

Milford Storm Recovery Project 2025: creating our shared future

- Auckland's two significant storm events in January and February 2023. Four deaths. Widespread flood destruction of homes, other buildings and property, land slips.
- Agreement by Central and Local Government to buy out residential property owners on land with severe flooding risk in the future. Assessed under a categorisation process.
- Milford experienced significant flooding along the Wairau culvert and tributaries. Large numbers of homes along Nile Road and close to the Wairau along Shakespeare Road were affected.
- Council plans are to remove bought-out homes and create a blue-green network along the Wairau. Permeable ground surfaces and vegetation are designed to be areas of flood plain, absorbing water more effectively and quickly returning to their usual state once flood waters recede.
- These spaces will also be open space for the local community to use as pathways or for other recreation. This is an important opportunity for us locally.

Latest numbers on Milford home buy-outs:

- At 28 January 2025, 112 homes were assessed as Category 3 and had been bought from owners. Total removals likely to be 140 Milford homes, 1,200 across Auckland.
- Milford will be one of the suburbs with the most home removals. Muriwai has numbers comparable to Milford, with high numbers due to landslips from Cyclone Gabrielle in February 2023.

Community-led Recovery Projects

- Auckland Council recognises that the scale of these two events in Auckland has had and continues to have ongoing effects on local communities.
- Council has therefore set up the Community-led Recovery Projects in badly-affected communities across Auckland. \$40,000 has been granted to fund community-based conversations, events and projects to consider what each community would consider a recovery from these events would look like in their locality.
- Each place is different and has their own ideas. Examples in some suburbs include an oral history project about the event, community art project, opportunities to become more connected across the community, community use of new open public land.
- It is important that these conversations and ideas come from the community and do not originate with Council.

Milford Community-led Recovery Project

- Milford Residents Assn in conjunction with the Takapuna North Community Trust has been contracted to undertake the Milford Storm Recovery 2025 project in our community.
 - Milford Residents Assn people are not being paid. The \$40K is for facilitator fees and other expenses.
 - Recovery Project will include a series of facilitated workshops during 2025 for the Milford community to have those conversations about practical steps towards Milford being a community that is more connected and ready/able to respond to a future severe weather event.
 - Something good coming out of the destruction and trauma of the 27 January 2023 event.
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- Get involved and help shape Milford's conversation about its future. Every voice counts.
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