

OIR: 2526/120

24 September 2025



Tēnā koe 

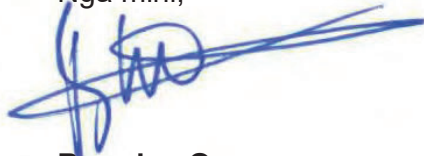
Request for Information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) (the LGOIMA)

Thank you for your email of **17 September 2025** requesting the following information in relation to the Kaitawa flying fox:

A copy of the safety report for the frayed wire

The frayed wire is one observation tabled when the flying fox was assessed as part of the wider safety and condition assessment of the Kaitawa playspace. A copy of the playspace assessment, which includes the flying fox as a component, and a high-level flying fox specific report are attached.

Ngā mihi,



Brendan Owens
Group Manager Customer and Community
Kaiwhakahaere Rōpū - Kiritaki me te Hapori

Please note that any information provided in response to your request may be published on the Council website, with our personal details removed.

Katawa Reserve Flying Fox





Future Landscapes Ltd

To : Kapiti Coast District Council

Date: 10 th September 2025

Re : Flying Fox – Kaitawa Reserve

Background

Future Landscapes was engaged to conduct an annual playground inspection of the playground at Kaitawa Reserve. The inspection reviewed the play items against the NZS Playground Standard NZS 5828:2015 and risk assessed it using the Risk Matrix below. (supplied by The Play Inspection Company UK).

The flying fox is located in Kaitawa Reserve to one side of the reserve and estimated to be over 30 years in age. The flying fox is situated on the slope of the reserve and traverses over a creek with rocks located on either side. The end of the run finishes at the creek bed on a slope. To take the seat to the start of the flying fox one has to cross over the stream. There is no impact surface along the run which is over 1m in height from the seat at several places.

Findings

- The cable traverses over a creek at the end of the run which has rocks located on the bank and within it resulting in a hard object within the falling space. There is no impact properties in the event of a fall, which could result in a head injury if falling into the creek bed.
- To take the trolley back to the start, a child has to pull the trolley over the creek.
- The cable is fraying and needs to be replaced.
- The seat is not secure on the chain and needs to be secured.

Assumptions

People regularly use the flying fox which crosses over a creek, evident in the wear on the far bank. The finish of the run is over the creek, and to take the trolley back to the start a user has to cross the creek. In the event a person was to fall, there is the possibility they could fall onto a rock or log submerged in the creek which may result in a potential head injury or death.

The risk calculation was carried out as follows:

Likelihood - 4

Severity - 5

Risk – 20

The findings indicate a potential risk factor of High.

Risk Assessment Matrix

		Scores in the report are multiplication factors of Likelihood x Severity»»						
Likelihood	Very High probability, if the situation is not addressed an accident is almost certain.	5	Very High	VL (5)	L (10)	M (15)	H (20)	VH (25)
	High probability an accident is probable without any added factor.	4	High	VL (4)	L (8)	M (12)	H (16)	H (20)
	Moderate probability an accident is foreseeable.	3	Moderate	VL (3)	L (6)	L (9)	M (12)	M (15)
	Some probability, requires a combination of factors to take place.	2	Low	VL (2)	VL (4)	L (6)	L (8)	L (10)
	No significant probability; lightning strike, freak accident.	1	Very Low	VL (1)	VL (2)	VL (3)	VL (4)	VL (5)
				Very Low	Low	Moderate	High	Very High
				1	2	3	4	5
				Minor injury (e.g. damaged or failed coating, minor scratches, grass).	Minor injury, sprains or bruising, requires first aid only.	Injury requiring medical attention (e.g. cuts, scrapes, scratches).	Severe injury involving consciousness or fracture of long bones.	Severe injury involving a potential life threatening injury or fatality.



Note 1: The total risk scores included within our reports are a multiplication factor of the calculated Likelihood and Severity of each finding. Both Likelihood and Severity are given a number between 1 - 5 as shown on the matrix above and these two numbers are then multiplied together to give the total risk score that is shown against defects on the report. Total risk scores can be divided in both directions, i.e. a total risk score of 12 could be a Likelihood (3) x Severity (4) or Likelihood (4) x Severity (3).

