



## AA Northland District Councillors – 2024



### **Tracey Risetto – Chair**

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

Tracey is an accountant, currently working in the disability sector and also with her husband in their electrical contracting business. She brings to the Council her experience as a cyclist, pedestrian, and motorist.

Tracey strongly advocates on behalf of the Northland AA Membership for safe and resilient transport infrastructure.



### **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 Whangarei/ 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 Whangarei 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 is a new member of the AA Northland District Council having joined in 2023.

Previously Ann has represented Northland on the Regional Land Transport Committee, Northland Freight Group and Roadsafe Northland.

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 and is an elected member of the Kaipara District Council and a strong advocate for the area.



### **John Williamson**

John Williamson's tenure with the AA Northland District Council commenced in 1997 when it 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 Whangarei District Councillor including on the Regional Transport Committee.

For the past 13 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.



### **Mark Winger**

Mark is an Auckland-based commercial lawyer and is a Member of the Auckland and Northland AA District Councils.

He was instrumental in the creation of the Waikato District Council in 1991 and the creation of the Northland District Council in 1997.

Mark was first appointed a Member of the AA Board on its formation in 1993.

Mark Winger was appointed President of the New Zealand Automobile Association in March 2023.



### **Stephen (Steve) Westgate**

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 Whangarei District Council Civic Honours Award for services to transport, the environment and community in September 2022.





### **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 Whangarei South, the Whangarei Club, and various other community groups within Whangarei.

In 2007 he was elected on the Whangarei District Council as a Councillor for the Okara Ward.

Vince was elected Mayor of Whangarei District in 2022.



### **Jade Keswick**

Jade Keswick is a new member of the AA Northland District Council having joined in 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 Whangarei.

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

Having grown up in Whangarei, 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.