Herman Goldstein Submission 2025

Kā Au Kahuraki

Tamai Safe Homes and Communities

Kā Au Kahuraki Tamai Safe Homes and Communities looks at crime and harm from a community perspective and asks the question, *"Is the Tamai community a safe place where children and their families can thrive*?"

Tamai, Ōtautahi Christchurch,

Aotearoa New Zealand

Date: May 2025

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Summary

Kā Au Kahuraki is a cross-agency collaboration led by the New Zealand Police, the Ministry of Education and Iwi (Indigenous Tribal Group – Ngāi Tahu)- Mana Whenua – Ngāi Tūāhuriri (local sub-tribe of Ngāi Tahu). From a community perspective Kā Au Kahuraki proactively looks for opportunities to prevent harm and enable young children to flourish through identifying and addressing inter-related crime, social, health and education problems.

Scan

Tamai (population 30,000) is one of the most socio-economically disadvantaged areas in Ōtautahi Christchurch, Aotearoa New Zealand. A scan of NZP data comparing six-monthly trends in 2019 and 2022 showed victimisations increased by 70%. Retail and vehicle theft were identified as key crime types, with retail theft increasing 326% for the scan period at the local shopping complex, Eastgate Mall. Data from Kā Au Kahuraki initiatives (e.g. project reports) highlighted socio-economic disadvantage and unequal access to resources and activities as themes for parents in early learning services.

Analysis

Using the crime triangle to analyse the problem we looked at deprivation and deeper root causes such as food insecurity and their connection to Tamai's crime problems. Our findings supported our hypothesis, that increased harm and victimisations stem from a lack of capable guardians, the impact of covid-19 restrictions, limited access to cultural activities and distance from tribal homes, socio-economic disadvantage, and unequal access to resources for parents in early learning services.

Response

The response activities included targeted high visibility patrols at Eastgate Mall, BBQ hubs as a vehicle to connect with community and build guardianship, and the delivery of prevention tools to proactively reduce vehicle theft and burglaries (e.g. messaging on fridge magnets). To address root cause issues, we worked with parents at early learning services to address safety, education, socio-economic and cultural challenges for children and their families.

Assessment

Comparing the same six-months between 2022 and 2024 showed total Tamai victimisations decreased 23% with major reductions in overall victimisations at Eastgate Mall (50%) and retail premise theft at Eastgate Mall (57%). Overall costs of victimisations reduced from NZ$29.3 million to approximately NZ$22.4 million with a positive total net effect of 1,226 prevented retail theft victimisations.

Responding to root cause has seen language, culture and identity fostered in early learning services. A parent survey in January/February 2025 showed positive results, with 83% of parents feeling connected to necessary health and social services, and 81% reporting that support has increased their children's engagement in education.

(word count 400)

Project Description

Overview

Ōtautahi Christchurch (population 438,363) lies on the South Island's East coast in Aotearoa New Zealand. Tamai (population 30,000) is in the eastern suburbs of Ōtautahi Christchurch. With 31.3% unemployment, Tamai is a community of high social deprivation (Table 1).

Kā Au Kahuraki is a cross-agency initiative led by the NZ Police, the Ministry of Education and Mana Whenua – Ngāi Tūāhuriri (local sub-tribe of Ngāi Tahu) (Table 2). Partnering with government and non-government agencies, community, and 17 Early Learning Services, Kā Au Kahuraki fosters safe, connected, and equitable communities where children aged 0-5 years old are supported to thrive, learn, and know who they are and where they belong. The initiative builds upon the original ***You Matter to Us*** project, a 2019 Herman Goldstein finalist.

Kā Au Kahuraki is comprised of three interconnected strands: the Kaitiaki and Mana Whenua initiatives and Tamai Safe Homes and Communities which addresses crime and harm from a community perspective, asking, *"Is the Tamai community a safe place where children and their families can thrive*?" (Table 3).

In November 2022, using the SARA process the Ministry of Education and Police Leads, scanned police data to proactively look for opportunities to prevent harm and build safer communities.

Scan

Tamai's Crime Problems

Tamai is well known for its systemic crime problems with victimisations increasing **70%** or **(1,118)** between July- December 2022 from a baseline in July-December 2019[1].

The overall cost of victimisations was calculated at **NZ$29.3 million** from the 2019 baseline.

[1] July- December 2019 and July – December 2022 data (6-month period) was used due to covid-19 activity, such as lockdowns impacting on data.

Examining victimisation data further revealed that of 2,711 victimisations:

- 78% or (2,118) victimisations (July - December 2022) in Tamai were theft and related offences.
- Out of these 2118 victimisations 72% or (1082) were retail theft, and 28% or (600) were vehicle theft and related offences.

From the July-December 2019 baseline to July-December 2022, Calls for Service (CFS) increased 13% or (937), with retail theft CFS increasing 176% or (690). To understand the geographic spread we reviewed victimisations across the nine area units in Tamai and identified the main shopping complex (Eastgate Mall) as a hotspot, with an increase of 286% or (800) overall victimisations.

Eastgate Mall

Retail theft had increased 326% or (783) and accounted for 98% of the increase in overall victimisations at Eastgate Mall. Crime peaked between 11 am –7 pm on Mondays and Thursdays. Retail theft CFS at Eastgate Mall increased from 272 in July-December 2020 to 1,022 in July-December 2022. There were 505 unique offenders, with data indicating that 20% of these offenders resided in Tamai.

Police identified additional issues, including antisocial behaviour at Eastgate Mall, with panhandlers begging outside McDonald's, Countdown (supermarket) and The Warehouse (retail chain), and groups of 5-6 youths engaging in vandalism, escalator tampering and shoplifting during and after school hours. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays were the most challenging.

Police, the Ministry of Education and the Mana Whenua operations team connected with Eastgate Mall retailers and over 200 parents and community members at 29 meetings and BBQ hubs in 2022. The Neighbourhood Police team (NPT) engaged with retailers, staff, and management at Eastgate Mall. Discussions in meetings, at hubs and at Eastgate revealed people felt unsafe, had limited trust and confidence in police and that harm was normalised in their communities.

Vehicle theft

Vehicle theft and related offences across Tamai had increased by 74% or (256) as at July-December 2022 from a baseline in July-December 2019 across all of Tamai. Although there was no pattern to the specific days of the week, offences were more likely to occur between 12 am-1 am and 12 pm-8 pm.

We identified key stakeholders for retail theft and vehicle theft including mall staff and management, retailers, and the community. Decreases in victimisations and CFS across vehicle and retail theft, and an increased positive perception of police were our measures of success.

Social, Health and Education Challenges

Kā Au Kahuraki has a team of Kaitiaki whose role is to connect parents in 17 Tamai early learning services with health and social service support. Kaitiaki monthly reports (2020-2022) highlighted unequal access to resources (e.g. food and clothing) and socio-economic disadvantage as recurring themes, with covid-19 lockdowns impacting on children's attendance at early learning services.

Mana Whenua (the local indigenous people) identified challenges such as parental isolation due to covid-19 lockdowns, a loss of identity, language and culture, socio-economic disadvantage, and an inability to engage in cultural activities.

We identified stakeholders, including parents, teachers, kaitiaki and various health, social and community services with the following measures of success; food security, parents' access to health and social services, and children's engagement in early learning where their language, culture and identity are nurtured.

Problem Statement

Summarising the scan data using CHEERS criteria (Eck and Clarke, 2003) we could see that Tamai victimisations had increased: (Table 4)

1. Theft from retail premises at Eastgate Mall mostly on Mondays and Thursdays from 11 am to 7 pm and antisocial behaviour with disruptive youth and panhandlers begging after school hours.
2. Vehicle related offences, with peak times from 12 am to 1 am and 12 pm to 8 pm.

From a social, health and education perspective, parents and children in early learning services were experiencing:

- Socio-economic disadvantage, unequal access to resources and a reduction in regular early learning attendance.

- Isolation, loss of identity, language, and culture potentially due to covid-19 restrictions and the inability to engage in cultural activities.

The crime problems identified in the scan were causing tangible harm in Tamai, including financial losses from theft of, and from vehicles. These challenges, alongside social, health and education challenges were undermining community safety and wellbeing.

Analysis

We employed the crime triangle to analyse the interplay between locations, offenders, and targets/victims, drawing insights from police data.

Tamai Crime Problems

1: Retail crime (Eastgate Mall)

Eastgate Mall[2] is located on a dynamic intersection with over 40 retail shops including a vape shop, multiple fast-food and liquor outlets, and a service station on each corner.

We examined the retail theft data through Auror (A platform where retailers share information related to offending) and found commodities were mostly under $500 stolen from Countdown and The Warehouse. Commodities included meat and confectionery in amounts suggesting necessity offending. Police data identified 20% of offenders resided in Tamai; 51% were parents of young children and 18% of commodities were specifically baby/child related, e.g., clothes and baby formula.

2: Antisocial behaviour and disorder (Eastgate Mall)

The Eastgate Mall intersection is a transient area, with panhandlers begging at each corner. McDonald's sits at the southern end, with a separate entrance and drive-through with limited visibility from a Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)[3] perspective. There is a public library in the mall (Figure 1).

[2] Eastgate Mall, retrieved 22.1.25 from: Our Shops « Eastgate Mall – Shop Easy Christchurch

[3] CPTED retrieved 22.1.25 from: Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design | Neighbourhood Support New Zealand

Panhandlers begging

McDonald's management reported that panhandlers often abused staff and targeted vulnerable individuals, becoming aggressive when met with resistance.

Youth

In 2022, groups of four to five youth from the local high school were causing disruptions at the library, engaging in fights and assaults, and verbally abusing staff and security personnel. Security would trespass youth; youth would then play cat and mouse with security. Although these trespass breaches were reported to police this was often after the event and was difficult to respond to in a timely manner. From a Mana Whenua, perspective malls have potentially become places where young people become engaged by default in anti-social activity. Cultural role models and provision of organised activities may help to engage young people, providing a sense of belonging, ownership, and connection to community. Malls may not necessarily provide positive social and cultural structures and supports.

CPTED

Analysis showed areas that were poorly lit with limited surveillance (natural and technical). Security was stationed away from the malls more vulnerable areas.

Community

The Neighbourhood Police team (NPT) conducted a Neighbourhood Engagement Survey of the public at Eastgate Mall in June 2023 with 40 responses. Overall, 35% of people indicated they felt unsafe, with 50% of all respondents saying police could improve through increased presence and regular patrols. The survey results aligned with ongoing engagements at Eastgate Mall BBQ hubs and with police foot patrols. In addition, retailers, security and shoppers shared with police a reluctance to report crimes due to uncertainty about what to report, and a lack of trust and confidence in police to respond.

3: Vehicle theft and related offences (Tamai)

All Tamai Area Units were affected by theft of, and from vehicles, including cards, bags, tools and wallets stolen from vehicles. Anecdotal data from BBQ and coffee hubs attended by 124 people

showed that one in ten people left their car and house doors unlocked. People often shared stories of unsafe situations for themselves and their families that indicated a lack of prevention awareness.

Social, Education and Health Challenges (Root Cause)

Our analysis of retail theft offenders in Tamai revealed that 25% had children under the age of five. Research suggests that parents of young children may shoplift due to economic need.

