



AA Northland District Councillors – 2026-2027



Tracey Risetto – Chair

Tracey Risetto has been an AA Councillor since 2016, becoming Chair in 2020 and the Northland AA Council's representative on the AA National Council in 2022.

Tracey is a Chartered Accountant and member of the Institute of Directors. She is a Director and Administration Manager for the Whangārei-based electrical contracting business that she and her husband own. She brings to the AA Council her experience in business management and as a cyclist, driver and pedestrian.

Tracey leads an AA Northland Council that strongly advocates on behalf of the Northland AA Membership for safe and resilient transport infrastructure. They have been recognised within the AA on several occasions for their effective advocacy work.



Ashley Johnston – Vice Chair

Ashely joined the Northland District Council in 2022.

In her day-job she is the Manager for the Northland Road Safety Trust's education programmes in Whangārei/ Kaipara Districts. She commenced the role in 2020 after having worked for 10 years in a variety of road safety roles with the New Zealand Police, including serving as a Strategic Advisor on the Road Safety Team at Police National Headquarters. She also spent many years on the Police's front line seeing the real effects of road trauma. Her experience with NZ Police has helped her proactive approach to the development and delivery of road safety programmes.

She thrives as part of the Road Safety Trust's team developing educational strategies to make roads safer for all users in the Whangārei and Kaipara communities.



Angelene Waitohi

Angelene joined the AA Northland District Council in 2020.

In her day-job, Angelene is the Far North Districts Road Safety Advisor for Far North REAP (Rural Education Activities Programme), which involves connecting with communities and overseeing programmes aimed at preventing harm on roads and improving people’s overall wellbeing.

Angelene’s focus is the Far North, where many road trauma issues are prevalent. The programmes Angelene oversees cover driver training and licensing, seatbelt and child seat usage, driver fatigue, and drink and drug-impaired driving.

Angelene and her colleagues work alongside Waka Kotahi, Police, and other agencies to deliver programmes and activities. Those agencies have commented on Angelene's passion for preventing road deaths and injuries, and her willingness to go above and beyond to help keep people safe, both from a road safety perspective and through wider community support.



Ann Court

Ann Court has been a member of the AA Northland District since 2023.

Ann represented Northland on the Regional Land Transport Committee, Northland Freight Group and Roadsafe Northland between 2013 and 2022 and has recently been reappointed for a further three-year term.

Ann is the author of the national Dust Remit Policy, which was based on a scientific study that measured the impact on human health from the impacts of dust on our unsealed network.

Ann brings to the table her knowledge and experience in Northland-wide transport challenges and opportunities.

Ann is also an elected member of the Far North District Council.



Gordon Lambeth

Gordon Lambeth joined the Northland District Council in May 2016.

Gordon has a background in Policing, having served for three decades in the NZ Police specialising in forensics, traffic enforcement and investigation.

Gordon has an Architectural Design practice based in Dargaville. He is also an elected member of the Kaipara District Council, currently Deputy Mayor, and a strong advocate for the area.



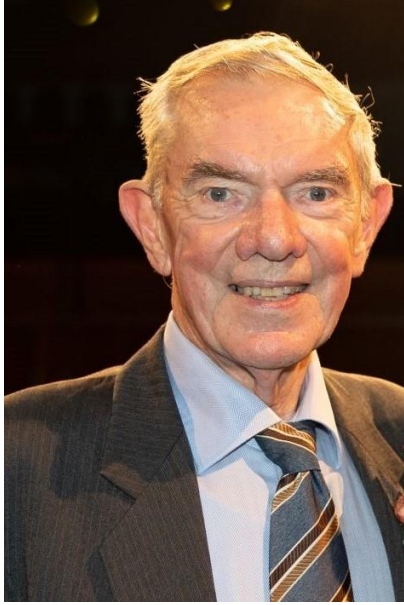
John Williamson, QSM

John Williamson's tenure with the AA Northland District Council stretches back to 1996 when the AA Council was established. He has carried out a variety of roles on the Council including being the Chair, AA National Council representative, and an inaugural AA Research Foundation Trustee.

John is a Northlander - born and educated, with an extensive background in management and teaching, pursuing private business interests, sitting as an independent resource consents commissioner, and serving as a Whangārei District Councillor including on the Regional Transport Committee.

For the past 15 years, John has written a fortnightly column published in the NZ Herald and Northern Advocate newspapers focussing on various roading, road safety and driving matters.

John was awarded the Queen's Service Medal for services to the community on the New Year's Day Honours List for 2022.



Stephen (Steve) Westgate, KSM, JP

Steve Westgate has been a member of the Northland AA District Council since 2002 and has previously served as Chair for four years and the AA National Council representative for six years.

He has a science degree and technical background in window glass manufacture, and since 1991 has worked in Resource Management.

Steve leads the AA Council's speed submissions, coordinating both written and oral submissions on behalf of the Northland AA Council and his contribution in this area is held in high regard by local road controlling authorities.

He has also been involved with other community service and conservation organisations for over 50 years. He was awarded the Whangārei District Council Civic Honours Award for services to transport, the environment and community in September 2022. And then in the 2026 King's Birthday Honours he was presented with a King's Service Medal (KSM).



Vince Cocurullo

Vince Cocurullo has been a member of the AA Northland District Council since 2007.

In his previous working life, he completed his NZCE in Civil Engineering and worked for several civil engineering firms, designing and supervising the construction of roads and intersections as well as providing safety training for road workers.

In 2000 he started his own IT business, looking after the Northland business and residential community with their IT issues.

He has been President of the Rotary Club of Whangārei South, the Whangārei Club, and various other community groups within Whangārei.

From 2007 through to 2025, Vince has spent time as an elected official on the Whangārei District Council, both as a Councillor and as Mayor from 2022-2025.

He is standing as the NZ First candidate for Whangārei in the 2026 General Election.



Jade Keswick

Jade joined the AA Northland District Council in early 2024.

Jade completed a Bachelors Degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Auckland in 2013 and has since worked on a vast array of construction projects in Auckland, Melbourne, and Whangārei.

Her extensive experience in roading construction and traffic management brings a valuable knowledge base to the AA Northland Council.

Having grown up in Whangārei, Jade is passionate about the growth and improvement of Northland especially with respect to our roading network including the safety and efficiency of our roads and footpaths.