen Nathan was appointed Deputy Chair. Sharleen brings a very strong education focus

with previous senior roles at Hamilton Girls' High School, Ministry of Education and now the University of Waikato.

It has been an important 12 months post transformational change and then the Covid-19 pandemic for Matthew and the team to have distractions removed and the free licence and focus to execute against our strategy - Moving Waikato and our why - to influence the decision makers and the play, active recreation and sport system. We have been delighted by results and performance.

In accordance with the philosophy of continuous improvement, the Board subjected itself to an independent review by governance expert Lindsay Corban, which identified a few 'work-ons' but also reaffirmed the high performing nature of the Board as a whole.

At this year's AGM, due to time commitments and increased leadership responsibilities we will farewell Hauraki district Mayor Toby Adams after just under three years excellent contribution to the Sport Waikato Board. Toby's real strength is breaking down the complex to articulate succinctly the options or solutions. Toby also understands and gets community, particularly the locally led, participant-centred approach. We thank Toby for his contribution.

I would like to thank all trustees for their time, input and valuable contributions over the last 12 months. Your passion and commitment as the guardians of Sport Waikato is never taken for granted.

I would like to acknowledge our Chief Executive Matthew and our passionate staff as we continue to build momentum, executing and clear on our strategy, focusing on impact always with eye on our 2030 BHAG.

Phil Taylor – Sport Waikato Chair

PARTNERSHIPS

To all our funding partners and key stakeholders who believe in our mahi, a special thank you to you all for your unwavering support through extremely challenging times. Life after Covid-19 will still be bumpy. Our many populations of the Waikato region will continue to face challenging times. The importance and benefits of the provision and promotion of regular physical activity - be it through play, active recreation or sport - we believe will never be more important than in the coming years.

Again, thank you for your support. We all need to keep Te Puea Herangi's whakataukii front and centre - "*Mahia te mahi, hei painga moo te iwi – do the work for the betterment of the people*".

As always, special mention to Sport NZ where your support, influence and partnering not only to Sport Waikato but within the Waikato sport, recreation and play 'ecosystem' is nothing short of outstanding. We also acknowledge the region's Iwi, Health NZ, Trust Waikato, our ten Territorial Local Authority partners, the Waikato Regional Council, the Waikato Regional Sport and Recreation Organisations, Waikato Secondary School Sports Association and Waikato Primary Association. To the Grassroots Trust, Lion Foundation and NZCT - your collective long-time support enables and consolidates our approach to ensure we stay true to the aims of Moving Waikato, but most importantly, to get things done.

We thoroughly enjoy our co-location and interaction with Wintec where Brian Perry Sports House is located. Equally the same applies in terms of our interaction and partnering with the University of Waikato. To our tenants at Brian Perry Sports House; the benefits are really apparent of the shared location model but importantly your company only adds to a positive environment.

Finally, to our Sport Waikato staff - with a clearer line of sight throughout 2022, the influence and quality of your mahi linked to the region's strategy, Moving Waikato, linked to the 'one team' philosophy and linked to Te Puea Herangi's whakataukii has been impressive and one where we say genuinely, ngaa mihi. Thank you again for your contributions throughout the last 12 months.



Phil Taylor
Board of Trustees Chair



Matthew Cooper
Chief Executive



OUR STRATEGIC FOCUS

Sport Waikato is committed to achieving the outcomes of Moving Waikato, a partnered strategy for play, active recreation and sport published in November 2016, and reviewed following the completion of horizon one in 2019. Moving Waikato has the vision of 'everyone out there and active' and a goal of 75% of the region (adults and young people) active enough to positively impact their wellbeing by 2030. Moving Waikato is guided by three strategic pillars:

- **Our People:** more physically active tamariki, rangatahi and whaanau
- **Building Communities:** helping communities to help themselves
- **Regional Leadership:** leading and delivering change

Partners to Moving Waikato include: local, regional and central Government; sport and recreation providers, education providers (tertiary, secondary, primary, intermediate and early childhood), health providers, philanthropic partners, trusts and gaming funders.

The second horizon of Moving Waikato involves a regional focus on increasing physical

activity levels among the following targeted communities:

- **Pre-school children (tamariki mokopuna) 0-4 years**
- **Children (tamariki) 5-11 years**
- **Young people (rangatahi) 12-17 years**

With particular focus on: Maaori, deprived communities, women and girls, disabled people, and low participation groups or those who tend to miss out (e.g. ethnic minority groups). The strategy prioritises key settings and focus areas including education settings, play and active recreation settings, community sport settings, coaching, and facilities, spaces and places planning.

Importantly, Moving Waikato sees Sport Waikato staff united in their work through a shared vision and goal that translates to a 'one team' approach to working that is premised on collaboration within and across teams in the organisation. It is through this approach that system-change is enabled.



Moving Waikato is an evidence based strategy for physical activity through play, active recreation and sport for the Waikato region, and gives focus and clarity towards 2025.

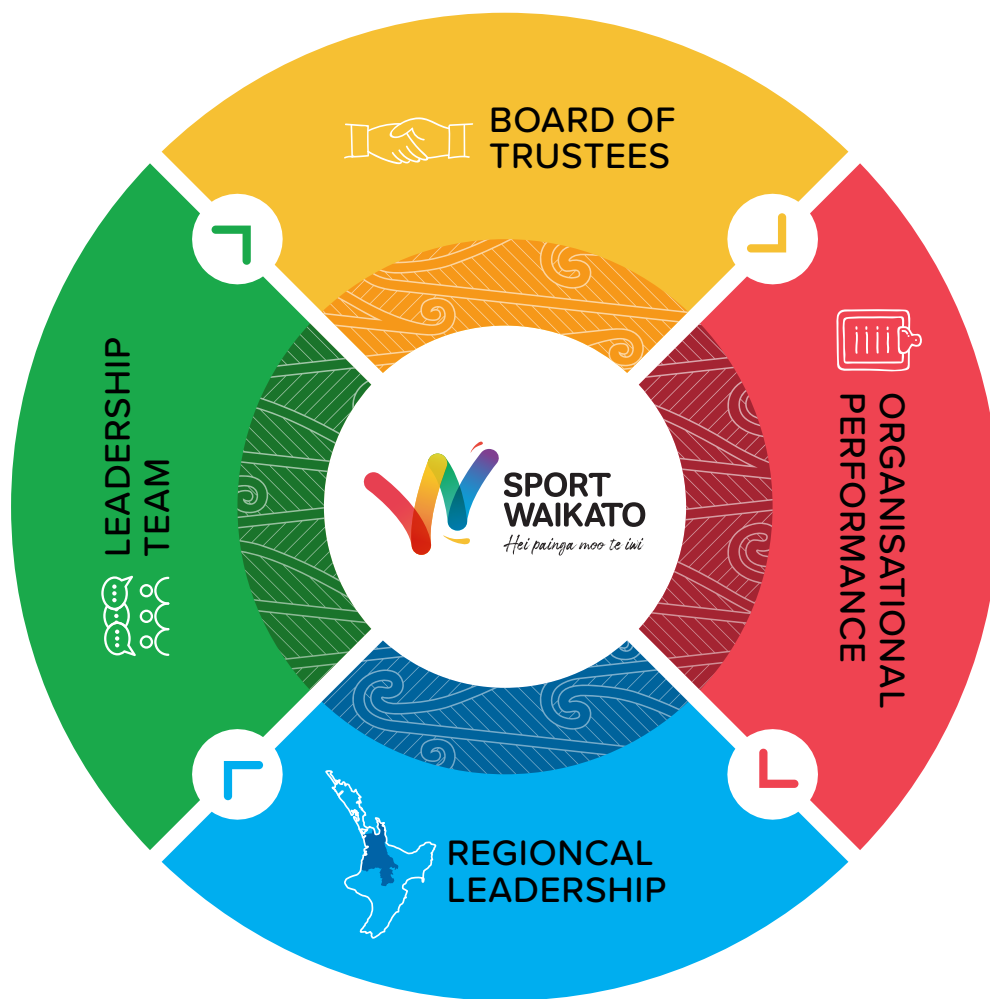
It seeks to build on the positive momentum of existing partnerships and to increase the provision of opportunities for both participation and quality experiences for the people of the region.



ACHIEVING SUCCESS THROUGH WORKING TOGETHER

Sport Waikato

ONE TEAM



[VIEW OUR PEOPLE](#)

SPORT WAIKATO REBRAND

Having undergone a recent significant change and with a refreshed approach to our mahi, we recognised it was also time to retire our existing brand and update with something that was more reflective of our new approach. The world is changing... and it was time for us to change with it.

When reflecting on our brand and how it had developed over 35 years, Sport Waikato had to start with our reason for change in 2020. We had undergone a significant transformation from a delivery-based model to a strategic model and we wanted a brand that reflected our new journey – a journey of inclusivity; cultural capability; movement; reflective of the colours of our communities.

Our vision has not changed – we want 'Everyone active', and we are guided by a strategy, Moving Waikato, which ensures that our vision starts to become a reality. Our energies are focused on achieving a big goal of having 75% of our region meeting the World Health Organisation's physical activity guidelines by 2030.

Through a series of staff workshops, interviews and engagement with some of our key external partners, supported by robust market research, we have captured what we believe is the sole purpose and essence of why Sport Waikato exists:

To influence, impact and lead meaningful change, so everyone can be more active.

Many discussions were had around whether this was also a time to change the name of our organisation to better reflect the play, active recreation and sport aspects of our mahi. The outcome of those discussions was that there was no simple and effective brand name that would encapsulate what we do. We've been Sport Waikato for over 35 years; there's significance and brand integrity in the name. It means a lot to us, and it means a lot to our communities.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BRAND

The brand keeps our traditional red, yellow and black but includes colours that speak to collaboration, inclusivity, health, wellbeing and energy. The blue and green are reflective of the land and the river, iconic to our region.