We further analysed themes impacting on children 0-5 years and their families to identify factors that might contribute to parents offending.[4] Mana Whenua identified wellbeing as defined in Te Whare Tapa Whā[5] dimensions of health and limited access to cultural activities as key concerns (Table 5). Re-analysis of monthly kaitiaki reports identified that covid-19 exacerbated socio-economic stressors such as food insecurity, unequal access to services and mental health as challenges for parents and families. These challenges hindered children's engagement in early learning.

Our literature review highlights that if children in the first 2,000 days are exposed to historical and ongoing traumas, for example the impacts of poverty, they may experience toxic stress and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs)[6], (leading to limited educational and economic opportunities),[7] which are associated with poor health outcomes[8] and an increased risk of future criminal convictions[9] (Figure 2). Early learning attendance and engagement are widely recognised as critical factors influencing positive outcomes across the lifespan, with longer durations of early learning attendance associated with higher educational attainment, improved socio-economic outcomes and protective factors that mitigate the impact of adversity.[10]

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[4] Economic motivators for Shoplifting, retrieved 27.4.25 from: Economic Motivators for Shoplifting

[5] Te Whare Tapa Whā a proven integrated māori wellbeing model

[6] Scottish Public Health Network (ScotPHN) *'Polishing the Diamonds' Addressing Adverse Childhood Experiences in Scotland.* Retrieved April (2025) from: https://www.scotphn.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/2016_05_26-ACE-Report-Final2.pdf

[7] About Adverse Childhood Experiences, retrieved 14.4.25 from: https://www.cdc.gov/aces/about/index.html

[8] Poverty, Stress, and Brain Development: New Directions for Prevention and Intervention retrieved (April) 2025 from: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5765853/

[9] Moffitt.T, et al. *A gradient of childhood self-control predicts health, wealth, and public safety*. Retrieved (April) 2025 from: https://www.pnas.org/content/pnas/108/7/2693.full.pdf?fbclid=IwAR2UEElh6jlJ_gCAio684CM4RtQiSfdvP84Jfymc9OTbyFAbH6HCdt7XT8A

[10] Retrieved 27.4.25 from: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/325283878_Early_Childhood_Education_and_Later_Educational_Attainment_and_Socioeconomic_Wellbeing_Outcomes_to_Age_30

Areas of high deprivation, such as Tamai can face challenges where repeated exposure to risk factors such as food insecurity, poor housing, family violence, structural racism, unsafe neighbourhoods, and stigma can undermine resilience and contribute to toxic stress, potentially impairing children's cognitive, behavioural, and physical development (Braveman, 2023; Skattebol et al., 2023).
A 2020 Ministry of Social Development review reiterated that the covid-19 pandemic is likely to impact on child development, with ACEs such as economic insecurity, and limited support networks posing risks to children's wellbeing.[11]

We clearly recognised the connection between wellbeing, as defined in the Te Whare Tapa Whā dimensions, deprivation, parental offending and barriers to education. We could see that Tamai was not a community where **all** children and their families could thrive.

Hypothesis

In Tamai, socio-economic disadvantage, inequality, health and wellbeing, and limited access to activities supporting language, culture, and identity – compounded by the absence of capable guardians were connected to:

- **Elevated levels of retail theft, disorder, vehicle theft and related offences and victimisations.**
- **Barriers to children's attendance and engagement in education.**

When communities face socio-economic challenges deep inequalities affect people's health, education, safety and opportunities for a better life. The partners (Police, the Ministry of Education and Mana Whenua) saw an opportunity to approach these long-standing issues differently. There was a willingness to think deeply about root causes and consider what assumptions might have hindered the success of previous (agency specific) responses.

[11] MSD immediate and medium term social and psychosocial impacts of covid 19 in New Zealand, retrieved (April (2025) from: https://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/statistics/covid-19/immediate-and-medium-term-social-and-psychosocial-impacts-of-covid-19-in-new-zealand.html

Response

Previous responses typically took a "one-size fits all" approach and assumed that services are equally effective for all. The Ministry of Education, Mana Whenua, and Police collaborated with partners to activate multiple nuanced and contextually responsive solutions at the end of 2022 (Figure 3). Linking back to our hypothesis we could see the opportunity to:

1. **Reduce retail theft and disorder through increasing police visibility at Eastgate Mall.**
2. **Reduce vehicle theft and related offences through growing and influencing community guardianship across Tamai.**
3. **Leverage the existing Kaitiaki and Mana Whenua initiatives in early learning services to address root causes, reduce inequalities and increase engagement in education - while fostering language, culture, and identity.**

A theory of change (Figure 4) was developed outlining the relationship between the initiative's response activities, outputs, intended outcomes (including impact) and monetary benefits. Kā Au Kahuraki's growing understanding of how to apply SARA was documented in a rubric to assess the maturity of the programme application (Table 6).

Tamai Crime Problems

We developed a targeted response for the Eastgate Mall and considered how to make the best use of police time, and the most cost-effective ways to deploy police resource (Figure 5).

Retail theft

Evidence shows that high-visibility hotspot policing, combined with strategic problem-solving, can effectively reduce crime.[12] Our strategy was to implement police visibility patrols and BBQ HUBs (December 2022/2024). Patrols were conducted two to three times a week mostly between 11 am – 7 pm with the intention of reducing retail theft and victimisations through increasing police visibility. Thirty-two BBQ Hubs (one to two per month) facilitated by the operations team (Police, the Ministry

[12] The effectiveness of visible police patrol, retrieved 11.4.25 from: The effectiveness of visible police patrol | College of Policing

of Education, Mana Whenua) increased police visibility and delivered prevention messaging resources to the community.

Youth disorder

In late 2022, a meeting was held with mall management, security, local high school leaders, Eastgate Mall library staff, youth workers and the NPT to address antisocial behaviour amongst youth. The school acknowledged a lack of social interaction between junior and senior students due to staggered school hours during covid-19. A survey initiated by the high school highlighted students feeling unsafe after school, which prompted the school to implement peer support programmes with Māori cultural components. Meanwhile, two NPT officers visited youth with mall trespass notices.

Panhandlers begging

Previously begging would have been addressed by Mall management phoning complaints into police. The issue would usually be seen as a lower-level incident and therefore deemed lower priority than more pressing demands on police CFS.

The NPT adopted a preventative approach, proactively engaging with six individuals who regularly begged at the mall. The police officers explained the impact of their behaviour and the reasons for trespassing. After a warning, further violations would lead to alternative resolutions or a court summons. Persistent offenders faced arrest and bail conditions.

CPTED recommendations

The NPT worked with management and retail owners to change environmental conditions that contribute to a lack of safety and security. Four Eastgate mall locations (McDonald's, The Mall itself, Countdown and the Warehouse) attracting higher volumes of harm and crime were identified. Management and retail owners were then encouraged to adopt simple crime prevention recommendations such as, relocating attractive targets and improving natural and technical surveillance.

Vehicle theft and burglary

January 2023 police data revealed increases in unlawful entry and burglary, prompting their inclusion in our vehicle theft response. Guided by second-generation CPTED key concepts[13] (connected community, connectivity, community culture, social ecology) and situational prevention principles,[14] we engaged with 1,039 parents in 15 early learning services and conducted 32 BBQ hubs attended by over 2,395 community members. Our response activity focussed on proactively strengthening capable guardianship and encouraging behavioural change to build collective efficacy[15] and reduce vehicle theft and burglary long-term. The partners co-designed simple messaging, (e.g. "lock your doors and hide your valuables ") printed on fridge magnets and door hangers and distributed to 3434 parents and community members at early learning services and mall BBQ hubs. (Figure 6).

Root Cause

Reflecting back to the importance of the first 2,000 days of a child's life in the analysis, the Ministry of Education, Mana Whenua, Police and partners used Te Whare Tapa Whā (an integrated māori wellbeing model) (Table 5) as a framework to address socio-economic disadvantage and inequalities impacting children attending Tamai early learning services (e.g. lack of clothing and food, access to appropriate health and social services, and activities that nurture language, culture and identity). Our response was delivered through the existing Kaitiaki and Mana Whenua initiatives.

Kaitiaki response (2020 – 2025)

In January 2023 two additional interventions were launched to address the socio-economic conditions contributing to parental offending and to support all parents in early learning services to access what they need for their children.

- To offset living costs, clothing drives at early learning services twice-a year (2023-2025) provided 1,789 children (not unique) with bags of clothing valued at NZ$200 each, equating to nearly NZ$357,000 of clothing.

[13] Crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) An overview for public safety professionals, retrieved 20.5.25 from: ORS: Documents-Research Briefs-CPTED (In Detail) | Division of Criminal Justice
[14] Situational Crime Prevention, retrieved 21.5.25 from: Situational Crime Prevention | ASU Center for Problem-Oriented Policing
[15] Collective efficacy, retrieved 20.5.25 from: Collective efficacy | EBSCO Research Starters

- A re-engagement in education project (January/February 2024/2025) supported 106 parents and 171 children with essentials like food and school uniforms to help them return to education.

Overall, Kaitiaki have distributed 9,664 food parcels and connected 650 parents with 2,055 health and social service referrals.

The Mana Whenua initiative (2021 – 2025)

In early 2021, the Ministry of Education partnered with Mana Whenua to co-design a professional learning programme for kaiako (teachers) in Tamai early learning services. Together they developed a *poutama* – a symbolic staircase of learning – reflecting a journey grounded in place, identity, and belonging. The programme includes three workshops. The first, *'Getting to Know Us*" focuses on relationship building with Mana Whenua, the second explores the Ngāi Tahu Treaty Claim and Kemps Deed, and the third works with kaiako (teachers) to build a marautanga (localised curriculum). All workshops are aimed at strengthening teachers' capability to affirm and foster Māori language, culture and identity in their settings. Guided by a Mana Whenua strategy grounded in whenua (land), Whakapapa (genealogy), Tuakiritanga (identity), and community, two dedicated mana whenua roles continue to support early learning kaiako/teaching teams in embedding this approach. To date 81 teachers from 14 Tamai services – serving approximately 763 children, including 181 Māori – have participated in the workshops (Table 7).

Assessment

Tamai Crime Problems

The intervention activity across the Tamai community has dramatically reduced victimisations.

- Victimisations across Tamai decreased by 23% or (634) between July-December 2022/24 (Figure 7) with six of the nine Tamai communities recording reductions in victimisations (Figure 8).
- The cost of victimisations during July – December dropped by approximately NZ$6.9-million-dollars (Figure 9).
- To ensure the reductions in crime were not due to the changes in population we undertook a comparative analysis. Victimisations rates per 100,000 people in Tamai decreased by 2.1%, meanwhile rates in four comparison areas (chosen because of similar deprivation ratings to

Tamai and retail shopping areas) increased, suggesting the positive changes in Tamai can be attributed to our integrated responses (Figure 10).

- CFS in Tamai decreased by **11%** or **(909),** and CFS for retail theft dropped by **50%** or **(543).**

The combination of police visibility, crime prevention advice, the kaitiaki response and community connectedness activities resulted in:

Retail theft and disorder

- Victimisations at Eastgate Mall decreased by **50%** or **(538),** while recorded theft from retail premises fell by **57%** or **(581)** (Figure 11).
- CFS for retail theft in the Eastgate Mall area declined by **59%** or **(603)**.
- Issues with disruptive youth and panhandlers have decreased. While isolated incidents with youth are occasionally reported to police, the persistent presence of large, disruptive after-school groups is no longer a prevalent issue. Similarly, while panhandling and the presence of homeless individuals still occur intermittently, the frequency of direct complaints, such as those concerning harassment from the mall manager to NPT officers, has reduced from every day to approximately twice a month.
- Three locations (McDonald's, Countdown and The Warehouse) have implemented CPTED recommendations. McDonald's plan to put in a new footpath to prevent people cutting through the car park from the intersection.
- Using the weighted displacement quotient (WDQ) and the total net effect (TNE) formulas we measured displacement and diffusion of benefits for retail theft[16]. Eastgate Mall was compared to a buffer zone of an adjacent suburb with a supermarket and retail shopping area. Hub Hornby in South Christchurch was our control area because of similarities to the Eastgate Mall (i.e. similar deprivation rating, size of Mall and busy intersection). There was no conclusive evidence of displacement, no diffusion of benefits and a positive total net effect of **1,226** prevented victimisations (Table 8).
- Analysis of two years of police data by hour/day found no evidence of temporal displacement at Eastgate Mall (Figure 12).

