

In This Edition Of YOUR News

- [Panic Buying Doesn't Help](#)
- [Upcoming Workshops & Events](#)
- [Past Events](#)
- [What's Happening On Business.govt.nz](#)
- [Safety Improvements At Rosedale Rd – Graham Collins Dr](#)
- [What's News From Auckland Emergency Management?](#)
- [Your All-Access Fitness Membership](#)
- [Run Ring Road Races With North Harbour Stadium](#)
- [FYI Magazine Has Landed](#)
- [BUY LOCAL](#)
- [Valued BNH Partners](#)

Panic Buying Doesn't Help

Kia ora tatou,

With the current conflict in the Middle East looking like it will take longer than we had all hoped to resolve, the possible petrol shortage, which according to most trustworthy sources is still some weeks away, has prompted panic buying by some members of the public. Unfortunately, this has meant that the price at the pumps has gone up even faster than it should in some areas, due to the shortage of petrol, thus exacerbating the current situation to the detriment of many.

When you also add into the mix the lower than expected increase in the fourth-quarter GDP of 0.2% announced last week, which was considerably lower than the 0.5% forecast by the Reserve Bank Of New Zealand, then it's no wonder that some members are struggling to maintain any positive economic momentum, as the pressure being felt by many household and business budgets shows no signs of abating.

With so much uncertainty around, I sincerely hope that the resilience developed in recent times continues to enable members to navigate their way through these ongoing and significant challenges, as we all hope for positive outcomes to the geopolitical situation sooner rather than later.

Ngā mihi mahana,

KEVIN O'LEARY
General Manager

Upcoming Workshops & Events

Introducing: Networking & Nibbles

We're excited to share that our **Business After 5** events are evolving to better suit the needs of our busy members. We've heard from many of you that evenings can be tricky—between family commitments, long commutes, and packed calendars—so we're shifting our format to make it easier for you to connect.

Starting 1st April, **Business After 5** will become **"Networking & Nibbles,"** held **inside working hours**. Same great networking opportunities, same friendly atmosphere—just at a more convenient time.

Join us for light refreshments, genuine connections, and the chance to meet other local professionals without cutting into your evening.

Networking & Nibbles: Hyperbaric Health

Join us for an energising **Networking & Nibbles** at Hyperbaric Health as we come together for another great networking event.

Step inside Hyperbaric Health and discover how cutting-edge oxygen therapy is helping people elevate their wellbeing, boost recovery, and optimise performance. Enjoy an evening of connection with fellow members, light refreshments, and an exclusive behind-the-scenes look at the hyperbaric chambers and the science behind them.

[Register Now](#)

Celebrate Food With BNH This March

Check out the map for the eateries participating in BNH Food Month 2026 and find out how you can **win yourself a \$100 Prezzy Card!**

[Show me the map](#)

Learning Lab: Understanding Business Funding

Get ready for a dynamic and practical session designed to empower Kiwi business owners with the knowledge and confidence to secure the right funding—*without the jargon*.

Join Corinna Stukan from Bizzy as she breaks down what it truly means to be capital ready and how to spot the red flags that could cost your business time, money, and momentum.

[Register Now](#)

Inorganic Collection Event Dates Confirmed

The graphic features a central illustration of various office and household items like a chair, desk, and printer. Text on the left reads 'INORGANIC COLLECTION REUSABLES // E-WASTE // GENERAL INORGANIC'. A red speech bubble says 'Help reduce landfill, protect the environment and save money!'. A white circle highlights 'Only \$49 per m³ collected' with a note '*Minimum charge of \$49 plus GST applies'. Logos for 'Abilities Group' and 'Business North Harbour' are present. At the bottom, the URL 'BUSINESSNH.ORG.NZ/INORGANICCOLLECTION' is displayed.

Business North Harbour in partnership with the Abilities Group will be **collecting inorganic items** from member businesses who register for a collection on:

- **Wednesday May 6th**
- **Thursday May 7th 2026**

This will be the first collection of two for the calendar year.

[Register My Collection](#)

The BNH Business Expo 2026

The graphic has a teal background with silhouettes of people. It features the 'Business North Harbour' logo, the text 'TABLE TOP NETWORKING', and the main headline 'THE BNH BUSINESS EXPO RETURNS FOR 2026! Connect. Showcase. Grow.' Below this, it states 'Thursday 14 May 2026, 4pm-7pm. North Shore Golf Club.'

We're thrilled to announce the return of the **Business North Harbour Business Expo** in 2026. It's back — bigger, bolder, and packed with opportunity.