The shape of the W is retained, while becoming more playful, energetic and representative of the active nature of our brand, values and goal, while being reflective of the river; woven and connected.



TE AO MAAORI

Our organisation is on a cultural capability journey to ensure that we can connect in an appropriate way with all of our communities, and we wanted our new brand to reflect the importance of this journey. We needed to explore how aspects of Te Ao Maaori could be woven into the logo or additional brand elements to truly reflect where we are at as an organisation. We are still on our journey, knowing there is still a long way for us to go but at the same time, we are proud of where we are on this journey so far.

Two Tongikura previously gifted to us by Waikato Tainui have been such a big part of our organisation, so it was only right that our new brand captured the essence of what we are trying to achieve by utilising these Tongikura – and therefore after much discussion, 'Hei painga moo te iwi' was chosen as our byline as it fit with where we are heading and who we are doing the work for. The people.

Translated: 'for the betterment of the people'. The full Tongikura is "Mahia te mahi hei painga moo te iwi - do the work for the betterment of the people", (Te Puea Herangi).

We also had a lot of discussion on translation of the byline into English in the logo itself – but we really wanted there to be an opportunity for people to ask what it means and for conversations to open up around the byline meaning and the cultural journey our organisation is on.

KOWHAIWHAI

Once the brand was developed, we then turned to creating a kowhaiwhai pattern to fit with the new brand and further the story of the new brand.

Created by Wiremu Puke, the puhoro pattern represents speed, swiftness and agility. As a

Ta Moko pattern it was found on the thighs of the old-time warriors and as a painted pattern it was used on the underside of the prow and stern of war canoes.

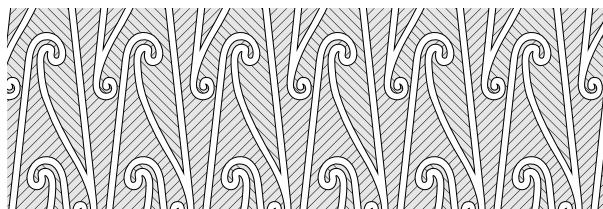
The kowhaiwhai pattern accompanies the logo in all of our documents and visual elements.

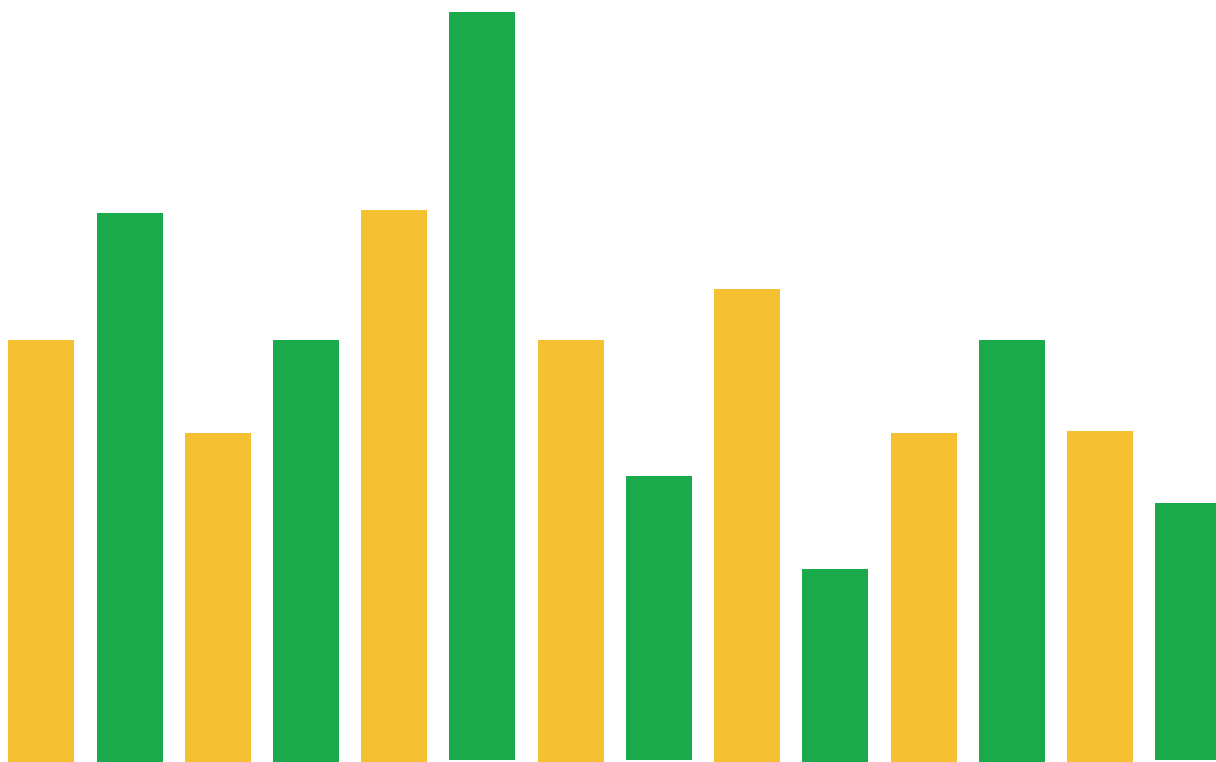
THE BRAND STORY VIDEO

Alongside the new brand visual elements, we thought carefully about how we share this news – not everyone cares when you ‘change your logo’! We wanted our brand reveal to be more than just about a logo – the real brand is our people. They are the most important part of our organisation, and a big part of the journey we have been on.

We are proud of them! There was a story to tell that was bigger than just a brand reveal and we ultimately wanted to connect our people with our communities while ensuring our communities know what our aim and purpose is. The brand story video was born! Filmed by local Waikato team [Play Creative](#), it's definitely something we're so proud to share.

In the end, what we now have is a brand that reflects who we are and where we are going. A brand that reflects our region, and the people of our communities. A brand that also respects the past but looks toward a brighter future for our people.





INSIGHTS & EVALUATION

The Insights and Evaluation Team continue to drive data collection, analysis and dissemination. Their work provides guidance to Sport Waikato staff as well as to our key stakeholders, all with the aim of increasing insights-led and evidence-based decision making about investment and intervention as well as the measuring of progress and impact.

INSIGHTS

Investment into insights and evidence continues to be a priority for Sport Waikato. Moving Waikato is the blueprint for our organisation and its measures are our measures of success. The key measure for the 'Our People' pillar, is the percentage of our region's people being physically active and is measured through the national Active New Zealand Survey.

The 2017 sample boost undertaken by Sport Waikato, which provided a district-level view of physical activity participation across the Waikato

region has enabled partners in Moving Waikato to establish a robust baseline with sub-group analysis and to monitor the results across the ten years of the strategy. In 2021, Sport Waikato again undertook a sample boost of Active New Zealand to provide district-level insights regarding the physical activity levels, trends, barriers and motivations of people and communities of the Waikato.

Insights from this sample boost are currently being prepared to form local district profiles to support our Council, education, iwi and play, active recreation and sport partners.

Early use of the data included provision to Local Government Election candidates across the rohe to encourage them to think about their role in supporting community wellbeing through movement. Insights revealed that 1 in 5 tamariki in the region cannot afford to be active as well as the role of public facilities in supporting physical activity, for example.

A SPOTLIGHT on physical activity in the Waikato region



KEY:

Young People (5-17 years) Rangatahi (12-17 years) Tamariki (5-11 years) Adults (18+ years)

As we work towards a healthier and more active region, it's important to understand the current landscape for the people and communities of the Waikato region. Our population have a range of **participation preferences** and **barriers** to being active, and there are some important things we think you should know....



Young women 5-17 years

are currently **more active** than young males

63%

VS

54%

Only

57%

of young people

&

53%

of adults

who are disabled

are active enough to positively impact their wellbeing

But they want to do more!

Adults from HIGH DEPRIVATION COMMUNITIES are less active than adults in low deprivation settings

Accompanying the insights was a conversation via LinkedIn that encouraged the candidates to add their voice to a discussion about growing

physical activity across the region to support health and wellbeing outcomes:

Matthew Cooper • 1st
CE at Sport Waikato | Lead | Influence | Impact | Strategic Regional Lead...
2mo •

IT'S ELECTION TIME and we want to hear the thoughts and perspectives of our region's Council candidates on growing people's wellbeing through physical activity. We'd love you to add your voice to the conversati...see more

There are a number of concerning barriers to participation that require a partnered approach to break down:

Did you know?

AFFORDABILITY
of sport and physical activity is a barrier for tamariki, rangatahi who are Maaori, female, have a disability or are from high deprivation communities.
1 IN 5 tamariki do not play sport because their family cannot afford it.

BEING TOO BUSY
prevents around 30% of rangatahi being active in ways that support their wellbeing - challenges include the demands of schoolwork, other hobbies and paid work.

WORK DEMANDS
and other commitments (e.g. family) are barriers for 50% of the adult population to being active, and are the most prevalent barrier for females and adults in high deprivation communities.
1 IN 5 adults are too tired to incorporate physical activity into their lives.

CEO Robyn Polley and 57 others
50 comments • 3 reposts

Ryan the Lion Ashton (He / Him / Mate / Lion) • 2nd
Community Builder | People & Culture | Recruiter | MC | Mental Hea...
2mo •

I remember as a kid when weekend trading came in, parents stop bringing their kids to sports on a Saturday so our station wagon eventually took 8-9 kids at times... I can only imagine what its like now with affordability...

Warren Maher • 3rd+
Director at Coastal Electrical Ltd
2mo •

I am standing for WRC in Thames Coromandel, strengthening relationships between District Council, Regional Council, iwi and communities is critical to enabling cycle ways to progress through our region. Fishing is also a great active recreation for our kids who may not be interested in ball sports, as well as providing opportunities for anyone with a disability. I see a great opportunities in coordinating programs with fishing clubs, schools and coast guard.