[16] Retrieved 2.5.25 from: Analysing Crime Displacement and Diffusion | Page 10 | ASU Center for Problem-Oriented Policing

- Reflecting the potential impact of addressing the socio-economic needs of the Tamai community we found that Auror data showed a dramatic reduction in the following commodities, meat 85% or (353) and confectionary 99% or (218) (Figure 13).
- Offenders with children aged 0-5 years in Tamai decreased from 25% to 18%.

Early learning services

- 14 early learning settings transformed their environments and teaching practice to enable language, culture, and identity to be nurtured for every child.
- 272 parents from Tamai early learning services were surveyed via phone (January-February 2025) to assess the impact of the Kaitaiki initiative:
    - 81% or (222) reported that Kaitiaki support enabled their children to access education.
    - 83% or (227) felt connected to the health and social services they needed.
    - 58% or (158) felt they had sufficient food and clothing for their families.

Car theft and burglary

- Vehicle theft and related offences decreased by 29% or (175) (Figures 14-15).
- Unlawful entry with intent/burglary decreased 10% or (47) (Figures 16-17).
- Our response to reduce vehicle theft and burglaries through increased community guardianship and place management changed behaviour. As an indicative measure, an informal January – April 2025 verbal survey of 278 community members at the BBQ hubs found that 40% were more likely to lock their doors.

Kā Au Kahuraki seeks to generate social value for the parents and families in Tamai. In 2023 an independent evaluation of the Kaitiaki initiative assessed the effectiveness of the response with the evaluators stating, *"Every year, Kaitiaki Kaupapa delivers NZ$2,610,829 of measurable good to society in New Zealand."*

Sustainability

We could see that Tamai was becoming a community where children and their families could thrive.

Addressing socio-economic challenges remain an ongoing priority. Efforts to reduce inequalities are progressing, with proactive initiatives connecting parents to essential resources such as the City Mission supermarket (where eligible families can shop for free for a designated period) and Clothed in Love (offering children's clothing bi-annually).

The underlying crime issues and root causes the Kā Au Kahuraki initiatives address are universal by nature. By prioritising scalability and sustainability, the Kā Au Kahuraki programme is designed to serve as a model for replication in other cities and towns, both across Aotearoa New Zealand and globally (Table 9).

(word count – 3,944)

Glossary

Auror	Auror, retrieved 13.3.24 from: Auror - Retail Crime Intelligence & Loss Prevention Platform
Collective Efficacy	In the sociology of crime, the term collective efficacy refers to the ability of members of a community to control the behaviour of individuals and groups in the community.
Countdown	Countdown was an Australian-owned New Zealand full-service supermarket chain and subsidiary of Woolworths New Zealand, itself a subsidiary of Australia's Woolworths Group. Retrieved 22.4.25 from: Countdown (supermarket)- Wikipedia
Early Learning Services	Early learning services, also known as Early Childhood Education (ECE), provide education and care for children before they enter primary school.
Footpath	In both the UK and the US, a "footpath" generally refers to a path specifically designed for pedestrian use, often in rural or natural settings.
Iwi	Iwi - Indigenous Tribal Group – Ngāi Tahu)
Joint Venture (JV)	The Ministry of Education, NZ Police and Mana Whenua
Kemps Deed and Ngāi Tahu Claim	Land purchases by British Crown 1844-1864 from Ngāi Tahu
Operations Team	Police, Whitiora (mana whenua/Iwi) and the Ministry of Education
Kaitiaki	A team of Kā Au Kahuraki Kaitiaki connectors engage with early learning services improving responsiveness and providing a more integrated approach to connecting parents to what they need, including health and social services
Mana Whenua	Mana Whenua – Ngāi Tūāhuriri (local sub-tribe of Ngāi Tahu).
Panhandler	Someone who asks people passing by for money. Retrieved 28.4.25 from: PANHANDLER | English meaning- Cambridge Dictionary
The Warehouse	A large well-known retail chain offering a wide variety of products at everyday low prices. Retrieved 22.4.25 from: The Warehouse NZ | Everyday Low Prices- Kiwi Owned