Following the incredible success of our previous events, this highly anticipated expo is your chance to **showcase your business, build meaningful connections, and expand your network** within the BID community.

Designed as a vibrant, high energy event, the BNH Business Expo brings local businesses together in one dynamic space to connect, collaborate, and be discovered.

Think of it as a **mini business expo** — an engaging platform where BNH members and associate members can put their business in the spotlight, spark conversations, and uncover new opportunities.

[Register Now](#)

North Shore Career Expo

The graphic features the 'North Shore CAREER EXPO' logo, the location 'NORTH HARBOUR STADIUM', and the dates 'Weds 20th May 4pm - 7.30pm' and 'Thurs 21st May 9.30 am - 2.30pm & 4pm - 7.30pm'. It includes the tagline 'Inspiring the next generation....' and an image of a person on a zipline.

Business North Harbour is proud to support the Tāmaki Makaurau Regional Schools Career Expos 2026, and we'd love for you to be part of it. This is a great opportunity to connect with over 3,000 North-Auckland students, showcase your industry, and help inspire the next generation of talent. The expo will be held at North Harbour Stadium on Wednesday 20th May (4:00pm – 7:30pm) and Thursday 21st May (9:30am – 2:30pm & 4:00pm – 7:30pm). Your involvement can make a real difference in helping students explore career pathways beyond the usual options.

Contact Ines Roberts at iroberts@chamber.co.nz for more information.

[Register Now](#)

Past Events

Women In Business With Wendy Petrie



We were thrilled to hear Wendy Petrie speak at the Business North Harbour Women in Business event at North Harbour Hockey!

Wendy shared her inspiring journey from a high-profile career in journalism to stepping into business ownership with Speedy Signs Albany. From the pressures of fronting the 6pm news for 14 years while raising three children, to navigating the 2020 TVNZ restructure, she spoke candidly about embracing change, redefining purpose, and taking bold steps into a new chapter. Throughout her talk, Wendy reinforced that change is something we all face. "Change is something we can't control, and it happens to all of us... It's always happening."

She also shared a powerful mindset shift that helped her move forward: "Change is happening FOR me, not TO me."

Her insights on self-awareness, intentional living, and celebrating small wins certainly left the audience feeling motivated and empowered.

Events like this highlight the strength, resilience, and talent within our local business community. Thank you, Wendy, for sharing your story with honesty, humour, and authenticity!

[Read the full article](#)

What's Happening On Business.govt.nz

[Stay In The Know](#)



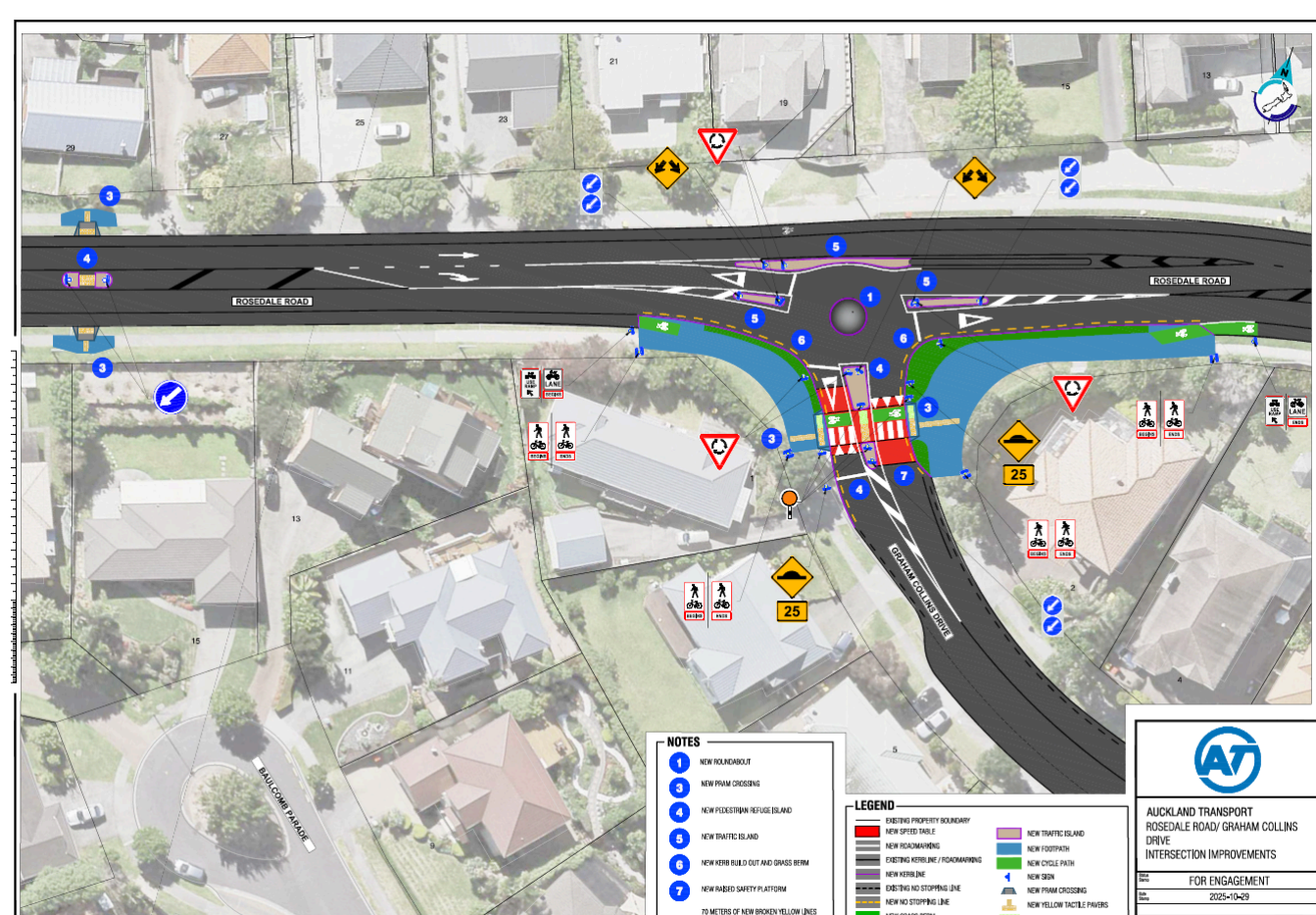
[Business.govt.nz](https://business.govt.nz) and other New Zealand Government channels are continually sharing the latest updates, tools, and guidance to help businesses **stay informed and prepared**.