Jacqui Stokes • 2nd
Office manager at Mortgage & Insurance NZ Ltd
2mo •

Getting kids interested in sport at a young age is important as it keeps them interested later. We need to look at funding for younger sports teams. Make sure any grants and support is going to the younger kids.
I do also like Mathew's idea of supporting more exercise parks around the city. I think some of the walking and cycling groups in the city could also need more promotion. Lots of these groups aimed at different abilities and times. This can make it easier for people to exercise when their is a social aspect and it becomes more fun

VIEW



LISTENING TO THE VOICE OF OUR PEOPLE

Over the past 12 months we have significantly grown our work to collect participant voice.

This year, we surveyed over 3,900 students, community members, sports administrators and coaches to better understand their challenges, preferences, motivations and barriers to participation.

The introduction and continuation of surveys such as Voice of Rangatahi, Voice of Tamariki, Voice of the Coach, Voice of Waahine and community consultation for local play, active recreation and sport plans have provided valuable insights for us to learn from.

Participants have been surveyed from every district of the Waikato to help us build a picture of the landscape of physical activity participation and experiences of individuals and groups from a range of schools/organisations, demographics and backgrounds.

This data has told us that:

ONLY 27% of rangatahi surveyed have high levels of satisfaction with competitive sport at school

ONLY 22% of rangatahi surveyed are satisfied with the PE experiences at school

67% of coaches surveyed would like their code(s) to focus on **improving the support and development** offered to them

Puffing and sweating and being watched while being active are barriers to physical activity among tamariki involved in Voice of Tamariki surveying

ONLY 22% of young women surveyed at the University of Waikato (Hamilton and Tauranga campuses) are satisfied with the physical activity opportunities available to them

UP TO 70% of community members surveyed for local plans travel outside of their district to engage in play, active recreation and sport

Importantly, the relevant Sport Waikato teams and staff are using this data to work with key organisations, groups and individuals to break down barriers to participation by looking to alternative ways of delivery, growing capability and encouraging cross boundary conversations and collaboration among key stakeholders.

EVALUATION

Moving Waikato has a well-established theory of change, and the monitoring and evaluation framework was developed to ensure that Moving Waikato as a regional strategy is meeting the relevant benchmarks to enable the achievement of the organisational goal of 75% of the region's population meeting the physical activity guidelines by 2030.

Our 2021 Active New Zealand data tells us that we have seen increases in the physical activity participation rates of the following target groups, since 2017:



Young women (5-17 years)



Young people and adults living in areas of high deprivation



Young people and adults with a disability



We have also seen increases in the satisfaction levels of the delivery of sport in community settings (e.g. among clubs)

What this tells us is that we are tracking well against our Moving Waikato targets and additionally, that a targeted approach to the way Sport Waikato staff are working is benefiting the people and communities of the region.

HEALTHY ACTIVE LEARNING (HAL)

HAL is a partnered, national initiative developed and endorsed by Sport NZ, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health that seeks to elevate the levels of physical activity among tamariki in schools by growing teacher capability, confidence and commitment to deliver regular and quality Health and Physical Education (HPE) lessons for students, while increasing connections between schools and communities to ensure tamariki are engaged in regular opportunities to be active through play, active recreation and sport.

It is an initiative based on a broad methodology of assessment, action planning and implementation that sees schools and kaiako empowered to deliver regular and quality HPE and physical activity through play.

The initiative has been delivered in the Waikato since 2021 by Sport Waikato, in partnership with Te Whatu Ora – Health NZ (Waikato), Sport NZ and schools across the region. Its introduction coincided with the disestablishment of the long running Project Energize programme – an initiative based solely on implementation that saw a local workforce enter primary schools to deliver physical activity and nutrition sessions to tamariki.

Despite only being delivered for a short time (just over 18 months), HAL Waikato is already having important impact on the physical activity levels and overall health and wellbeing of tamariki in the region.

School and kaiako engagement is high and targeted interventions are ensuring that those schools and tamariki who need the most support are receiving it.

11 Kaahui Ako engaged in HAL

93 HAL Champions developed in primary and intermediate settings

Over **26,000** tamariki impacted

1/3 of tamariki impacted are **Maaori**

Despite concerns being raised that the removal of Project Energize would represent a backwards step, in reality, overall regional physical activity levels have been largely maintained (within 3% from 2017-2021) through this initiative, and during a Covid-19 impacted time with numerous national lockdowns.

Additionally, kaiako attendance at Professional Learning Development (PLD) sessions, signals commitment to a more sustainable model that places onus on teachers to support regular physical activity participation among their students via HPE and play.

2017 = 62% of tamariki physically active enough to positively impact their wellbeing (420 mins per week at any intensity)

2021 = 59% of tamariki

Over 1,100 *attendees at kaiako PLD sessions

**This figure includes those kaiako who have attended multiple sessions*

Perhaps the most important marker of the impact of HAL Waikato however is the change in both quality and quantity of physical activity delivery happening in schools across the region. As is evidenced throughout this report, a number of schools have made positive strides with the support of Sport Waikato and are now facilitating increased levels of physical activity among their tamariki.

60% of schools who have had moderate to high levels of engagement with Sport Waikato have made positive changes to physical activity delivery in a school setting.

Of these changes:

54% have been in both quantity and quality

21% have been an increase in quantity (e.g. number of days, length of session)

25% have been an increase in quality (e.g. HPE is now planned and delivered in a meaningful way)

** Importantly, change has also been observed in schools with low engagement*

The Sport Waikato team are proud of the progress being made through HAL Waikato and we are buoyed by the level of engagement of our partner schools. We very much look forward to continuing to support school senior leadership and kaiako to understand their role in the delivery of HPE and to find ways to incorporate this regularly and meaningfully into their daily teaching practice.



109
SCHOOLS

74% TARGETED¹

78
ECEs

27% TARGETED²

60

**EXTERNAL
PROVIDERS**

**SCHOOL - COMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIPS**

24,353
PRIMARY KIDS
IMPACTED

14,750 TARGETED¹

3,494
ECE KIDS
IMPACTED

646 TARGETED²

**PHYSICAL ACTIVITY
LEVELS HAVE
REMAINED STATIC**

even with the removal of
Project Energize and during a
Covid-19 impacted timeframe

59%

2021

62%

2017

**OVER
ONE THIRD**

of tamariki
impacted are

MAAORI
(ECEs + SCHOOLS)

WAIKATO

29 SCHOOLS/ECE TOTAL, OF THOSE
15 SCHOOLS/ECE TARGETED

HAMILTON

49 SCHOOLS/ECE TOTAL, OF THOSE
22 SCHOOLS/ECE TARGETED

WAIPA

12 SCHOOLS/ECE TOTAL, OF THOSE
2 SCHOOLS TARGETED

OTOROHANGA

12 SCHOOLS/ECE TOTAL, OF THOSE
7 SCHOOLS/ECE TARGETED

WAITOMO

20 SCHOOLS/ECE TOTAL, OF THOSE
14 SCHOOLS/ECE TARGETED

40% + 51%

SCHOOLS ECEs
have an enrolment of

**MAAORI & PACIFIC
TAMARIKI
50% OR HIGHER**

¹ targeted: members of targeted Kaahui Ako defined by high level of deprivation, high Maaori population, and more rural community.

² ece: based on equity index (EQI 1-2)

130+

PROFESSIONAL
LEARNING
SESSIONS

1,100+

PROFESSIONAL
LEARNING
ATTENDEES

93

CHAMPIONS

38% + 24%

SCHOOLS ECEs

**MODERATE TO HIGH
LEVELS OF
ENGAGEMENT
WITH SPORT WAIKATO**

60% OF SCHOOLS
that had MOD-HIGH
engagement with
Sport Waikato have made

**POSITIVE
CHANGES**

to physical
activity delivery

54% in both QUALITY
& QUANTITY*

21% increase in
QUANTITY

25% increase in
QUALITY

(Change has also been observed
in schools with low engagement)

THAMES COROMANDEL

14 SCHOOLS/ECE TOTAL, OF THOSE
7 SCHOOLS TARGETED

35

TU MANAWA
FUNDED SCHOOL
PROJECTS

HAURAKI

13 SCHOOLS/ECE TOTAL, OF THOSE
ALL SCHOOLS/ECE TARGETED

MATAMATA PIAKO

5 SCHOOLS/ECE TOTAL, OF THOSE
1 ECE TARGETED

**VOICE OF
TAMARIKI**

11 SCHOOLS
800+ TAMARIKI
PARTICIPATED

SOUTH WAIKATO

31 SCHOOLS/ECE TOTAL, OF THOSE
19 SCHOOLS/ECE
TARGETED

*quality: e.g. HPE is now planned and delivered in a meaningful way

*quantity: e.g. number of days, length of session

Ngaruawahia Kaahui Ako

Support for Under Fives

The development of fundamental movement skills through physical activity and play among under fives is important to support tamariki physically, mentally, socially and cognitively.

Play is a complex and dynamic activity that can support learning in multiple ways. Stewart Brown suggests that “play seems to be one of the most advanced methods nature has invented to allow a complex brain to create itself”, with a number of experts agreeing that fundamental movement and life skills (e.g. reading, writing, cooperation) are developed through play.

Our recent work within the Ngaruawahia Kaahui Ako has enabled us to influence policy and delivery regarding physical activity. Sport Waikato has successfully influenced the group of six schools and five centres to include physical activity and play as recognised ways of learning into the *Achievement Challenge Document*. This document is a contract for schools and services in this Kaahui Ako to work towards key actions.

One of the examples that will support physical activity participation across a range of ages is in *Achievement Challenge Two: Hauora*. The key action is that Early Childhood Educators (ECE) and schools develop a clear vision of what student well-being means in their context. The success criteria for this is that students learn to take risks in a safe environment and tamariki are able to use a range of strategies and skills to play and learn with others. This is measured through Learning Stories in the ECE sector.