Appendices

Appendix A: Figures

Figure 1: Eastgate Mall Map

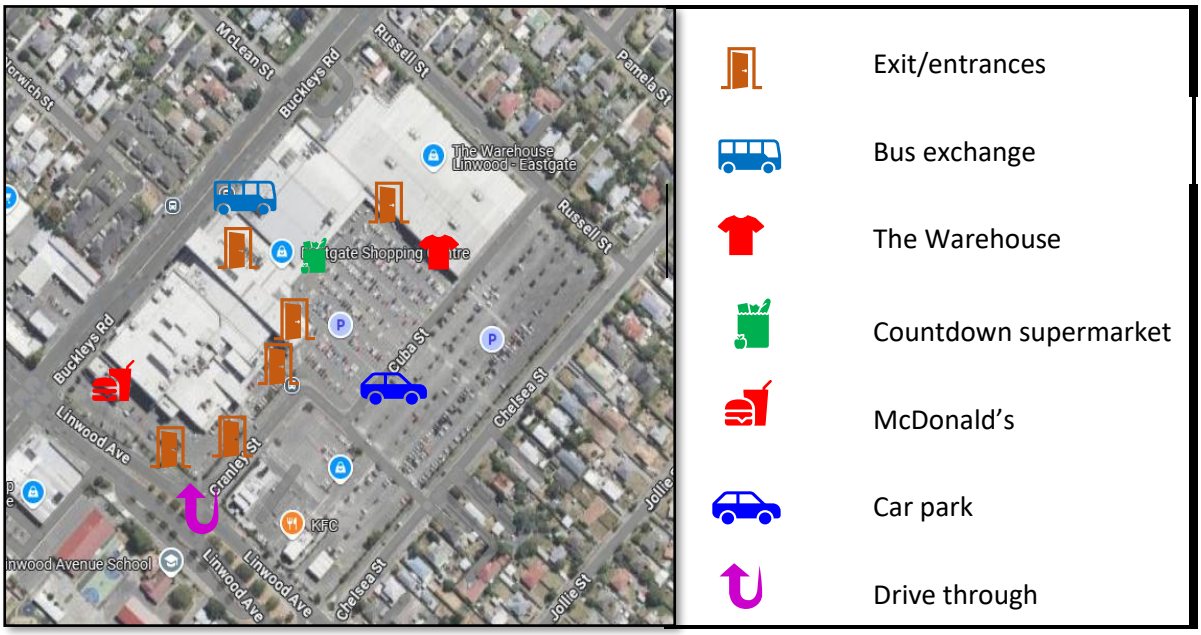


Figure 2: Kā Au Kahuraki: Root Cause Thematic Analysis

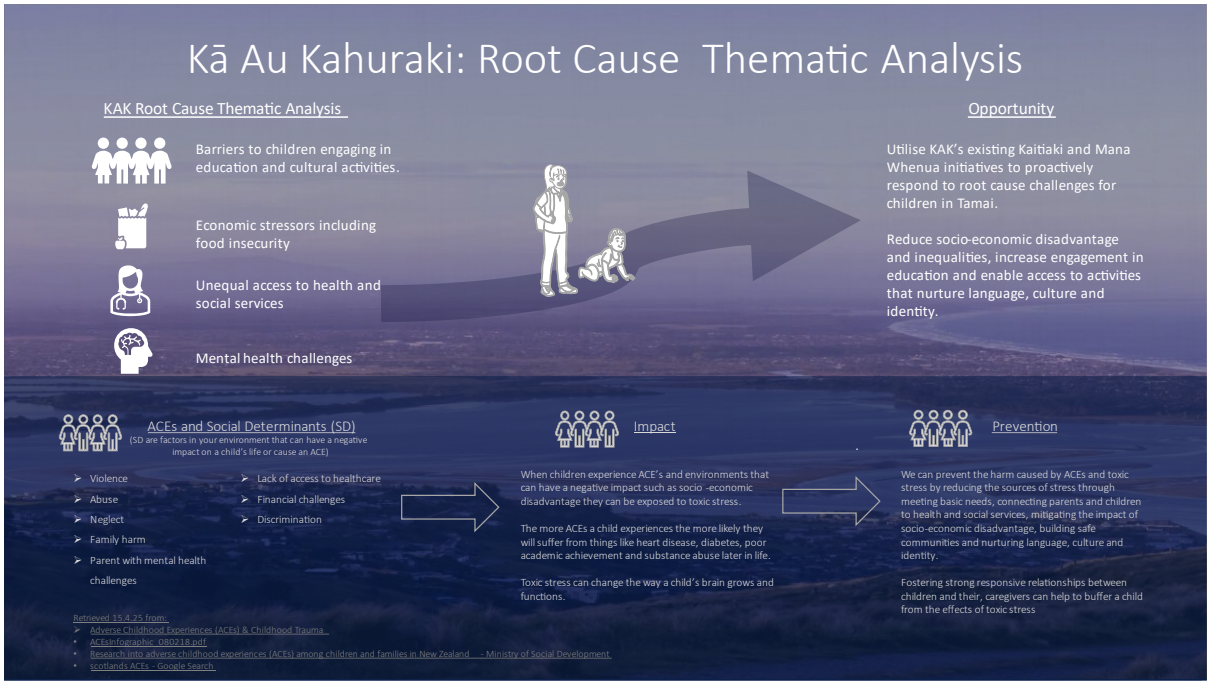


Figure 3: Response Timeline

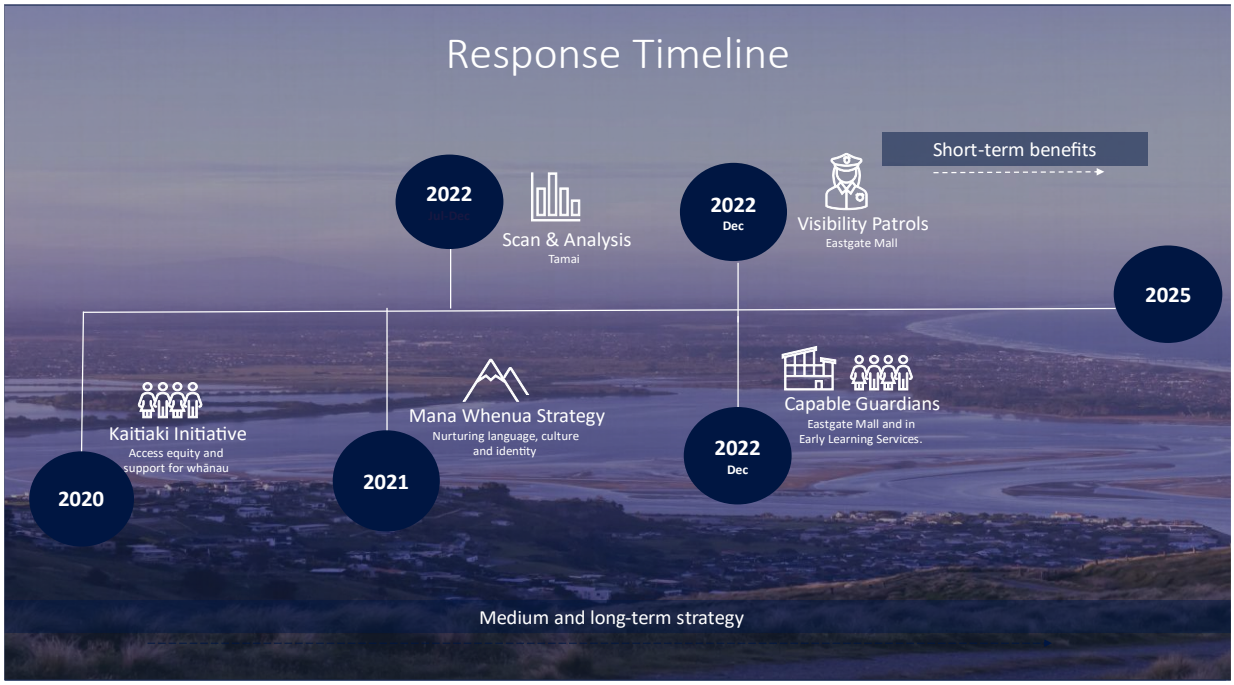


Figure 4: Theory of Change

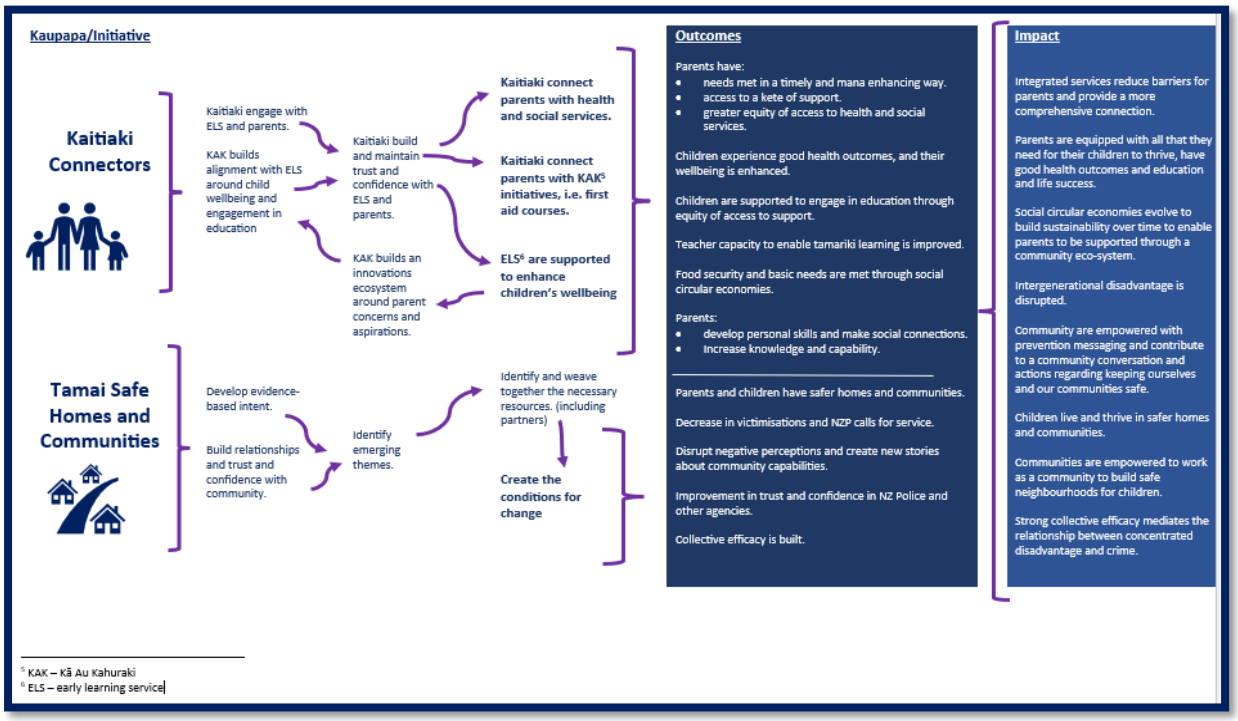


Figure 5: Response – retail theft and disorder.

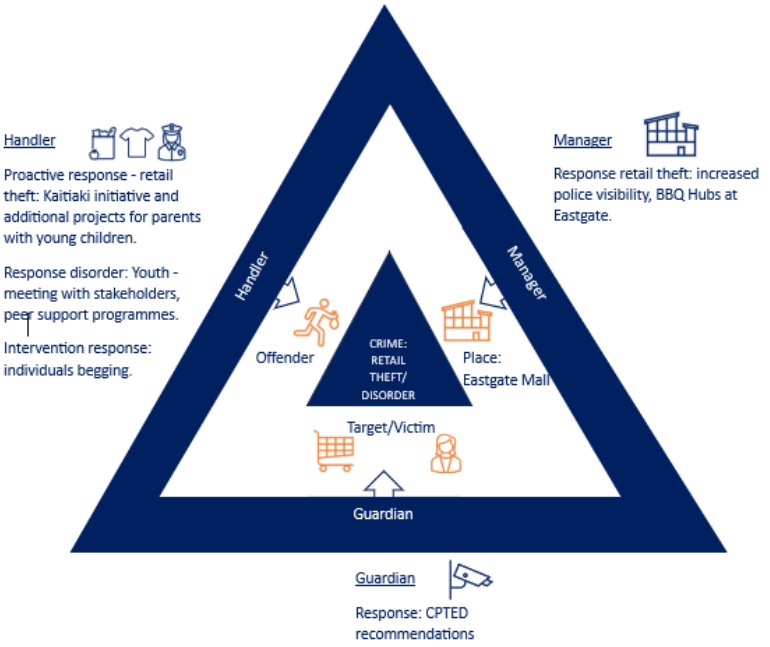


Figure 6: Response- vehicle theft and burglary

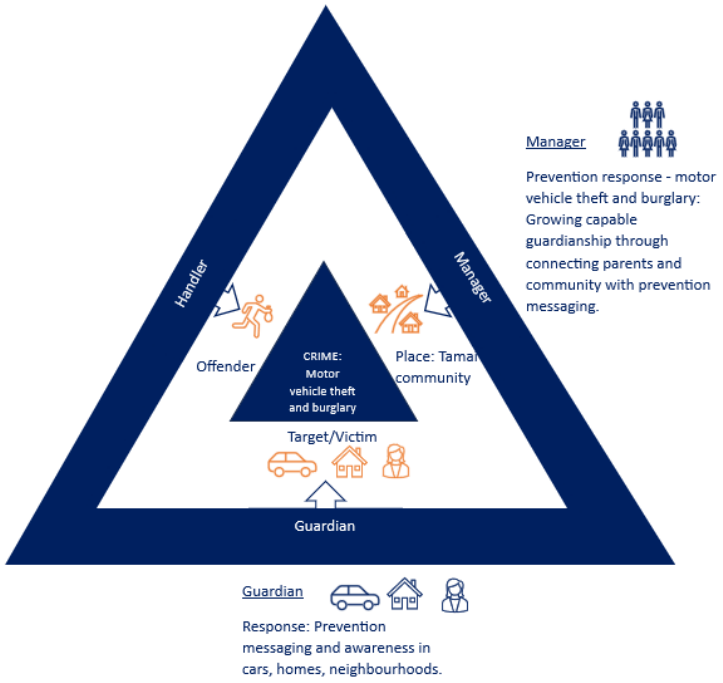
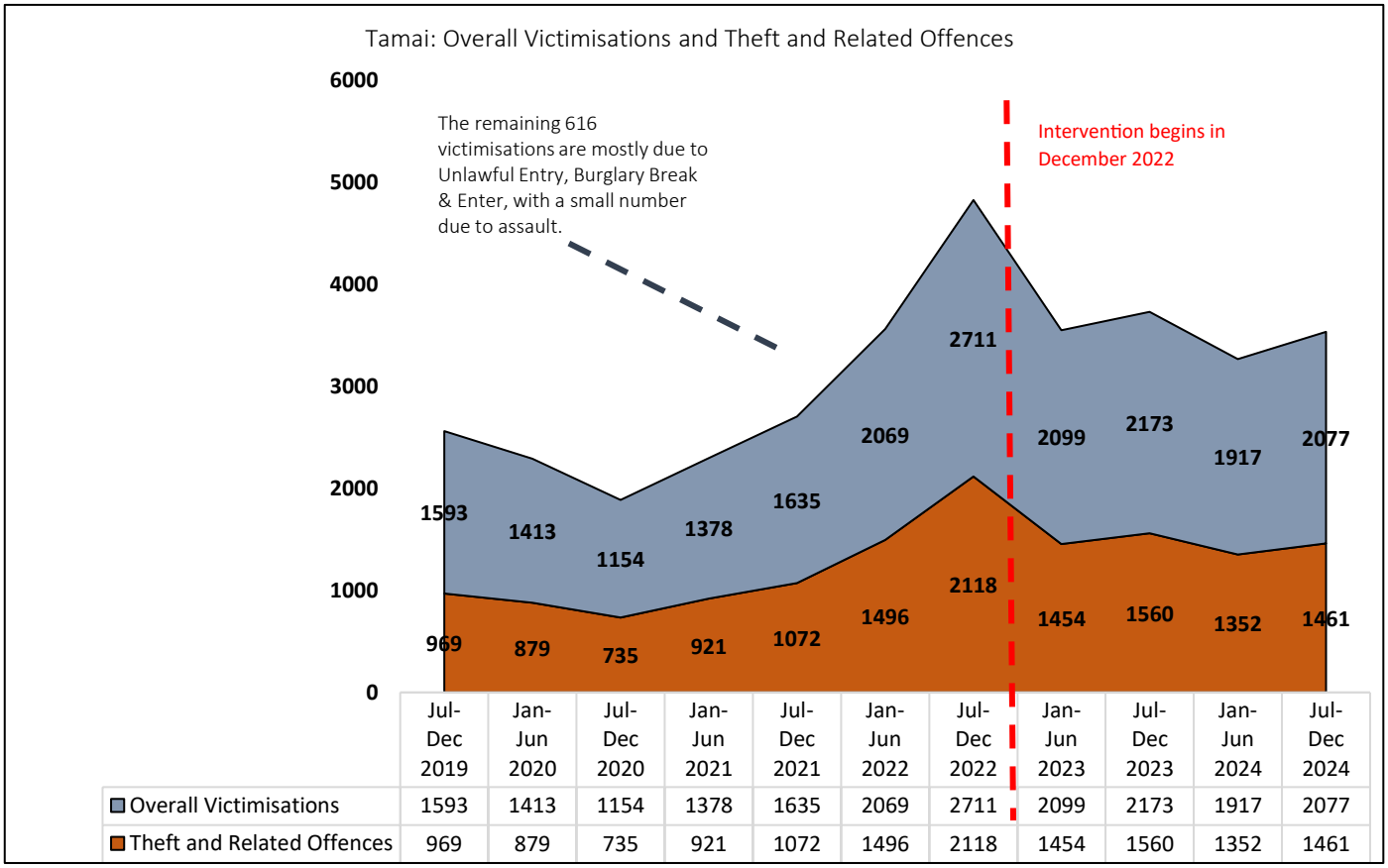


Figure 7: Decrease in overall victimisations in Tamai with theft from retail premises and vehicle theft and related offences.



