

Member Report

Name: Cr Arohanui Allen

Ward: Ngā Tai o Tokerau Māori Ward

Date: 30 April 2026

Meetings Attended

Date	Meeting Topic	Comment
01/04	Council Meeting	Raised concerns around the move from 1 x EM and 1 x Alternative on the Northland Waters Shareholder Steering Group. Who's voice are we losing in making this decision? Was advised hapū and iwi can still engage in the multi-layered approach.
08/04	Kaikohe-Hokianga Community Board Meeting	Great workshop on pathways. Community Boards, in my opinion, are the most efficient avenue for hearing and responding to community voice and needs.
09/04	Bay of Islands-Whangaroa Community Board Meeting	Put my name forward to be part of the Taupō Bay Working Group to address public accessibility to Taupō Beach.
10/04	Cyclone Vaianu Debrief	
14/04	Statement of Intent for Northland Inc	Advocacy for the promotion of our rural and isolated communities was heard.
15/04	Extraordinary Council Meeting – Appointment of External Members to Te Kuaka Committee for Māori Strategic Relationships	Council – Elected Members only; Moved the motion to confirm the appointments of Iwi and Hapū holding MoU with Council to Te Kuaka.
16/04	Cr Allen:Charlie Billington Pukepoto Rd Bridge	Continuing to find solutions to the vulnerable Pukepoto Road bridge.
20/04	Extraordinary Meeting – Te Kuaka Committee for Māori Strategic Relationships	Endorsed Kaitiaki Agreement – Moringaehe Reserve with Ngā Hapū o Ahipara. Received a number of Information Reports pertinent to Māori.

21/04	Te Koeokoeā Committee for Council Controlled Organisations	<p>Council is reviewing how Northland Inc will spend economic development funding over the next three years to support tourism, businesses, and investment.</p> <p>Councillors want clearer reporting, better accountability, and stronger proof that spending benefits Far North communities.</p> <p>There's also a focus on improving tourism, jobs, and Māori economic opportunities while reducing duplication.</p>
22/04	Te Koukou Committee for Transport and Infrastructure	Received a number of reports. Raised a query around a Rangatahi Employment percentage in our CityCare contract. This discussion is ongoing.
22/04	Te Puāwaitanga – Follow on Workshop	This workshop is being held at the request of elected members.
22/04	Northland Waters EMSG – Far North Pre-Brief	To enable all Elected Members to stay informed and give input into the Northland Waters CCO establishment. Pre-Brief meetings have been stood up.
23/04	EM Workshop – QV Triannual Revaluation Results Update	
25/04	ANZAC Commemorations - Panguru	Mihi ana kia whaea Mina e kawē ana i tēnei Kaupapa nui whakahirahira ki roto o Panguru.
28/04	Te Hainatanga o Te Tiriti ki Kataia	E whai ana mātou i ngā tapuwae o ngā tupuna i haiuina Te Tiriti, kia kua rawa tatou e wareware ki ōna whāinga, ōna mātāpono, te āpōpō I pohewatia e ō mātou mātua tūpuna.
29/04	Council Meeting	<p>We appointed hapū members to Te Kuaka, and it is an honour and a privilege to have people of such acumen at the Te Kuaka table.</p> <p>A hot topic was Agenda Item 6.10. In the end, Council moved to hold a workshop so Elected Members can discuss and get full clarity on what the issues really are, whether they are local government issues or contested national political narratives. The workshop will also enable Elected Members <i>to collaborate effectively and deliver for our communities</i>, which</p>

		is the expectation of Hon Simon Watts as outlined in his 9 April letter.
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Community Matters

Topic	Comment
Northland Waters	Who will own the land?
Local Procurement	Local Procurement, accessing support for SiteWise, knowing the direct award contracts that are available.
Rangatahi employment	These discussion are on-going through Maypr's Taskforce for Jobs, CityCare Contract and the Rangatahi Portfolio.
Taupō Bay Steps	I look forward to this coming back to WBOI CB, as it sits within their delegation, and playing a role in the Working Group to resolve this issue.
Pukepoto Bridge	<p>Project estimate for a raised bridge is approximately \$1.5M, which does not meet funding criteria due to the low number of properties served. NZTA funding rules do not allow savings from road safety projects to be reallocated to bridge replacements, and no bridge funding was approved through the last LTP process.</p> <p>Alternative options are being explored with relevant agencies, with a report to follow. An on-site visit will be arranged to obtain an indicative quote and assess opportunities to reduce costs, including use of volunteer support.</p> <p>If costs can be reduced below \$1.5M, the project may be reconsidered as an unfunded proposal. Advocacy will continue while options are progressed.</p>
Te Kuaka Committee	Due to misinformation around Te Kuaka, this remains a hot topic in the community. It must be made clear that building capacity is a legislative requirement under the Local Government Act 2002, including obligations to provide opportunities for Māori to contribute to decision-making (s14(1)(d)) and to build and maintain Māori capacity to participate in Council decision making processes (s81).
Northland Waters CCO	This remains a high interest topic, especially for hapū who are advocating in the Water Treatment and Waste Water Treatment spaces.

Portfolio Update: **Kōkako - Youth, Education & Leadership Portfolio Update**

Work is progressing on strengthening opportunities for rangatahi across the Far North, with a focus on leadership, employment pathways, and coordinated youth support.

A key priority is the establishment of Rangatahi Action Council(s), with options being explored for either a district-wide model or ward-based representation.

Alongside this, a draft Youth Strategy is being developed to guide future work, ensuring alignment with community needs and existing youth organisations, while focusing on measurable outcomes.

Additional initiatives include a Kaikohe-based hackathon in August to engage rangatahi in innovation and leadership, and continued work with partners to strengthen employment pathways and employer engagement across the district.

Overall:

Momentum is building across youth leadership, engagement, and employment initiatives, with a clear focus on rangatahi engagement and voice in Council, practical opportunities and stronger community partnerships.