In order to help kaiako bring these key actions to life, Sport Waikato set up three workshops. These include focuses on *crossing the midline*, *spatial awareness* and *vestibular*. These have been delivered to approximately forty kaiako/facilitators from five schools, five ECE centres, four kohanga reo services, one MOE representative, two Tainui kaimahi and the Kaahui Ako lead. The ECE centres have decile ratings between 2-4, with the total number of tamariki the centres are licenced for being 159. The rolls of the centres involved are mostly comprised of Maaori tamariki with each centre having between 58%-100% Maaori on their roll.

The workshops upskill kaiako to understand how movement supports brain development and gives them activities that they can implement into their everyday planning across a variety of ages and stages. Those attending these workshops are not only empowered to take learnings away and embed them into their respective settings by not only adopting

new ways of teaching themselves, but by also supporting their peers and organisations to value and bring to life the learnings.

Following the addition to the *Achievement Challenge Document* and subsequent workshops, a number of changes have been implemented across the centres that have impacted the physical activity levels of the tamariki. Three examples are detailed as part of this case study.

Building Foundational Skills and Accessing Play Opportunities through Bike Riding

With the support of workshop learnings, a centre in Ngaruawahia decided to use biking to provide opportunity for tamariki to use their large muscles in another way (gross motor skills). They realised the important skills tamariki can learn by riding a bike – things such as bilateral movement, balance and coordination – as well as the potential of biking for supporting the physical activity levels of tamariki both at the centre and at home. They have now committed to getting their balance bikes out for their tamariki to ride each day, regardless of the weather. This is a stark contrast to prior to our work with the centre, whereby the bikes were rarely used and remained locked away, inaccessible to the children. This centre has 31 tamariki who are now all moving regularly in a new way via biking, are building strength and coordination and are having fun, which helps to promote a lifelong love of biking and physical activity more broadly.

Additionally, the bikes and the centre's focus on supporting tamariki to ride has enabled students of all abilities to play and move together. Biking has supported one of their newer students with Downs Syndrome (Dylan) to integrate into the centre and make friends while also developing his physical abilities - and in particular, helping him to advance his skills from riding a tricycle to a two-wheeler bike.

In a short time, Dylan has already improved his stability, balance and coordination skills which is supporting him in other areas of play. His mother is excited by the opportunities for Dylan's continued growth, development and participation in physical activity that could come out of this newfound activity.

6+ months

low engagement

SNAPSHOT

1 major physical activity & play policy change

42+ kaiako & facilitators supported with professional learning development

↑ increases in physical activity in 5 ECE centres

All tamariki at the centre are now experiencing an opportunity that develops a foundation of gross-motor skills that can easily be further explored within the centre, at home or out in the community.

LEARNING STORY

Motivation & Movement



After attending a Sport Waikato Workshop last month about Crossing the Midline (the ability to move one body part such as a hand, foot, eye etc, across the center of the body), and discovering how important these specific movements are in supporting children's learning and development, we made an intentional decision here at Caring Kids, to improve access to the types of resources and activities that support these specific movements.

One such activity is bike riding. We have quite a few balance bikes here at Caring Kids, however, in the past, we didn't always get all of them out everyday. After learning how important Crossing the Midline is, and understanding that Midline Crossing has its foundations in bilateral movement such as running, skipping, jumping and bike riding, we decided to make our balance bikes accessible to our tamariki everyday.

Today it had been raining on and off all morning, previously, this would have been an excuse to not get the bikes out, but now, with our new found motivation for movement, we still placed the bikes on the bike rack and provided rain gear for the tamariki that were keen to play outside.

You were keen to go out Dylan, so we helped you put on some rain gear. While outside, Whaea Megan noticed you watching your friends riding around the playground on the bikes, she then watched as you made your way over to the bikes and tried to get on one yourself. She supported you to get on the bike, but you struggled at first, to get the bike moving. We haven't seen you ride a bike at Caring Kids before Dylan, but as the other children rode past they called out "Come on Dylan", and you flashed that big smile of yours, tried again, and slowly but surely, managed to maintain your balance while alternating your leg movements and pushing the bike forward. You followed your friends around the playground on your bike until you had no energy left. When you had finally had enough, you sat on the deck totally exhausted.

We talked to Mum at the end of the day and showed her a video of you on the bike. She was so impressed, she told us that you have a balance bike at home but that you hadn't managed to ride it yet.

We're so proud of your persistence and perseverance Dylan, and because we know this fun activity is so great for your body and your brain, we'll make sure to have the bikes available for you whenever you want a ride!



September 2022, by Whaea Opal

Moving for Mat Time and Crossing the Midline

Taupiri Educare are thinking deeper about individuals and groups of tamariki and how they can implement simple activities to move and develop foundational skills that will support further physical activity and play through their daily practice.

With 59 tamariki on the roll (58% Maaori), and most in the over two's area, they looked at Tuakana-Teina concepts and wanted the older tamariki to role model movement activities for the younger tamariki, thus they chose mat time as the best time for them to make change quickly and effectively. Their approach has centred on incorporating singing, dancing and moving such that actions-based songs like 'Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes' and activities like 'Simon Says' have not only been used to get their tamariki moving more, but they have been modified to ensure the children are practicing crossing the midline by reaching to the opposite sides of their bodies.

“

We've started by doing activities every mat time that include Crossing the Midline. The kids love it. - Kaiako

”

The activities have also been used to support those tamariki with higher needs, who tend to withdraw from or be less involved in movement-related activities through a lack of confidence, fear or foundational skills. The activities are now being used to include and support these tamariki.

With the kaiako having a deeper understanding of how movement, physical activity and play supports healthy brain development, the tamariki are experiencing a wider variety of movement skills.

One kaiako, who used to be a physiotherapist summed it up by saying *“Moving and being active are critical to the development of the skills, attitudes and confidence required for children to participate in lifelong learning. I always knew movement was important but simply put, when a child moves, connections are formed within their brain, movement means experience and experience means learning.”*



“

We have recognised several tamariki that have higher needs. We are doing a focus on two of them but as we focus on extending these two, the others will join the activities, play, learn and grow.

”

Exploring Body Awareness through Movement and Risky Play

After attending the Sport Waikato-led workshops, the manager of a centre with 30 tamariki (73% Maaori) on their roll, realised the importance of body awareness - particularly that how the body moves affects the brain connections. She has been actively watching the tamariki in the centre's care to unpack what their needs are so she can role model and discuss with the kaiako more opportunities for physical activity and play at the centre, with a particular focus on supporting risky play which is renowned for enabling tamariki to develop self-confidence, resilience, executive functioning abilities and even risk-management skills.

The change in approach to risky play is exemplified in the learning of a particular student who was cautious about using an elevated beam. Prior to engagement with Sport Waikato, the kaiako may have intervened by holding the child's body or hand, providing balance for them. Now they notice, recognise and respond to their needs with the understanding of trusting a child to explore in their own time.

Through this approach the child has been provided the space to test their abilities, and while careful at first, has progressed over a short period of practice from crawling to walking along the beam. The child has been supported to explore their abilities and improve vestibular balance, movement coordination and concentration all while having to control his body's centre of gravity.

Sport Waikato's workshops and discussions have supported kaiako to trust and allow tamariki time to explore their physical skills while providing them with the right environment and activity opportunities to discover all their senses in a way that promotes hauora. The result is increased movement among the tamariki at the centre.



Insoll Avenue School

Insoll Avenue School is a Decile 1 contributing primary school located in Hamilton East, catering for students in Years 1 to 6. It has a roll of 320 including 228 tamariki Maaori and 49 students of Pacific heritage.

The school's values system encourages students to be an Insoll HERO by being honest, excellent, resilient and organised. The school draws on its strengths in inclusive practices that support students' wellbeing and sense of belonging, and provides an orderly and supportive environment that is conducive to learning. Insoll Avenue School is a part of the Te Pae Here Kaahui Ako (Te Raki Rāwhiti O Kirikiriroa - Northeast Hamilton).

The senior management of the school are very supportive of incorporating as much physical activity as possible into the teaching of HPE, across curricula teaching and break times. Following engagement with Sport Waikato, all 16 classroom teachers are now expected to teach HPE explicitly.

The senior classes have 3x HPE lessons per week focusing on skill development and soft skills, such as communication, teamwork and other interpersonal skills. They also participate in other physical activity such as fitness, play, integrated curriculum and brain breaks at least two times per week.

The middle school classes do a minimum of 15 minutes of fitness each day as well as their HPE lessons twice a week. The junior school has a huge emphasis on play and are participating in physical activity or play at least once per block every day (3x per day).

Before engagement with Sport Waikato, there was very little proper HPE teaching taking place. Teachers went out for the odd game, but this might have been once or twice a week.

The priority of play has also widened in the

school and this has been supported by the 'Neighbourhood Play System' work of Sport Waikato. This works aims to track opportunities for tamariki to engage in play within a 750m radius of the school and the homes (for most) of the students.

Tamariki provided feedback on where they like/dislike to play and their favourite play experiences, which is now being used to support the work of 'community play champions' (Te Papanui Enderley Community Trust, Hamilton City Council, Kainga Ora and Insoll School) who will be working to co-design inclusive play opportunities for tamariki and whaanau in the community.



The priority of sport and sporting opportunities has also changed in the school through engagement with Sport Waikato and HAL. The most noticeable change is that now the whole school participates in weekly sporting events. All teams are out for this session, and it is 45-60 minutes with classes challenging each other in a range of sports.

Students are loving participating in such a wide range of HPE type activities. Participation in HPE has increased – kids are opting out less, forgetting their togs less.

Behaviour in class has improved because students are engaged for shorter sharper times and come back to class ready to learn

- School HPE Lead.