	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2021	Jan-Jun 2022	Jul-Dec 2022	Jan-Jun 2023	Jul-Dec 2023	Jan-Jun 2024	Jul-Dec 2024
Overall Victimisations	1593	1413	1154	1378	1635	2069	2711	2099	2173	1917	2077
Theft and Related Offences	969	879	735	921	1072	1496	2118	1454	1560	1352	1461

Figure 8: Tamai Area Unit Breakdown showing a of decrease of victimisations in the area.

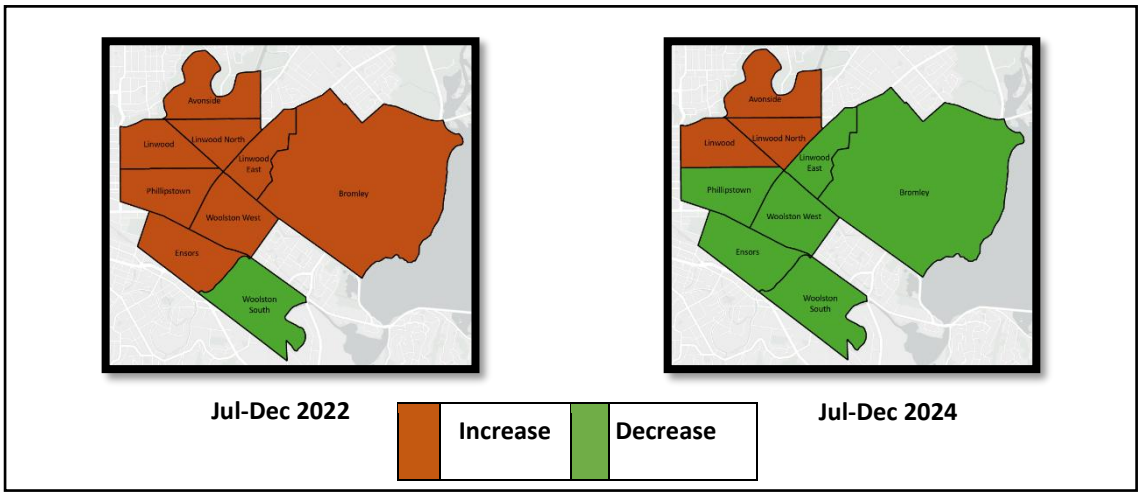


Figure 9: The cost of victimisations including median trend line ($33,076,556 – $35,303,196)

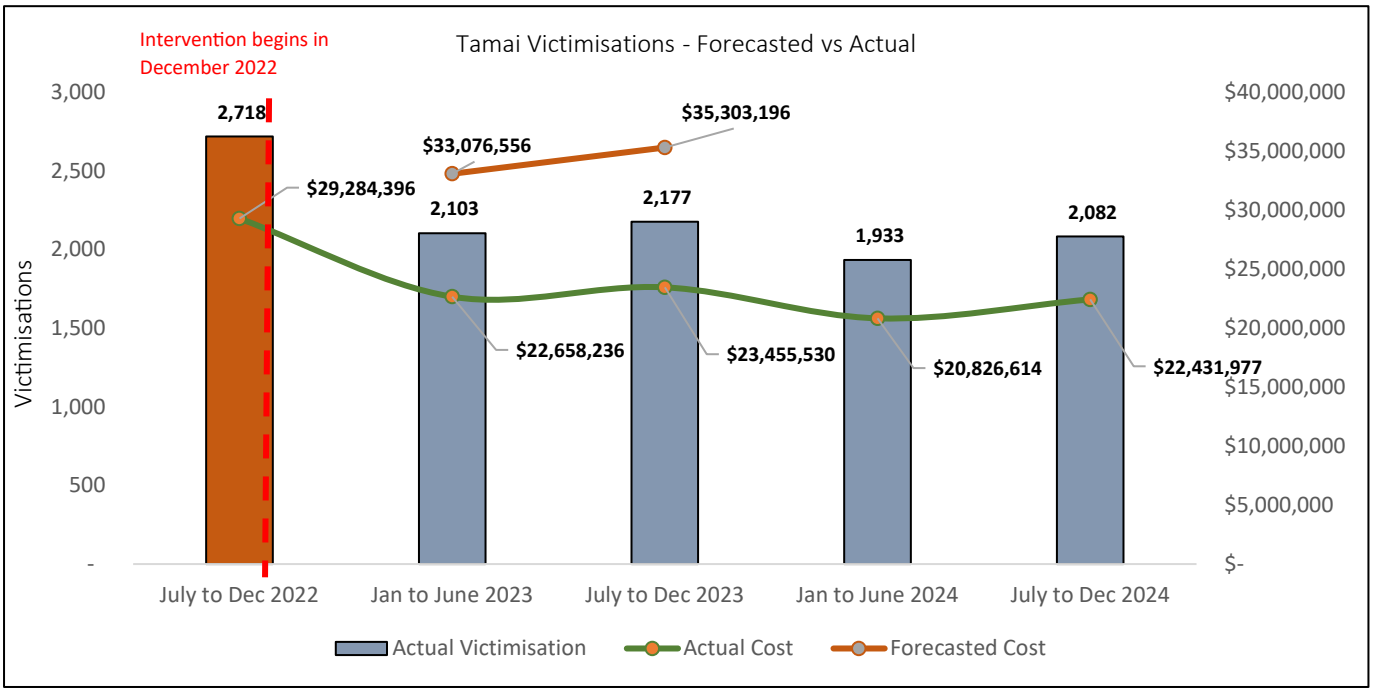
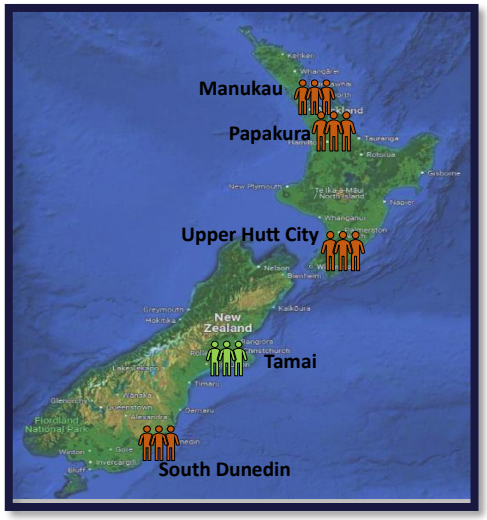


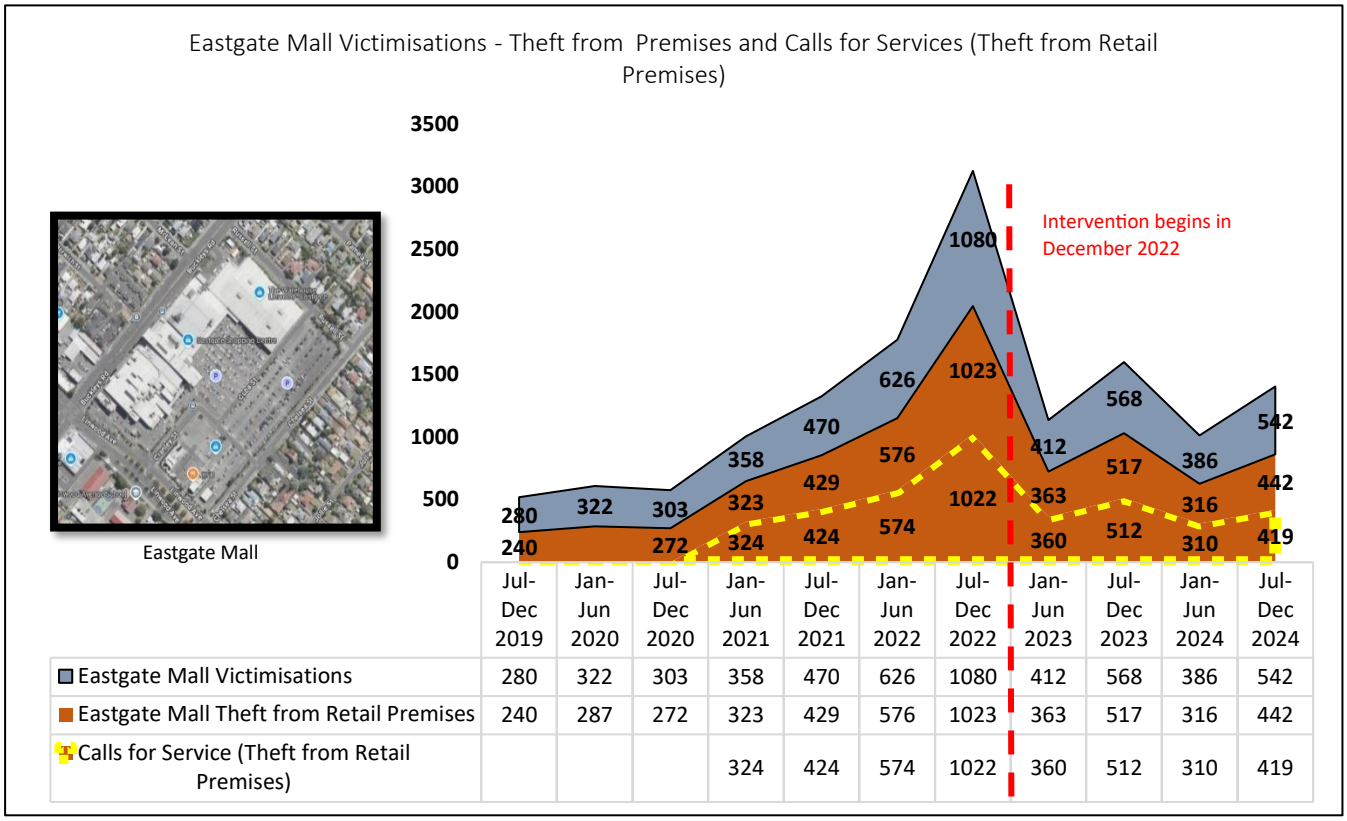
Figure 10: Per capita victimisation map with control groups as comparison (per 100 people).



Aotearoa New Zealand

	Tamai	Papakura	Manukau	South Dunedin	Upper Hutt City
Jul-Dec 2019 (pre covid-baseline)	**5.3% (1593)**	**3.9% (1053)**	**7.6% (2300)**	**1.4% (282)**	**2.4% (477)**
Jul-Dec 2022	**9.0% (2711)** ↑	**4.5% (1227)** ↑	**10.1% (3051)** ↑	**1.9% (400)** ↑	**4.0% (936)** ↑
Jul-Dec 2024	**6.9% (2077)** ↓	**7.1% (2012)** ↑	**13.7% (4123)** ↑	**1.9% (398)** →	**4.7% (936)** ↑

Figure 11: Eastgate Mall – Overall victimisations with theft from retail premises and calls for service data.



	Jul-Dec 2019	Jan-Jun 2020	Jul-Dec 2020	Jan-Jun 2021	Jul-Dec 2021	Jan-Jun 2022	Jul-Dec 2022	Jan-Jun 2023	Jul-Dec 2023	Jan-Jun 2024	Jul-Dec 2024
Eastgate Mall Victimisations	280	322	303	358	470	626	1080	412	568	386	542
Eastgate Mall Theft from Retail Premises	240	287	272	323	429	576	1023	363	517	316	442
Calls for Service (Theft from Retail Premises)				324	424	574	1022	360	512	310	419

Figure 12: Temporal displacement- theft from retail premises at Eastgate Mall – time of day- day of week.