- [Get ready for minimum wage increases](#)
- [Employment changes: what you need to know](#)
- [Build your employment agreements](#)
- [KiwiSaver Changes](#)
- [Check your gift cards expiry dates](#)
- [Do you have a business continuity plan](#)
- [Is cash important to your business?](#)
- [Get 15% back on eligible R&D costs](#)
- [Get a basic understanding of business tax](#)
- [Granny flat building consent webinar](#)
- [Sole trader? Keep on top of your annual tasks](#)

If you've got questions or need a hand, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) is here to support you. Small Business Freephone: 0800 424 946

[Visit Business.govt.nz](https://business.govt.nz)

Safety Improvements At Rosedale Rd – Graham Collins Dr



Auckland Transport is upgrading the Rosedale Road – Graham Collins Drive intersection to improve safety for everyone who walks, cycles, and drives through the area.

Work happening in the second half of 2026 includes:

- A new mountable roundabout to slow speeds and improve safety
- A raised paired crossing on Graham Collins Drive
- A new shared path and kerb build-outs on Rosedale Road
- Refuge islands with pram crossings near 29 Rosedale Road
- A raised safety platform for smoother vehicle descent
- No-stopping lines to increase visibility

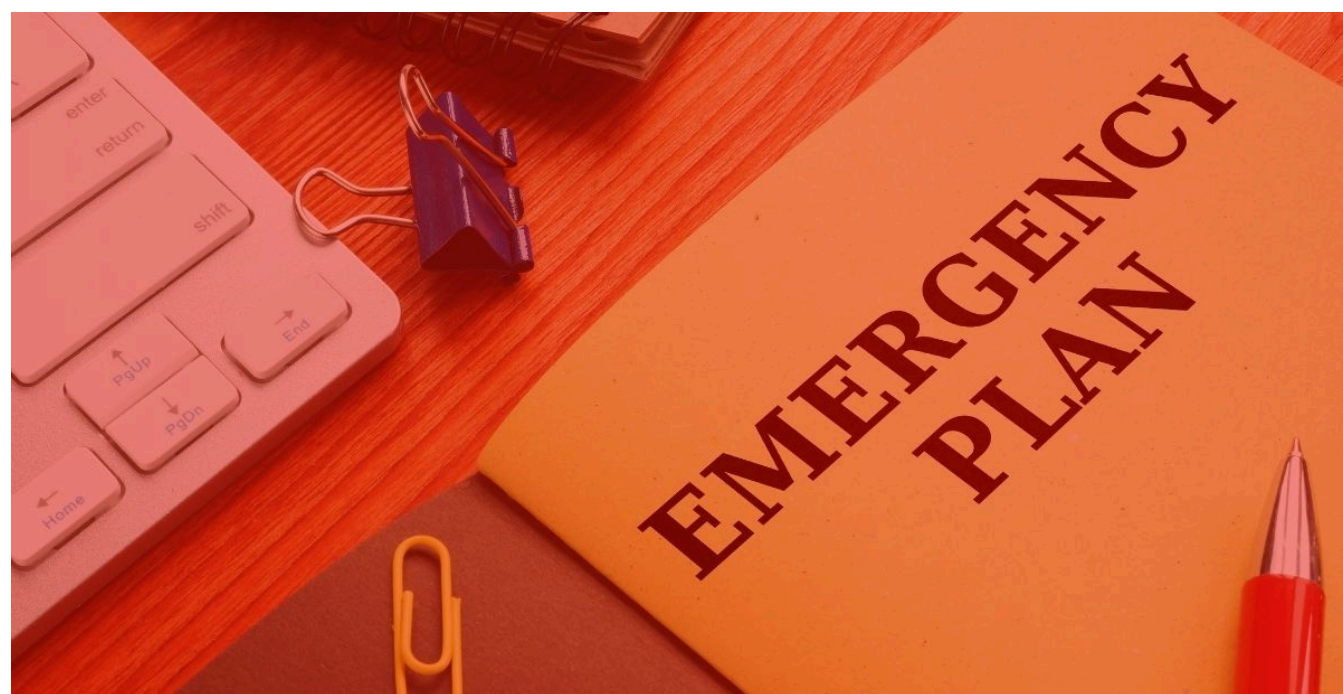
These changes will make the intersection safer, improve traffic flow, and provide better walking and cycling connections.

We'll update residents and businesses before work begins. You can find more information on the project webpage.

Please share any local insights by 12 April 2026 at ATengagement@at.govt.nz

[Read Update](#)

What's News From Auckland Emergency Management?



Important update for our community this week:

MetService will now be keeping the public informed during any **tsunami risk**. Stay prepared and make sure you know where to get trusted updates.

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/589181/metservice-to-keep-public-informed-during-times-of-tsunami-risk>

Useful resources:

Have you checked out the practical guides on the RNZ Emergency website? It's packed with easy-to-share content that can help you to be better prepared:

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/emergency>

Calling small-medium businesses!

Our colleagues in the Council's Economic Development team are looking for a small group of businesses to help test a new platform designed to support business resilience — think power outages, supply delays, and other unexpected disruptions.