6+ months

high engagement

SNAPSHOT



increases in physical activity
participation across the whole school

SENIOR

3x

MIDDLE

15

+ HPE

2x

JUNIOR

3x

45-60

MINS

weekly full school sports events



Increased knowledge
of and confidence teaching the HPE curriculum

Regular, termly PLD for all Teachers

The school cross country event has also changed significantly. A 'fun run' was organised this year and was very effective in providing an opportunity for all tamariki to feel successful in an inclusive, non-competitive event. All the tamariki either ran or walked for the time they were out (45mins). There were a range of obstacles and activities for the tamariki to do along the way and fun was had by all. Every student participated as opposed to previously when many would opt out. During a reflection session after the event, none of the teachers could find a negative thing to say.

Professional development of teachers has been available to meet the needs of the school's staff. The HPE Lead teachers share their professional learning at a designated termly staff meeting. These opportunities are based on the professional learning that has come from the PLG days held each term and led by Sport Waikato. Teachers are now confident using the modified Insoll Ave curriculum if not the entire HPE curriculum document.

There has been a 100% change in teacher attitudes to teaching HPE and delivering opportunities for physical activity and play – these are now positive. In Term 1 2021, only one teacher knew about the strands in the curriculum document, now 80% of teachers understand the document.

As a result, teachers now plan for and reflect on HPE lessons specifically. The teachers use the Insoll Avenue School modified HPE curriculum. They have worked to evolve this document to suit their school and the specific needs of their tamariki and kaiako. They fit into the school values of 'HERO – Honest, Excellence, Resilience and Organised', so all lessons taught are based on one of these values.

Staff have collaborated with the students to co-design their success criteria for each unit. This improves the quality of the teaching and the authenticity of each lesson. These school-wide unit plans are altered and manipulated to suit each unique teaching situation, with all learning

coming back to school values. Examples of these values being brought to life alongside physical activity can be seen among students.



Every HPE lesson now begins with a conversation around the goals of the session, and in particular the soft skills (e.g. we are working on inclusiveness. How can we do this when we are playing dodge ball?) and finishes with a reflection (e.g. did we include all? Why not? How can we do this better next time?).

There is a lot less stress around teaching HPE due to an approach by Sport Waikato that supports the empowerment of kaiako (rather than an approach that rests on doing it for them) and the teachers feel they have permission to use the resources they have and make the most of those rather than trying to teach something they are not confident or well-resourced to teach. There is also less stress for the teachers around planning as the school has developed unit plans for the teachers; all they must do is come up with the activities as everything else is done – this supports the regular teaching of HPE for already burdened teachers.

Some next steps for Insoll Avenue School are to explore how teachers can integrate some physical activity in other curriculum areas and to continue to involve and strengthen the wider staff in the planning stages of further HPE units and lesson plans.

“

I am learning how to run and how to jump and how to set goals for myself. Also to give other people a turn. I tried my best to give other people a turn.

- Year 5 Student

”

“

I am learning to not get salty if I lose and to try my best at everything. I have improved my goal by not getting salty at anyone today in PE, I was being a good sport. I also learnt to be proud no matter what the result if I have tried my best.

- Year 6 Student

“

Success to me in PE is being happy and I have done that by using my courage to try something that was hard.

- Year 6 Student

”

THE VALUE OF HPE IN A WHOLE SCHOOL APPROACH TO WELLBEING

Over 160 Principals and Health & Physical Education (HPE) lead teachers came together at Claudelands Events Centre in Hamilton to challenge the traditional structures of sport and physical education in the region's primary schools and kura, and explore what a holistic approach to physical education would look like in an approach to whole school wellbeing.

In collaboration with the Waikato Principals' Association (WPA), and with support from regional partners Te Whatu Ora - Health NZ, Ministry of Education and Sport NZ, The Value of HPE conference marked an integral day in the history of Sport Waikato and the role of the Regional Sports Trust as a partner in supporting schools and kura to deliver quality physical activity, physical education, sport and play experiences for all tamariki.

The day was opened by Sport Waikato CEO Matthew Cooper, who opened the event by highlighting the importance of HPE for tamariki..

"We know that schools are time poor and we know there are massive pressures on achievement data. But without a well child, we will never have a learning child. We want to create systemic change in our education settings and we know we can do this through the Health and Physical Education Curriculum."

The conference brought together speakers from around the north island, including Welby Ings (internationally renowned speaker

and educational reformer), Gregor Fountain (Strategic Engagement Manager at Sport NZ) and Harko Brown (expert on traditional Maaori games and play) who delivered motivational and thought provoking koorero around the importance of physical activity, play, sport and physical education.

The day was wonderfully hosted by MC Marcus Freke, Director of Education, Waikato at the Ministry of Education.

Last year our partnership with the WPA focused on re-conceptualising HPE programmes. Moving away from traditional programmes allows schools to consider more culturally responsive and aakonga (student) centred approaches to getting our students moving. As we all know there is direct correlation between physical wellbeing and mental wellbeing.

With the background and rationale behind a shift in gear for Sport Waikato outlined through local and national evidence, it was time to dig into some thought provoking koorero with Professor Welby Ings.





Welby approached his keynote from a leadership lens; often we are met with heroic leaders, when the silent leaders are the ones achieving the greatest outcomes; we often see ambition beat talent on numerous occasions. Welby left us challenging our own thinking around what it means to make change, and who has the power to achieve it.

This was followed up by some keynote speakers in chosen break out sessions. The principals heard from Gregor, ex principal of Paraparaumu and Wellington Colleges. He spoke from the heart and challenged the principals around their own wellbeing as leaders of their schools, and how important this is. His message focused on going back to what is important and challenged principals to take a step back and re-evaluate what they do and why.

“Too often the urgent drives out the important.” Gregor also discussed how physical activity and HPE can support those important factors that can sometimes be forgotten in our busy and ever changing world. We need to break down the structures that support the status quo.”

Feedback received via our survey of the event: “I enjoyed both of these presenters. They were lively, engaging and challenging. Many takeaways for me from this day.” (Principal)

The HPE leads heard from the engaging Harko Brown around how to create Maaori artefacts to entice play through a Maaori lens. This was a hands-on workshop which left teachers scurrying to buy his book and planning their next lessons with their tamariki.

Some great feedback was received from HPE leads: “I really enjoyed Harko’s interactive session, I absolutely loved weaving a kite from the nikau palm leaves.” (HPE lead)

“I really enjoyed how interactive the session was and how engaging Harko was. He made it a safe space to get involved.” (HPE Lead)

Seriously considering making HPE the hub of my school’s strategic plan. The cross curricular connections and the close links to offer school values seem to lead towards this.

The afternoon session was a series of Pecha Kucha’s. Presenters had six minutes to share their narrative and leave attendees with some thought provoking ideas. We heard from Harko Brown, Gregor Fountain (SportNZ), Latisha Kelly (Ministry of Education), Pip Newick, Sara Heyward and Marg Cosgriff (University of Waikato) and Deane McKay (Sport Waikato).

The array of thought provoking koorero left principals and teachers contemplating their school practices in the HPE space. A principal noted what they intended to implement from the learning of this day,

And a teacher said what they enjoyed most from the day was that it was “Thought provoking and guided in ways to make change, support change and uphold what works”.

As educators, we know that looking after wellbeing is an important priority. We know that our tamariki need to feel like they belong. The WPA Connection Day - ‘The Value of HPE in a Whole School Approach to Wellbeing’ provided an opportunity to explore ways to create systemic change in education settings, with the help of the Health and Physical Education Curriculum. Change that not only honours wellbeing but also honours our unique culture and identity.

With representation from school leaders across all districts within the Waikato region, this event was a celebration of the strategic approach from Sport Waikato and the kaiako (teachers) within the region – providing a great opportunity to connect and unpack the true essence and importance of the HPE curriculum in a whole school approach to wellbeing.

SPORT DEVELOPMENT

The Sport Waikato Sport Development Team focus specifically on growing the quality of sporting experiences delivered across the Waikato, with a particular lens on increasing the participation and enjoyment of rangatahi in the region. Our work is driven by the need to engage the voice of rangatahi to understand this group's unique needs and motivations, as well as the nationally endorsed 'Balance is Better' philosophy, which encourages influencers of youth sport to create quality experiences for all young people to keep them active and in the game. In so doing, we advocate for the creation of a climate of development (rather than a climate of performance) using 'Good Sports' as a tool to help those who deliver sport to do so within a framework or guidelines that put the needs of the participant at the centre of all decision-making, enabling participation and development opportunities for all, regardless of ability or motivation. We focus on three key areas: coach development, secondary schools and sector capability.

COACH DEVELOPMENT

The work of the Sport Waikato Coaching Team focuses on two key areas of influence: Regional Sports Organisation (RSO) and National Sports Organisation (NSO) coaching leaders (trainers and developers); and secondary school coaches. These groups are recognised as significant in the shaping of experiences of secondary school-aged young people, both in community and school settings and our approach is to build the capability of these groups and individuals to lead coach development in their own settings, among their network and peers.

With both groups, the aim is to enhance coaching capability in ways that ensure 'Balance is Better' and 'Good Sports' philosophies are embedded in coaching practices alongside person-centred coaching approaches that develop and support participants in values-based ways (rather than focusing solely on a technical and tactical style of coaching).