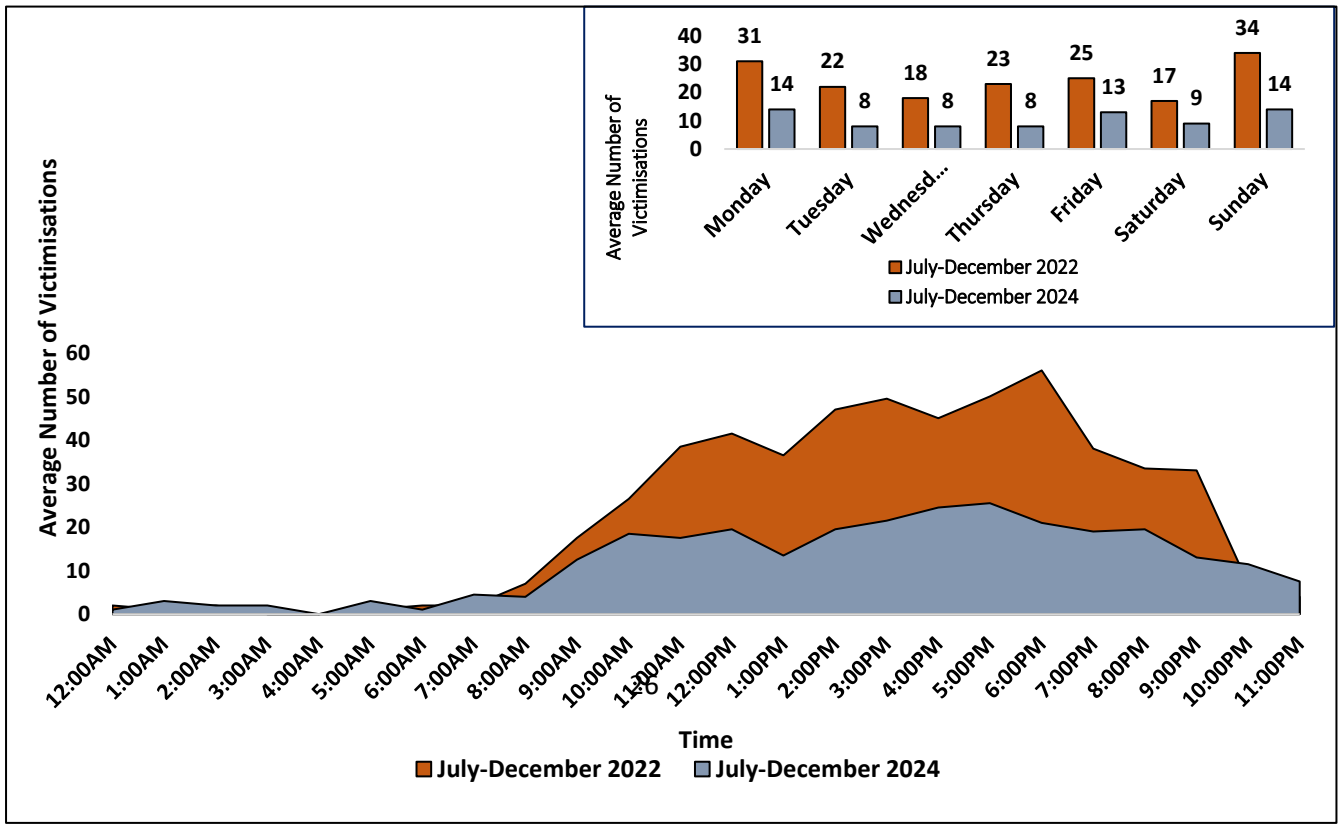


Figure 13: Eastgate mall – Auror data with reductions in four out of six commodity types. Our assumption is that the cost of living is still impacting food and beverage and clothing. The Kaitiaki continue to respond to parents needing food and clothing.

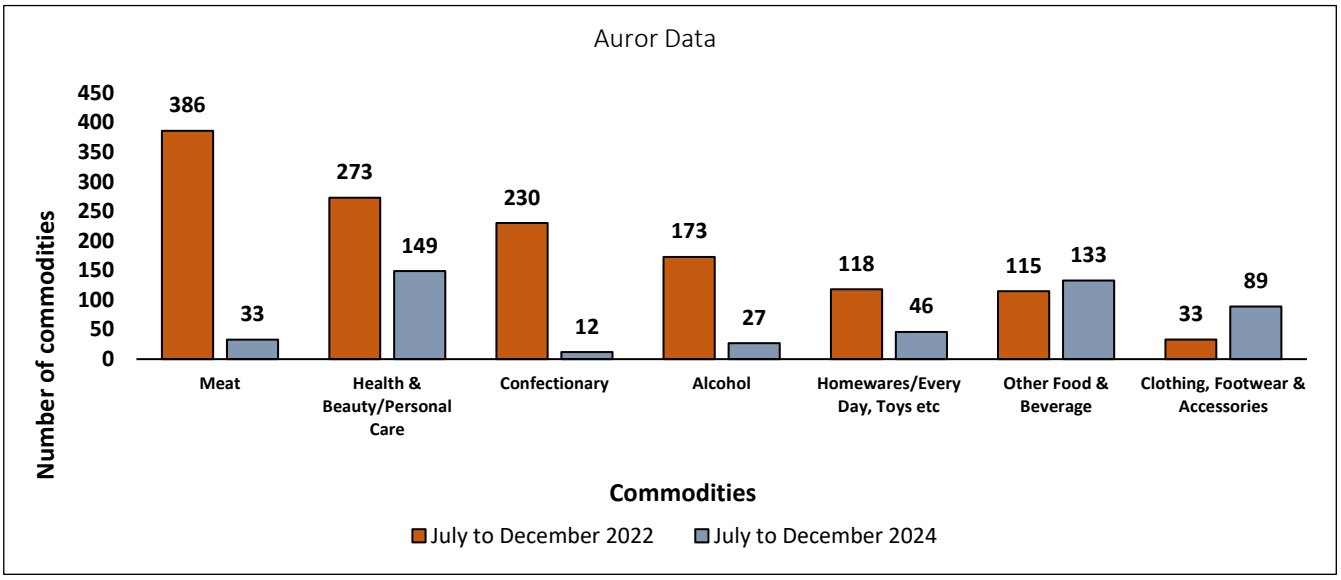


Figure 14: Victimisations – vehicle theft and related offences (2019-2024)

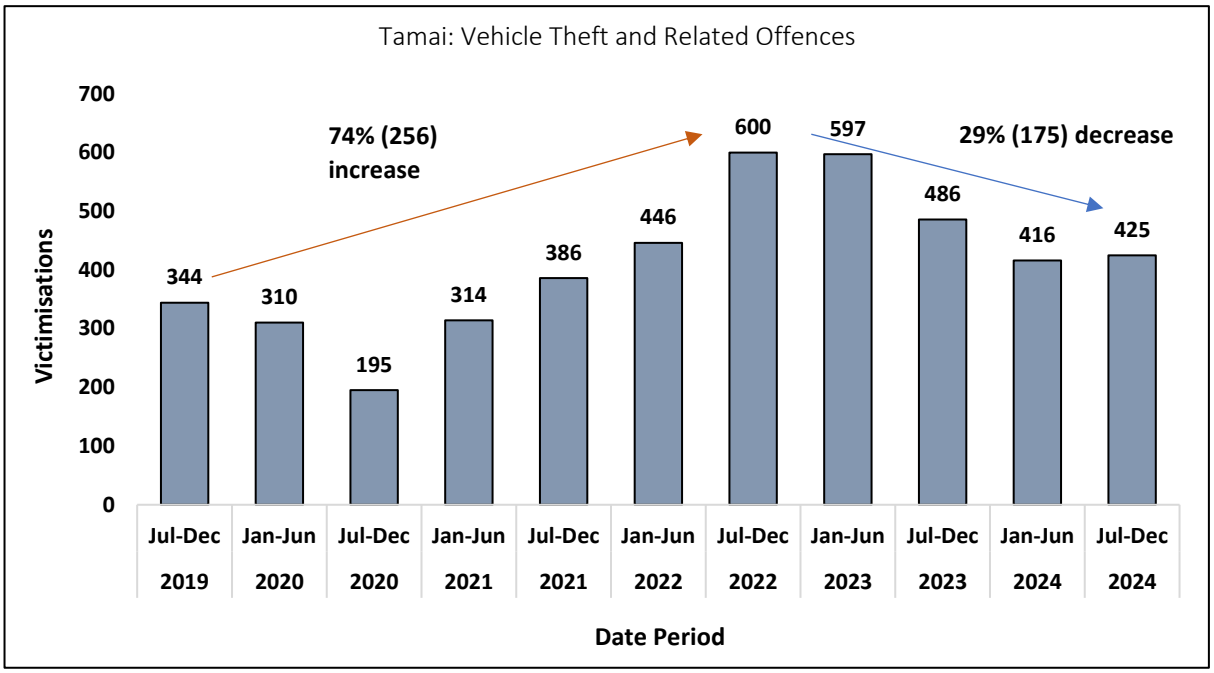


Figure 15: Victimisations – vehicle theft and related offences hotspot maps (2019-2024)

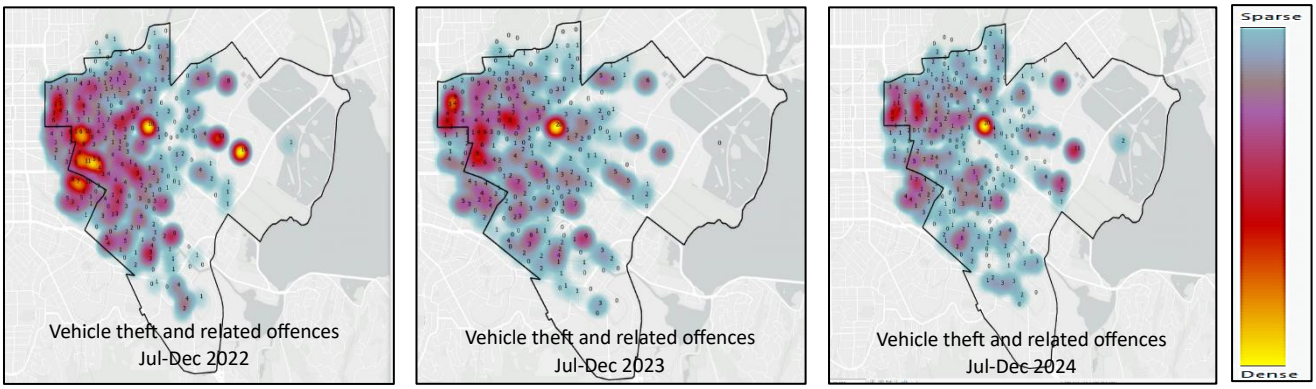


Figure 16: Victimisations- unlawful entry/burglary, break and enter (2019-2024).