- ✓ Short 30-min online sessions
 - ✓ Your feedback shapes tools for other Kiwi businesses
- Keen to take part? Email leeanna.kohn-hardy@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Want to get involved?

There are plenty of opportunities to volunteer before and during emergencies. It's a great way to support your community when it matters most.

<https://www.aucklandemergencymanagement.govt.nz/your-local/volunteering/>

Your All-Access Fitness Membership



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Run Ring Road Races With North Harbour Stadium



Only 2 more runs left! Register now if you don't want to miss out!
Each night features four races — from kids to competitive runners.

The programme includes:

- 5:40pm — 1km Kids' Run (12 & under): Part of the Rod Dixon Kids' Marathon, encouraging children to complete their own marathon journey across the series.
- 6:00pm — 3km High School Race: Open to North Shore and Auckland secondary students.
- 6:30pm — 5km Race: A qualifying event with professional timing and prize money for the top three male and female competitors.
- 7:00pm — 5km Fun Run: Open to all levels for an enjoyable evening out. Affordable entries make the series accessible for families, schools, and clubs — and best of all, the event proudly supports local charities, helping give back to the community with every stride.

Email: alwyn.poole@gmail.com for registration and payment details.

[Register Now](#)

FYI Magazine Has Landed



Don't forget to check out the online [Autumn edition of FYI](#)

This issue is packed with fresh stories, bold ideas, and inspiring people—all centred around one of everyone's favourite topics: **food**.

[Read FYI](#)

BUY LOCAL



Don't forget to **join the Buy North Harbour Facebook group** to promote your business products and services and support your North Harbour neighbours.

[Join Now](#)

Love this email? Share it with your team!

If you've got colleagues who'd enjoy staying in the loop about our events, opportunities, and updates, feel free to **forward this email** their way. We'd love to welcome more of your team into our community!

It's easy for them to join. By simply clicking the link below and **signing up to our mailing list**, they'll get all the latest news straight to their inbox.

[Sign Up to YOUR eNews](#)

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