Key developments in these spaces over the past 12 months include:

- The development of a shared Kaupapa Roopu of coach trainers and developers. Working across codes, coach leaders in the Waikato have identified region-wide initiatives and actions to address areas/gaps in traditional coach development/education. Coach leaders are currently meeting and planning towards targeted, collaborative project work in the following three areas:
 - Encouraging and enhancing person-centred coaching approaches
 - Developing and educating coaches on play-based coaching for skill learning (shift away from technical/tactical)
 - Identifying appropriate system changes to coach development (more support and sustainable development for volunteer coaches)
- WAIBOP Netball and Waikato Rugby have agreed to work together to deliver a pilot to build club coach capacity within two local clubs – Marist & Eastern Suburbs. These clubs have multiple sports so there is an opportunity to develop and grow coaches across the codes within these clubs.
- Northern Districts Cricket Association and WAIBOP Football have agreed to work similarly to the above pilot – working into clubs that have football and cricket as their main sports.
- Waikato Hockey have implemented a Mentor Trainer group to offer support to coaches beyond the initial coach education workshops. This aligns with VoC results that identified how important ongoing support and mentorship was to the experience of coaches.
- Champion Coach Programme (CCP) – Coach leaders have been mentoring coaches and facilitating sessions within the CCP. Coach leaders' own work within their sport doesn't always allow for application of new knowledge due to the prescribed nature of coach education. The CCP allows them to put learning into practice with participants in the programme.
- Ngaa Taiaatea Wharekura in Hamilton are designing a coach recruitment and induction programme that aligns to their school values. This will also include piloting a cross-code coaching model that allows participants across two or more sports to take part in the same practice session. Coaches can share the load and support each other in a singular space/session, whilst the load on participants is reduced, thus adhering to a Balance is Better approach.
- Te Awamutu College – the team have presented different approaches to coaching in schools to an audience that included premier coaches, Principal and a Board member. We will continue to work with them

to develop their coaching philosophy that aligns with their school values.

- Paeroa College – the team met with the Sport Coordinator and Deputy Principal to initiate a plan to recruit, support and retain coaches. This will be developed further in 2023.
- Waikato Diocesan School, Hauraki Plains College, Thames High School, Otorohanga College, Matamata College and Sacred Heart College are all working with the Sport Waikato team to support coach development in their respective contexts.

Comprehensive data collection has also been completed to understand the experiences of

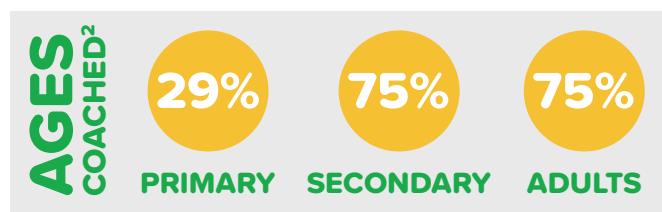
coaches in our region's sport sector. Over 500 coaches of all participant age-groups (primary, secondary and adult) have shared experiences and challenges to build a picture that suggests we need to value and support our coaches better if we are to retain them in our system, particularly if they are within two years of their coaching journey.

This data is important to help us understand how we best support and retain coaches at all levels, and will be used to help encourage RSOs, clubs and codes to put systems in place to connect, engage and support coaches in ways that show value for the time and effort they give to sport.

A SPOTLIGHT ON COACHING *in the Waikato region*

COACHES

2022 VOICE OF THE
COACH SURVEY - here's
what they told us:



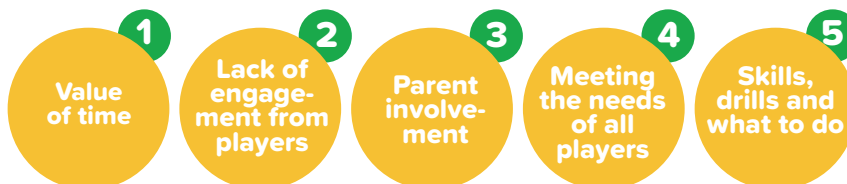
LESS THAN HALF

of the coaches feel
that coaches of all
genders, ethnicities,
age groups and/or
levels of experience

“ *Oltortum din videm et invertia dici ingulvillina, ut inatque
audam publis vis, obut quem vivit, num dientraet incept* ”

RECEIVE THE SAME LEVEL OF SUPPORT

TOP 5 CHALLENGES FACED BY COACHES



Overall, they gave their
experience an average
Net Promoter Score of

+12

But those that have been
coaching for less than
2 years gave a score of

-10

67% of coaches would like
their code(s) to focus on
improving the support, development
and mentoring available

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Our work with secondary schools is insights-led and involves supporting schools to understand the unique participation barriers and motivations of students in order to co-design strategies to engage rangatahi.

Voice of Rangatahi (VoR) surveying has been key in this approach and hugely valuable in building a picture of participation that can then be enhanced through targeted interventions.

In 2022, almost 5000 young people from 20 schools across the region have participated in VoR to help us build a picture of youth participation in the Waikato, and particularly the participation barriers young people face when it comes to being involved in sport and physical activity.

From this data, we know that less than 30% of young people surveyed have high levels of satisfaction with their competitive sport experiences at school, that just over half report high levels of satisfaction with their coaches and instructors, and barriers of being 'too busy', 'too tired/not having enough energy' and experiencing low motivation levels contribute to lower than desirable levels of activity.

In response, the team are working with all 20 schools (just under half of the secondary schools in our region) to implement sports delivery plans that will support schools to better deliver to the needs of young people and break down barriers to participation.

In addition to working with individual schools, we have also worked hard alongside the Waikato Secondary School Sports Association (WSSSA) this year. This group of 11 secondary school principals form a governance group for secondary school sport in the Waikato. We have worked with the group to revise their strategic plan to ensure their work streams as a collective focus into areas that will help to lift participation and satisfaction levels in sport among young people.

The three new areas of focus for the group are as follows:

- Ensuring participation opportunities meet the needs of students (with a particular lens on young women 13+, Maaori and Pasifika students and high deprivation communities)
- The development of effective relationships with a diverse range of partners to ensure the provision of quality sporting opportunities (with a particular lens on RSOs, clubs and community sport providers)
- Ensuring decisions are evidence-led, informed by student voice, and the value of sport is embedded across schools in the Waikato region (with a particular lens on the recruitment, retention and capability building of the regional youth sport workforce, and peer to peer support to value and deliver sport in schools)

We are excited to continue to work with this group as important advocates for secondary school sport in the Waikato region.

Voice of RANGATAHI Survey

WATCH



SECTOR CAPABILITY

The 2021-22 year has seen a number of sector capability focuses, including the delivery of a social media webinar designed to support RSOs and clubs to communicate effectively with potential participants. More than 90 people from across the sector registered for the webinar.

Feedback from regional sporting organisations and clubs has indicated that marketing, communication and social media are areas where there is a high need for support.

The webinar focused on setting goals, targeted audiences, understanding insights in order to make decisions as to where best to invest time and energy for the greatest return on that time.

Marketing can be difficult in organisations who are often run by volunteers who are already incredibly busy, so it's important that our webinar focused them on how best to go about managing their social media channels.

They learned tips and tricks to help make creating content easier, lots of ideas for what to post and tools that they can use to make their social media management easier.



SPORT WAIKATO
Hei painga mo te iwi

SOCIAL MEDIA WEBINAR

Join us online to learn how to grow your social media reach, develop a basic strategy and get targeted. And we'll give you tips and ideas to help you create content your audience wants to see.

We want to promote you!

We want to showcase quality opportunities in our region for people and communities to be active. This webinar will help you reach your audience, develop engaging and inclusive content, grow your membership and encourage greater participation for our region.

Date and Time

7pm-8.30pm, Wednesday 23 February 2022

Online

Register to receive the link

Cost

Free and limited to the sport and recreation sector - sports and recreations clubs/groups, physical activity providers, regional sporting organisations

Click to register now

Waikato Sports Collective

With a focus on a collaborative and consistent approach to addressing participation challenges in sport, this year we have formed the Waikato Sports Collective – a group comprised of 11 Regional Sports Organisations who are committed to working together to grow sport participation among people and communities in the region.

The group is currently focused on the embedding of 'Balance is Better' and 'Good Sports' initiatives across their codes, supporting coach development and volunteer retention in collaborative ways and exploring opportunities to minimise operational inefficiencies through shared services. At present, HR and finance support are being explored as well as co-occupancy opportunities (hubbing).

In the new year, specific focus will turn to supporting positive sideline behaviour and a Good Sports mentality in junior sport across the region.



TARGETED PARTICIPATION

Sport Waikato have invested in the delivery of This is ME®, a targeted initiative to support physical activity participation among women and girls, since 2017. This is ME® aims to support, encourage and celebrate women and girls being active whatever way they choose to, and to break down participation barriers to increase access and enjoyment.

Over the past 12 months we have continued to support women and girls to be active in community, secondary school and online spaces.

VoR surveying has supported Sport Waikato staff to understand the barriers female students face when getting active in their school settings. According to recent data from 2414 females:

45% of females say they have equal access and opportunities to be active compared to people of other genders at school.

42% of females always or usually feel encouraged and welcomed to participate in play, active recreation and sport at school.

ONLY 18% of females are very/extremely satisfied with their overall experience of physical activity at school, showing the need for targeted support in this space.

There are a range of barriers for young women, but insights reveal a need for more social, fun and informal activity opportunities that enable choice and interaction.

The Targeted Participation Team and Sport Development Team are working with the schools

“ I would like to see more competitions or opportunities to engage with other schools in fun social sport. I would love to have more combined school sports day where anyone can participate with their friends in a non-competitive or competitive manner. – Year 10 female ”

“ Well the teachers are always encouraging but I don't like the games we play and so I don't always want to play them even though we usually play the same games every time even if we say we don't want to. – Year 9, Female ”

who have completed VoR to develop strategic plans that account for these needs and guide delivery in ways that will better cater to the needs of young women.

So far, five secondary schools have worked alongside us to support their female students to lead physical activity opportunities in an effort to better cater for the participation needs of young women. As a result, female students have experienced increased opportunities to engage in active recreation through targeted initiatives (e.g. nature walks) and the reimaging of full school events.

In the community space, we have begun to focus on the more nuanced barriers to physical activity participation, such as menstruation and period poverty.

A key partnership with AWWA Period Care has allowed us to facilitate workshops for young women alongside Waitomo based physical activity provider Kotahi Aroha, in addition to local yoga and holistic movement instructors.



The workshops have provided an opportunity for young women and parents alike to share experiences, learn about and explore periods in-depth, through a maatauranga Maaori lens.