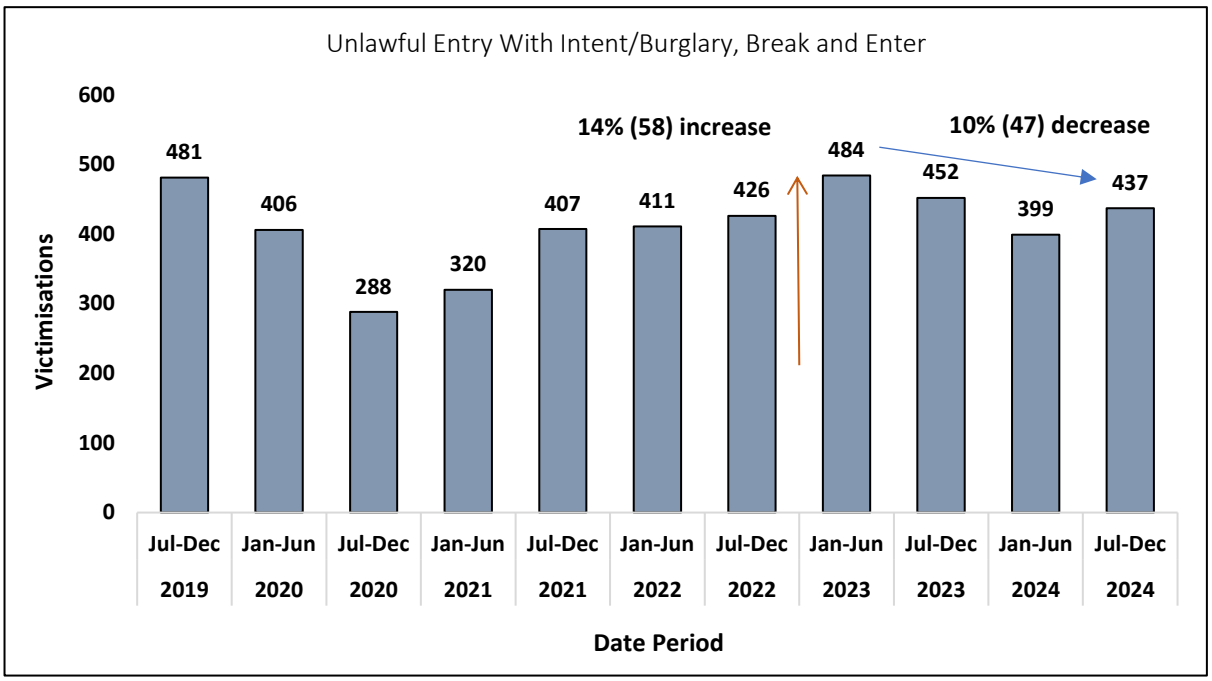
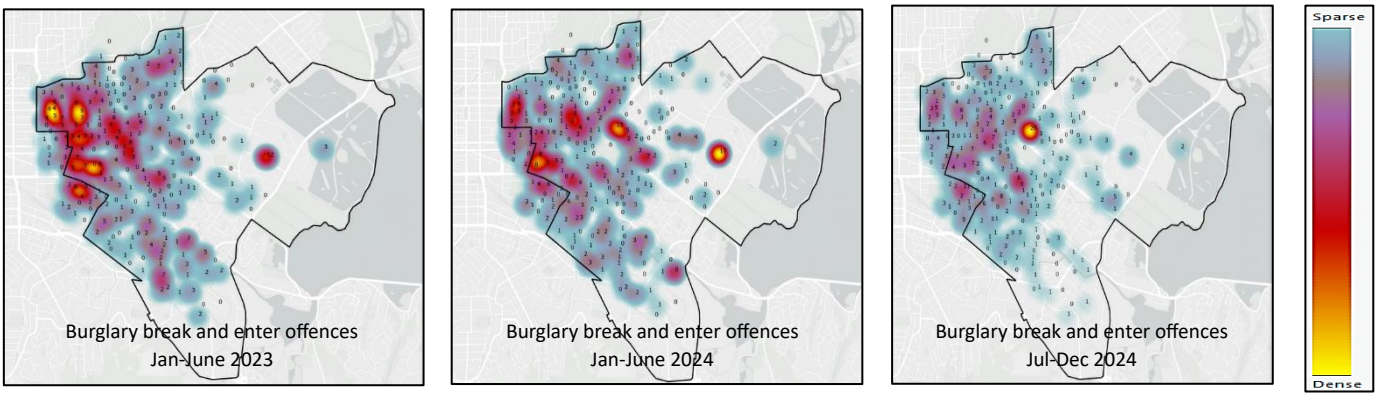
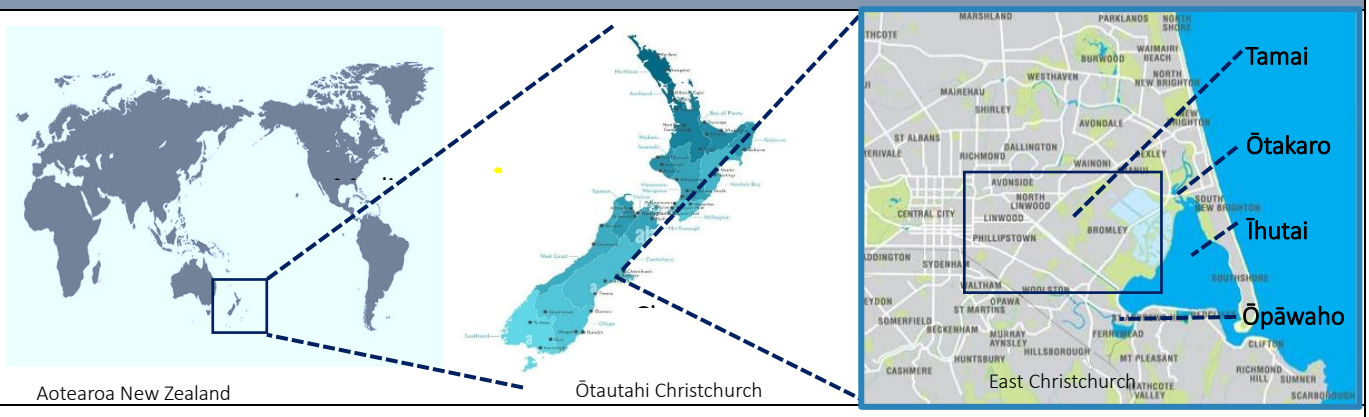


Figure 17: Victimisations- unlawful entry/burglary, break and enter.



Appendix B: Tables

Table 1: Kā Au Kahuraki, the World, Aotearoa New Zealand, Ōtautahi Christchurch and Tamai map.

<table>
<tr><th>Kā Au Kahuraki</th></tr>
<tr><td> 
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Kā Au Kahuraki is the metaphor of the waterways.
The blue waterways represent our precious children on a journey of learning.
The local waterways in the Tāmai are Ōtākaro (Avon), Ōpāwaho (Heathcote),
Ihutai Avon Heathcote Estuary
Kā Au Kahuraki L. Te Aika July 2020</td></tr>
<tr><td>Tamai population
• Tamai: 30,225
• Ōtautahi Christchurch: 438,363 (as of June 2024)[17]
• Aotearoa New Zealand: 5,714,196 (as of June 2024)</td></tr>
</table>

[17] SIA Regional Data Explorer, retrieved 28.2.25 from: Microsoft Power BI

Table 2: Iwi, Ngāi Tahu – Mana Whenua, Ngāi Tūāhuriri.

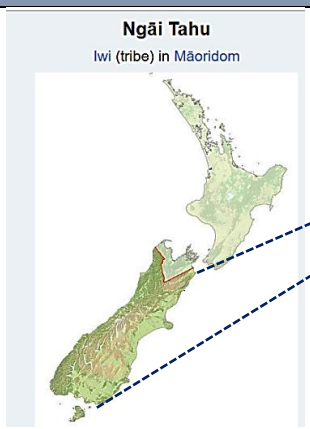
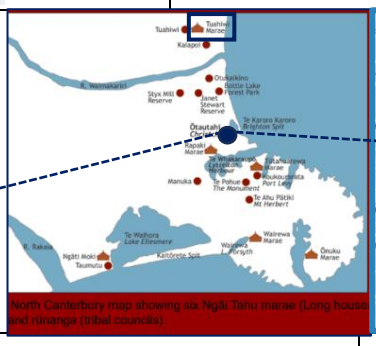
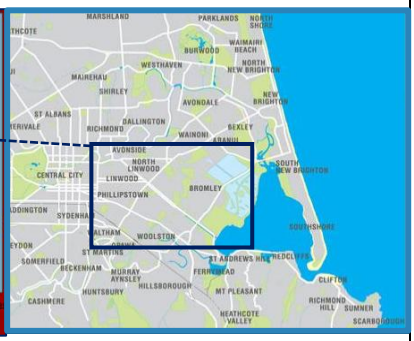
<table>
<tr><th colspan="3">Iwi, Ngāi Tahu – Mana Whenua, Ngāi Tūāhuriri</th></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2"> 
</td><td><u>Traditional rohe</u>
Rohe (region): South Island
Population: 89,000
Website: Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu</td></tr>
<tr><td> 
</td><td> 
</td><td>  </td></tr>
<tr><td>Ngāi Tahu Indigenous tribe that traditionally occupied most of the South Island of New Zealand-Te Waipounamu</td><td>Mana Whenua- Traditional area for the local subtribe Ngāi Tūāhuriri for the Greater Christchurch area.(Ngāi Tūāhuriri are a subtribe of Ngāi Tahu)</td><td>Tāmai area located in Ōtautahi Christchurch East,
Near significant cultural sites: Ihutai /Avon-Heathcote Estuary, and Te Tai o Mahaanui / Canterbury coastline and the Port Hills.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3"> 
</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Tuahiwi Marae (Long House) – Ngāi Tūāhuriri – Mana Whenua</td></tr>
</table>

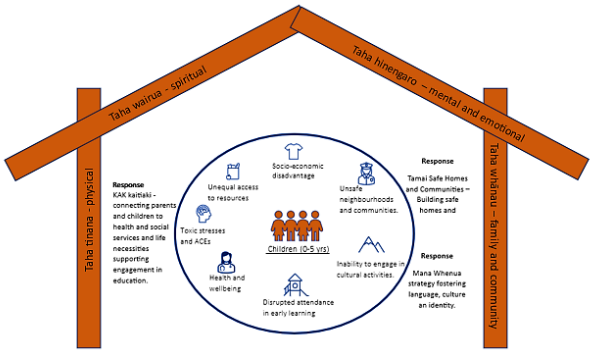
Table 3: Kā Au Kahuraki Programme

Kā Au Kahuraki Programme			
A joint venture partnership collaborating with partners to build **safe,** equitable, better-connected, and thriving communities where children 0-5 yrs engage in education, know who they are and where they belong.			
Joint Venture Partnership	**NZ Police**	**Mana Whenua (Ngāi Tūāhuriri)**	**Ministry of Education**
Partners and key stakeholders	Other Government agencies – non-government agencies – community organisations - community – early learning services – parents and families		
Initiatives	**Tamai Safe Homes and Communities** Tamai safe homes and communities focuses on building safe homes and communities with whānau, our agency and community partners in Tamai. (Linwood, Bromley, Phillipstown, Woolston) The NZ Police Phillipstown Neighbourhood Police team along with a team representing Mana Whenua and the Kā Au Kahuraki project team connect whānau and community with key messages to keep themselves and their communities safe.	**Mana Whenua Strategy** *He korowai tiaki, te reo, te ahurea me te tuakiritanga:* A cloak of protection and nurturing language, culture, and identity. The components of the Mana Whenua kaupapa are building Tuakiritanga, cultural identity and understanding place. Kaiako from early learning services step onto a poutama of ako, to enable them to understand the history and landscape around their services and to learn about Ngāi Tahu and Mana Whenua, Ngāi Tūāhuriri history and build a localised curriculum.	**Kaitiaki Initiative** *He whāriki Hāpori-* Weaving a platform of support services based on actual and real needs. A team of kaitiaki from Whānau Awhina Plunket engage with early learning services to be of service to whānau, improve responsiveness and provide a more integrated approach to connecting whānau to health and social services.