This partnership was nominated for a national award (Commercial Partnership category) at the 2022 New Zealand Sport and Recreation Awards alongside national partnerships between Netball NZ and Cadbury, and Rowing NZ and Aon Insurance. While we didn't take home the win, it was extremely exciting to be recognised for our work to do social good.

In an attempt to engage more young women in online spaces as part of the conversation, This is ME® launched a new social media campaign for

2022 called 'New Year, New Me. This Year, This is ME®' to combat the pressure to set new year's resolutions and reinvent habits.

The aim of the campaign was to debunk fitness myths and social expectations that prevent women from loving and moving their bodies, and that cause them to feel as though they need to 'change' or look 'different'.

The campaign was one of our most successful to date with 234 posts, reels and stories, and a total reach of 190,789 and 5182 engagements.

In addition to our work with and for women and girls, we are also focused on supporting participation outcomes for disabled people. This year, we have connected with ParaFed Waikato and Recreate NZ (newly established in Hamilton), who both have waitlists of disabled tamariki and rangatahi looking for ways to be active.

Connecting these two organisations will ensure more disabled young people have a variety of opportunities to be active. Subsequently, the growth of these organisations will allow them to move outside of Hamilton to cater to disabled young people in areas of need.

We are continuing to support South Waikato District Council in their exploration of accessibility, and have facilitated a focus group with parents of disabled children at Tokoroa North School, alongside Council, to increase staff's understanding of the needs of disabled children and their parents, which has solidified their commitment to accessibility through play, active recreation and sport in the South Waikato.



REGIONAL LEADERSHIP & SPACES AND PLACES PLANNING

Since 2021, Sport Waikato staff have enjoyed a much closer working relationship with our region's Territorial Local Authorities (TLAs). While our TLAs have always been valued partners and indeed have played a pivotal role in supporting community physical activity, it is since Sport Waikato's organisational shift that we have developed a way of working with our Councils that is truly partnered in nature and supports sound decision-making and investment in play, active recreation and sport at local, sub-regional and regional levels.

LOCAL PLANS

Over the past 12 months, all ten Territorial Local Authorities have embarked on the process of reviewing existing or the creation of new local play, active recreation and sport plans designed to provide guidance to Council during their long term planning (LTP) processes. The plans, which are based on both regional evidence and local insight, make recommendations for priority projects to enhance the physical activity of district communities across the region via either the provision of local infrastructure or capability building activities. The plans, which will be presented for adoption in 2023, will mark the first time all three domains of movement – play, active recreation and sport – are included in local plans as well as the first time all ten TLAs have local guiding documents designed to support physical activity outcomes in their districts.

WAIKATO REGIONAL ACTIVE SPACES PLAN

First published in 2014, the Waikato Regional Active Spaces Plan (WRASP) focuses on the ongoing provision of a network of facilities, spaces and places for play, active recreation and sport that are affordable and accessible to meet the changing needs of participation for people and communities in the Waikato region. Now in its third iteration, WRASP has an expanded scope beyond just sport, and continues its focus on benchmarking operational performance of existing facilities to grow sustainable outcomes, delivering community hub (partnered models) and extending the focus on the sharing of knowledge and support. WRASP continues to provide sound and expert guidance to facilities, spaces and places planning in the region.

In the 2021-22 year engagement among Councils with WRASP has been high, with a number of Councils (e.g. Hamilton City, Matamata-Piako, Waitomo, Thames Coromandel and Hauraki) relying heavily on support from Sport Waikato to undertake scoping, feasibility studies and operational planning exercises. Three facility planning forums for Council technical managers have been held, with all Councils sending representatives.

All facility development initiatives prioritised in the 2021 edition of WRASP in years 1-3 are currently underway:

2021 Facility Developments

Facility Developments	Years	Focus on built facility developments, redevelopments, feasibility studies	Key Partners	Progress
Indoor Court Provision 4-5 Court Facility HAMILTON	1-3yrs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exploration of future site options, optimal community access and secure key community partner/s. Decision on preferred option made Feasibility and business case for future indoor court provision undertaken that considers a wide range of users 	Hamilton City Council, Neighbouring Territorial Local Authorities, Key Sports Codes, Community and Education Partners and Iwi	An indoor court provision study is currently underway with the aim to provide recommendations on future need and location for indoor court space – report will be completed by June 2023 with a feasibility report on preferred facility option.
	3-5yrs	Construct new indoor recreation centre		Not yet underway

Facility Developments	Years	Focus on built facility developments, redevelopments, feasibility studies	Key Partners	Progress
Indoor Court Provision 2 Court Facility WAITOMO	1-3yrs	1. Align specific future sports field provision to the key 2020 Sports Field Study recommendations of individual councils · Increase capacity of fields through provision of targeted flood lighting, reallocation of users, improved turf management or multiuse artificial turf (cost benefit required for each)	Collaboration of all Territorial Local Authorities Relevant Sporting Codes, MOE, Iwi	Increased capacity of fields through provision of targeted flood lighting, investment into turf renewal and investment into Sport Parks – outlined in LTP and annual plan budgets across Hamilton, Waipa, and Waikato District. Working with Matamata-Piako Council around future planning of sport fields (includes Morrinsville Rec Ground) and reallocation of sporting groups as part of the Matamata Stadium project
	1-5yrs	2. Expand supply of fields in targeted growth areas of Hamilton, North Waikato and Waipa Districts. Support required land acquisition and identify partnership opportunities. Establish Community/School Use Agreements and ensure additional supply compliments and maintains a regional network approach 2. Explore and/or facilitate investigation into future collaborative field provision for the wider Waikato region		A feasibility study process is currently being worked through to understand the opportunity for artificial turf in Hamilton City and Waipa District

Facility Developments	Years	Focus on built facility developments, redevelopments, feasibility studies	Key Partners	Progress
Community Aquatic Facility HAMILTON	1-3yrs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional indoor capacity required in Hamilton City. Options paper to be undertaken within 1-3yrs. Decision on preferred option made that includes space for play, active recreation and sport use 	Hamilton City Council	An indoor aquatic provision study is currently underway with the aim to provide recommendations on future need and location for indoor aquatic space. Report will be completed by June 2023 with a feasibility report on preferred facility option.
Waikato Cycle Network	1-3yrs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete Hamilton to Cambridge section of Te Awa cycleway 	Collaboration of all Territorial Local Authority, Waikato Regional Council, MOE, NZTA, Iwi, Sport Waikato	Complete
	1-5yrs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to advocate for growth in cycling infrastructure, promotion, access and benefits through the Regional Land Transport Plan Support the development of a connected, boundaryless regional cycling network. Investigate opportunities where gaps are identified in any Districts 		We are working with councils on their spatial and town concept planning projects (Waipa, Waikato DC, Otorohanga, Waitomo) along with providing feedback on connectivity and reserve management plan strategies across the region. Through these avenues Sport Waikato continue to advocate for the need for increased investment into a connected, boundaryless regional cycling network.

Facility Developments	Years	Focus on built facility developments, redevelopments, feasibility studies	Key Partners	Progress
Gymsport Optimisation / Regional Hub	1-3 yrs	6. Options explored for optimisation of community clubs and a Regional Gymsport Hub using the Regional Gymsport Plan to guide decisions	Hamilton City, Matamata-Piako, Waipa and Waikato District Councils and Gymnastics NZ	Working with two Hamilton City clubs and Gymnastics NZ around optimisations of facilities and future development opportunities with one club required to relocate. Considering as part of Hamilton Indoor Court provision work. Have engaged with Matamata Gym around use of Headon Stadium and future requirements with this feeding into the Matamata Indoor Stadium business case.
	3-5yrs	· New or repurposed facility/s built/developed. Consider combining into a hub with the 4-5 court facility		Not yet progressed

Facility Developments	Years	Focus on built facility developments, redevelopments, feasibility studies	Key Partners	Progress
Sub Regional Aquatic Facility THAMES COROMANDEL	3-5yrs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete a business case to determine appropriate Sub Regional need. Waikato Regional Aquatics Plan (2017) to inform decision making 	Thames Coromandel District Council and Neighbouring Territorial Local Authorities	Consultant engaged to complete Needs Assessment, Feasibility and Business Case centred around future sport precinct development and Thames Pool replacement requirements. Needs Assessment completed November 2022 with Feasibility to be completed by June 2023 followed by Business case of preferred option. Hauraki Council are represented on the project steering group looking at the sub-regional landscape around aquatics.

Additionally, work has begun on a regional *Natural Bodies of Water Strategy* designed to provide a network plan of natural bodies of water (lakes, rivers, oceans) accessible for a range of user groups including on-water activities (rowing, kayaking, sailing, waka ama, dragon boating) that includes information about water quality and site management. A review of the current plan and preparations for the fourth edition are also currently underway to ensure timing to align with the 2024 LTP processes of our region's Councils.

PLAY

Sport Waikato advocates for play opportunities for tamariki in a range of settings - including communities and education - and defines play as much broader than the use of formal play infrastructure. Play can occur anywhere, including facilities, spaces and places for sport and active recreation (e.g. parks, gullies, waterways and open spaces for tree climbing or kicking a ball), as well as 'playing on the way' and neighbourhood play in streets and on footpaths.

Over the past 12 months, Sport Waikato staff have successfully worked with Councils to ensure play is considered as part of local planning, which will see all ten of our region's TLAs incorporating play into their district activity plans.

Throughout this process, community consultation has included deliberate questioning on play to draw out the various ways that tamariki

The site is used daily as a walking school bus route for Insoll Avenue School (whose students drew the draft designs) and provides a new opportunity within a provision gap for 500m walking access to a local park. This is an important development to encourage young people and their families to move in playful ways on their commute.

A major piece of work in Hamilton City has been the Neighbourhood Play System (NPS) Blueprint – an analysis of the opportunities for play in the neighbourhood surrounding Insoll Avenue School in Enderley (an area with a population of approximately 2,500 that has been one of the poorest neighbourhoods in the country for the last 60 years, having twice the unemployment rate of the city average and a median income of \$19,600).

The highly deprived nature of the area makes connections between school, community, and play vitally important in the lives of tamariki.



and whaanau do and would like to engage with their neighbourhoods and communities for play. The results of this data will inform district plan recommendations across the region.

We have also focused on activating 'play on the way' opportunities across district communities. As part of a play on the way project in Hamilton City, a permanent play space was created on a shared path and berm near the Alderson Road underpass (connecting Enderley and Peacocke) via City Development's Peacocke Wastewater Project.

The blueprint process has and will continue to see a range of key stakeholders (e.g. Council, Insoll Avenue School, Kainga Ora, Te Papanui Enderley Community Trust) come together to find ways to work collectively to support tamariki in the area to lead more active lives through play by leveraging existing assets, designing new opportunities and promoting behavioural change.

TU MANAWA

On behalf of Sport NZ, we continue to distribute Tu Manawa Active Aotearoa funding. The fund is designed to support the provision of quality physical activity opportunities for tamariki and rangatahi through play, active recreation and sport that are accessible and create a life-long love of being active. With target groups of tamariki (5-11 years) and rangatahi (12-17 years) in higher deprivation communities, girls and young women (5-24 years) and disabled children and young people (5-18 years), the fund is purposefully aimed at those with inequitable opportunities and access to physical activity or those who tend to miss out.

In the 2021-22 year, Sport Waikato received 159 applications for funding, approving 95 of those applications received, with a total fund of

\$1,906,839 distributed to initiatives across the region. Of those applications, 14 were focused on supporting play, 47 on active recreation and 34 for the provision of sporting opportunities.

Successful applicants have ranged from RSOs and education providers to Councils and community organisations who have all recognised the need to provide opportunities that meet the needs of specific groups in direct response to engagement with their participants – some 300,000 of them!

We have been excited to see the breadth and range of innovative opportunities that are being created to cater for children and young people and the direct effort that has gone into co-design and understanding the motivations of key audiences.



WAIKATO SPORT & ACTIVE RECREATION AWARDS

January 2022 saw Sport Waikato host the second edition of our stakeholder event, Let's Move Waikato. The event was first held in 2021 as an opportunity to bring together key stakeholders from across the region with a view to showcase Sport Waikato's new way of working and announce the winners of the 2020 Waikato Sport & Active Recreation Awards.

In January 2022 this year, in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic and with three days to go until 350+ stakeholders and 2021 Waikato Sport & Active Recreation Awards finalists were set to come together for the first time, a level change meant that numbers were reduced to under 100 people. With a backup plan firmly in place for just such a change, we put the focus firmly on our finalists and ensured they were celebrated and acknowledged at their very own awards evening.

Emceed by local sport commentator Nigel Yalden with NZ Cricket chairman Martin Snedden as guest speaker, finalists were treated to some exceptional service due to Covid-19 restrictions on service. Many noted it was a great opportunity for them to make connections with other organisations and look to how they could work together in future.

In 2020 Covid-19 provided an opportunity to realign our awards season at a community level. What eventuated was a very heartwarming, local and community focused celebration where we were able to acknowledge innovation, partnerships, collaboration, diversity and the people doing the work. Because of its success, the decision was made to continue this new format into the future.

The 2021 Waikato Sport & Active Recreation Awards encouraged nominations from those in the community who went above and beyond to deliver programmes and initiatives that met the needs of the participant and helped create a more active region.

The 2021 awards saw new categories added – Community Coach (aligned to Balance is Better and Good Sports principles), Community Unsung Hero (those unpaid voluntary roles and replaced Service to Sport) and Commitment to

Youth Engagement (those initiatives that help grow participation of young people 0-24).

This year categories have remained the same with a record number of nominations received at over 100. Finalists for 2022 have been judged, and winners will be announced at Let's Move Waikato, Thursday 26th January 2023. Finalists and their supporters will be able to attend with winners announced on the night.

Let's Move Waikato in 2023 will feature TV presenter and commentator Jenny-May Clarkson, as MC along with Black Ferns Ruahei Demant and Kennedy Simon as special guests.

“**We’ve been overwhelmed with a vast range of entries this year, with an outstanding 100 nominations,” said Sport Waikato CEO Matthew Cooper. “And it’s coming through loud and clear that the voice of the participant matters more than ever now – with initiatives, coaches and unsung heroes all working to ensure that they cater to the needs of the people and ensure they have a great experience. This is key to keep people coming back and creating a lifelong love of being active.**”

”

VIEW NOMINATIONS



2022 NOMINEES



REGIONAL PROJECTS

WAIKATO REGIONAL WATER SAFETY STRATEGY AND ADVISORY GROUP

This year, Sport Waikato has brought together a key group of influencers in the formation of a Regional Water Safety Advisory Group to address the dismal drowning statistics that saw the Waikato in the top three regions for preventable drownings in the 2021-22 calendar year. The group, comprised of leaders from Water Safety NZ, two Local Authorities (delegated by the Waikato Territorial Authority CE Forum), the Waikato Regional Council, Swimming Waikato, the Waikato River Authority, Waikato Tainui, University of Waikato, Ministry of Education and Sport Waikato, is focused on developing a regional strategy and action plan to focus into the key areas of 'education', 'community' and 'regional advocacy'. The group believes that by working together as an inter-agency collective, we can influence more widespread efforts to grow water safety awareness and reduce drowning rates in the region.

WAIKATO WELLBEING PROJECT

The Waikato Wellbeing Project is a regional initiative to achieve a more environmentally sustainable, prosperous and inclusive Waikato region by 2030. Maatauranga and Te Ao Maaori (Maaori world view) principles are embedded in the Waikato Wellbeing Project.

Sport Waikato are joint Manu-Taki with Te Whatu Ora – Health NZ (Waikato), Progress to Health and Creative Waikato for the sustainable development goal three (SDG3): Good health and wellbeing. The target for SDG 3 by 2030 is to reduce the rates of non-communicable disease and mental illness and improve associated health equity outcomes for target groups.

We have been engaged in the project since its inception in 2020, and we are part of a working group establishing a cross-organisational approach to improving Waikato people's health and wellbeing.

We continue to meet regularly with our Manu-Taki partners to discuss ways we can work together to achieve the sustainable development goal that we lead on behalf of the Waikato region. At present we are supporting the Waikato Wellbeing Project's update report – a summary of the work achieved in the Waikato against the SDGs.

THE WAIKATO PLAN

The Waikato Plan collaborative (including Sport Waikato) seeks to enable, through our partners, region wide initiatives that help the Waikato and its communities to be their best. Partners range from Territorial Authorities, Waikato Regional Council, critical businesses, social enterprises, not for profits (like us), police, Ministry of Social Development etc. The Plan is more than a document; it is a reflection of close working relationships between leading organisations in the Waikato.

This united approach will help coordinate and guide decision-making on complex regional-scale issues like population and climate change, transport, water, economic development and the environment. It identifies long-term regional priorities to ensure challenges that don't sit neatly with one agency, are captured and planned for.

The Plan does not duplicate regional or local initiatives already planned or underway, but supports a number of those initiatives. Importantly, the Plan provides our region with a strong, united and collective voice to Central Government and others on key issues.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE REVENUE AND EXPENSES

For the year ended 30 June 2022

	NOTES	2022 \$000	2021 \$000
Revenue from non-exchange transactions			
Sport NZ grants	5	1,930,386	1,635,769
Other Government grants		1,300,000	2,176,314
Lion Foundation grant		115,000	113,500
Other grants		704,049	825,208
Trust Waikato donations		750,000	750,000
Events and activities		46,868	40,440
		4,846,303	5,541,231
Revenue from exchange transactions			
Events and activities		1,710	58,885
Dividends		80,261	54,107
Interest		69,716	72,010
Unrealised gain/(loss) on investments		(512,000)	382,295
Realised gain/(loss) on investments		(17,268)	16,750
Other operating revenue		93,439	107,950
Total Revenue from exchange transactions		(284,141)	691,997
Total revenue		8,247	7,762
Expenses			
Employee related costs		3,024,736	3,780,368
Events and activities		314,137	685,038
Depreciation		66,667	67,447
Amortisation	10	7,296	10,847
Audit Fees	11	22,060	16,000
Other operating expenses		841,544	1,032,779
Total expenses	6	4,276,440	5,592,479
Total surplus/(deficit) for the year from continuing operations		285,722	640,750
Total comprehensive revenue and expenses for the year		285,722	640,750

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 30 June 2022

	NOTES	2022 \$000	2021 \$000
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	8	1,649,168	2,080,731
GST		91,598	144,106
Investments	9	2,611,602	1,700,559
Prepayments		30,353	-
Receivables from exchange transactions		15,088	37,013
Receivables from non-exchange transactions		409,076	691,592
Total Current Assets		5,419	7,517
Non-current Assets			
Intangible assets	11	3,974	10,843
Investments	9	4,549,366	4,709,727
Property plant and equipment	10	162,314	167,524
Total Non-Current Assets		4,715,654	4,888,094
Total assets		9,522,539	9,542,095
Current liabilities			
Trade and other creditors		191,972	766,879
Employee entitlements		255,747	239,721
Income in advance		966,058	712,454
Total current liabilities		1,413,777	1,719,055
Total liabilities		1,413,777	1,719,055
Net assets		8,108,762	7,823,041
Equity			
Trust Fund		1,500,000	1,500,000
Accumulated comprehensive revenue and expenses		6,608,762	6,323,041
Total net assets		8,108,762	7,823,041

These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements (full financial statements available on our website). Signed for and on behalf of the Board of Trustees who authorised these financial statements for issue on 6th December 2022:


Matthew Cooper
Chief Executive


Phil Taylor
Board of Trustees Chair



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