Table 4: CHEERS

CHEERS	
Community	Dishonesty and disorder were affecting the whole community with inequality, and socio-economic disadvantage affecting children and parents in the early learning community.
Harm	Disorder and theft were creating unsafe neighbourhoods and public areas. The community were potentially normalising harm. Socio-economic disadvantage, unequal access to resources and non-engagement in education.
Expectation	NZ Police are expected to be the first responders to crime problems.
Events	Crime peaked on Thursdays across crime types with Tuesday and Wednesday being peak times for disorder at Eastgate Mall. Covid-19 impacted on attendance in education and health and social service needs.
Recurring	Significant increases in retail theft, primarily at Eastgate Mall and vehicle theft and related offences across Tamai. Attendance in education, socio-economic disadvantage and unequal access to resources increased with the impact of covid-19 and were recurring themes.
Similarity	Crime, poverty, and inequality occurs in high deprivation locations across Tamai and at Eastgate Mall.

Table 5: Te Whare Tapa Whā (Māori wellbeing model) and the Kā Au Kahuraki integrated response to root cause challenges.

Te Whare Tapa Whā

"Te Whare Tapa Whā [18] was developed in 1984 by Sir Mason Durie and describes hauora (health and wellbeing) as a wharenui (meeting house) – a house of four walls. *Each wall represents a dimension of our health, and our connection to the whenua/land which forms the foundation. When one or more of these walls are out of balance, our hauora (wellbeing) is impacted. We need these different dimensions to be in balance for strength and stability. By nurturing and strengthening each of these areas, we can support our holistic health and wellbeing."* The dimensions or elements are: • **taha hinengaro** – mental health and emotions. • **taha wairua** – spiritual health, • **taha tinana** – physical health, and • **taha whānau** – whānau as the epicentre of one's wellbeing. Inseparability of mind and body; expressing thoughts and feelings.
Case studies 2024-2025 *A parent with 3 children was supported over a 6-month period with: clothing for their children, food parcels each month, moving house including receiving household goods for their new home, a Christmas hamper and gifts for their children, and enrolment and engagement in education (Early learning and school),* *A parent was supported with clothing for themselves and their children, food parcels and support to find a job, resulting in this parent securing a job and greater financial security.*

[18] Te Whare Tapa Whā: A Māori Model of a Unified Theory of Health, retrieved 8.5.25 from: Te Whare Tapa Whā model of Māori health | Ministry of Health NZ

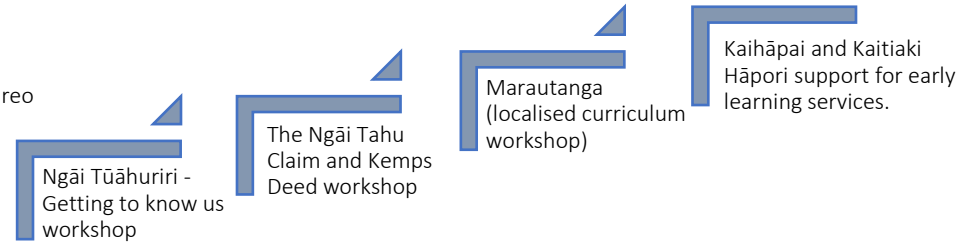
Table 6: Tamai Safe Homes and Communities Maturity Model Rubric

Kā Au Kahuraki Tamai Safe Homes and Communities – Maturity Model Rubric		
<u>Pillar 1</u>	<u>Pillar 2</u>	<u>Pillar 3</u>
• Little to basic understanding of the SARA principles and process • Use of the SARA steps and methods in an adhoc way • SARA outputs are informed by intuition, opinions or assumptions • Little to no knowledge of crime theory • The SARA process is not generating a shared understanding or supporting the partnership to develop or strengthen. • The outputs from the SARA process are limited and not innovative, i.e. same strategies and thinking. • Limited trust and confidence between partners.	• Some competencies regarding scan and analysis. • Focus is on mastery of SARA methods i.e. how do I do a scan; how do we analyse. (i.e., figuring out how to extract the data from the police data base). • Using SARA in a systematic way. • SARA is beginning to become a discipline i.e. using data to inform rather than assumptions. • Starting to apply crime theory i.e. understanding of the crime triangle. • Beginning to develop a shared understanding of SARA and using it to build the collaboration. • Trust and confidence is beginning to build between partners. • Partners begin to understand the importance of SARA and using data to inform development of projects and evaluation. • Beginning to develop some novel insights and build innovative practice.	• Doing SARA well and creating transformational sustainable impact in a community. • Innovative use of SARA to build an authentic collaboration and partnership grounded in scientific thinking to use and generate evidence. • Understanding the logic of SARA • SARA drives the thinking and discussion at a strategic and operational level. The methodology is embedded in all aspects of the programme. • SARA influences the way we operate and as a team and a programme of work. • Partners have an appreciation of the process and use of data to support good outcomes for the community.

Table 7: Mana Whenua Poutama of Learning[19] – Getting to know us workshop – The Ngāi Tahu Claim and Kemps Deed workshops – The Marautanga workshop (building a localised curriculum) – Kaihāpai and Kaitiaki support for early learning services.

<table>
<tr><th colspan="2">Mana Whenua Poutama of Learning</th></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Mana Whenua Poutama of Learning –

Kaiako (teachers) step onto a poutama Poutama-stair cased introduction to te reo Māori, tribal history and localised curriculum- Māori pedagogy of Place.

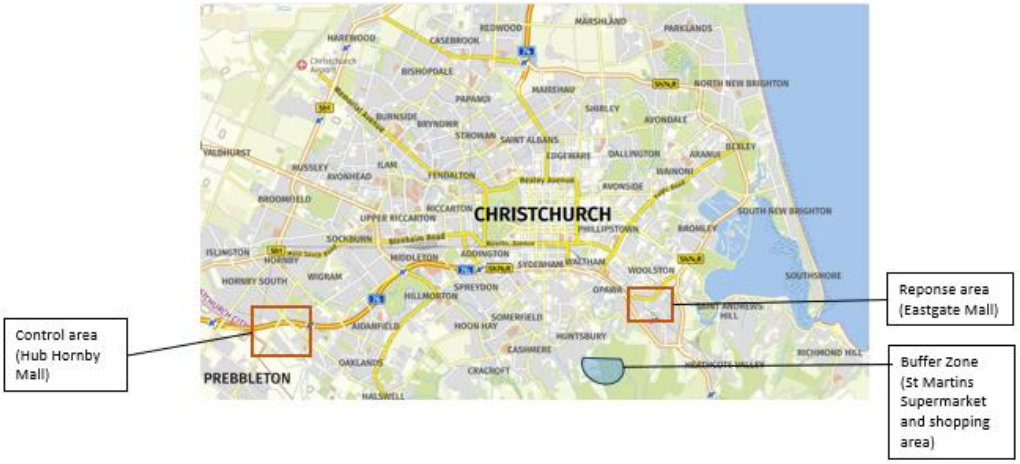
 
</td></tr>
<tr><td> 
</td><td><u>Level one</u>
Getting to Know Us workshop: Understanding local tribal history, introducing oneself in the Māori Language, significant landmarks, place-based pedagogy, past and present.</td></tr>
<tr><td> 
</td><td><u>Level two</u>
The Ngāi Tahu Claim and Kemps Deed workshop: Colonisation and land purchase agreements post European settlement 1844-1864.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2"> 
<u>Level three</u>
The Marautanga workshop: working with kaiako (teachers) from Tamai to build a localised curriculum based on the history, landscape, flora and fauna around their early learning services.

“The impact of the Mana Whenua strategy is occurring at personal and professional levels for kaiako (teachers). What the tamariki (children) then share with their whānau (families) is the same passion, respect and connection with Mana Whenua knowledge and people.” (Capturing the Mana Whenua Strategy Story (2021-2023)</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2"> 
<u>Level four</u>
Kaihāpai and Kaitiaki Hāpori roles: working with kaiako (teachers) in Tamai early learning services to embed and build upon the knowledge and learning from the workshops.

“Kaiako (teachers) introduced structured small-group sessions that skilfully combined foundational literacy and numeracy with Māori concepts, offering culturally responsive learning opportunities. In numeracy, tamariki (children) explored shapes and numbers through hands-on activities, using natural resources and traditional Māori patterns to strengthen their understanding. Literacy learning focused on animals and colours, with tamariki acquiring kupu Māori through storytelling, waiata, and interactive games.” (Kaihāpai – March 2025 report)</td></tr>
</table>

[19] Poutama, retrieved 9.5.25 from: poutama - Te Aka Māori Dictionary

Table 8: Weighted displacement and total net effects

Weighted Displacement and Total Net Effects


Co-efficent/Use	Results	Interpretation
Gross Effect (GE) (Determines increase or decrease in response area)	481	A positive number indicates a decrease in crime
Net Effect (NE) (Determines increase or decrease in response area in relation to changes in control area)	4.81	A positive number indicates a decrease in crime.
Weighted distribution quotient (WDQ) (Determines the extent of displacement or diffusion of benefits)	0.03	A positive number >0 indicates there was a diffusion efffect.
Success measure (WDQ numerator) Determines the degree to which the decrease in the response area outweighs that in the control area (i.e. the degreee to which the response was successful).	-4.81	A negative number indicates a successful response where the decrease in the action area (Eastgate) outweighed that in the control area (Hornby).
Buffer displacement measure (WDQ denominator) Determines whether the interventions show possible evidence of displacement or diffusion of benefits.	-0.15	A negative number denotes a possible diffusion of benefit.
Total Net Effect (TNE) Determines the overall effect of the response in relation to changes in the control area while adjusting for displacement and/or diffusion of benefits.	1,226.18	A positive number indicates the response was effective.

Source data (Ref: NZ Police publicly available data)		Before (July-Dec 2022)	Post (July-Dec 2024)
	Response area	1023	542
	Buffer area	99	130
	Control area	146	247

Table 9: Framing Kā Au Kahuraki as a structural competency

Framing Kā Au Kahuraki as a structural competency

"Given that action is needed to address immediate community needs and tackle the root causes of social problems, a dual approach to the interactional and structural dimensions of crime prevention is required (Barnum & van Gelder, 2024). By pooling the resources, insights and mandates of central government agencies, non-government organisations and iwi, Kā Au Kahuraki represents an important structural innovation and competency for Christchurch's Eastern Suburbs (Metzl & Hansen, 2014; Gray & Prudy, 2018). It serves as a vehicle for relational and transformative changes, building the trust and confidence needed to harness the diversity of perspectives required to identify structural determinants, map linkages, co-design solutions, and share resources to enhance community safety. In this way, Kā Au Kahuraki enables a holistic understanding of the community that moves beyond siloed approaches and values the importance of embedding co-designed solutions in a wider strategy focused on relational and transformative change to tackle the root causes of harm." Foote. J. Kā Au Kahuraki Operational Documents (2025)

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