Note 2: When we inspect we only see a snapshot of the current condition of the equipment. It is the operators responsibility to ensure that there is a continuing level of maintenance to keep the equipment in good working order and the site fit for use.

Equipment has been assessed to the following standards where relevant:
BS EN 1176 Parts 1-11 (Playground equipment and surfacing)
BS EN 14974 (Facilities for users of roller sports equipment)
BS EN 15312 (Free access multi-sports equipment)
BS EN 16899 (Parkour Equipment)
BS EN 16630 (Outdoor Fitness Equipment).

Conclusion

The flying fox is a play item which takes the user over the creek. There is no impact surface under the fall zone of the cable. In the event of an accident there is the potential for serious harm. The flying fox is situated on council land and as such there is a duty of care.

Recommendation

- Seek legal advice with regard to Duty of Care under the Occupiers Liability Act, or
- Remove the flying fox in its current location and replace with a compliant flying fox in another part of the reserve where impact properties can be addressed.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Bollond'.

Philippa Bollond
RPII Level 3 Inspector

Photos

Rocks within creek bed and on creek edge







Annual Inspection

Kapiti Coast District Council

Kaitawa Reserve

Risk Assessment Matrix

			Scores in the report are multiplication factors of Likelihood x Severity					
			Severity>>					
Likelihood	Very High probability, if the situation is not addressed an accident is almost certain.	5	Very High	VL (5)	L (10)	M (15)	H (20)	VH (25)
	High probability an accident is probable without any added factor.	4	High	VL (4)	L (8)	M (12)	H (16)	H (20)
	Moderate probability an incident is foreseeable.	3	Moderate	VL (3)	L (6)	L (9)	M (12)	M (15)
	Some probability, requires a combination of factors to take place.	2	Low	VL (2)	VL (4)	L (6)	L (8)	L (10)
	No significant probability; lightning strike, freak accident.	1	Very Low	VL (1)	VL (2)	VL (3)	VL (4)	VL (5)
FUTURE LANDSCAPES				Very Low	Low	Moderate	High	Very High
				1	2	3	4	5
				No injury likely e.g. damaged or soiled clothing, minor bruising, grazes	Minor injury, laceration or bruising requiring first aid only	Injury requiring medical intervention e.g. cuts requiring stitches	Serious injury including concussions or fracture of long bones	Severe injury involving a potential life changing injury or fatality
				Severity>>				
				Note 1: The total risk scores included within our reports are a multiplication factor of the calculated Likelihood and Severity of each finding. Both Likelihood and Severity are given a number between 1 - 5 as shown on the matrix above and these two numbers are then multiplied together to give the total risk score that is shown against defects on the report. Total risk scores can be divided in both directions, i.e. a total risk score of 12 could be a Likelihood (3) x Severity (4) or Likelihood (4) x Severity (3). Note 2: When we inspect we only see a snapshot of the current condition of the equipment. It is the operators responsibility to ensure that there is a continuing level of maintenance to keep the equipment in good working order and the site fit for use.				

Kaitawa Reserve

Inspection Ref: 2798963

Site Ref: 62420

Inspected: 22-August-2025 - 08:01 by Philippa Bollond (RPII Annual Inspector)

Risk Assessment: **20 High Risk**



Location:

The site is partially overlooked by properties in the local community

Disabled Access:

Some accessible features; an area that presents difficulties to the majority of people with disabilities but in favourable circumstances and certainly in partnership can be accessed.

1 - Very Low Risk

Item: Safety surface
 Manufacturer: Unknown
 Surface Type: Rubber Tiles
 Item Quantity: 1
 Equipment Compliance: N/A
 Surface Area Compliance: Yes
 Life Expectancy: 3 - 5 Years
 Total Findings: 1



Finding 1

This item is satisfactory - no work required -

2 - Very Low Risk

Item: 2 Bay (2 Flat, 2 Cradle)
 Manufacturer: Playground People
 Surface Type: Rubber Tiles
 Item Quantity: 2
 Equipment Compliance: Yes
 Surface Area Compliance: Yes
 Life Expectancy: >10 Years
 Total Findings: 1



Finding 1

The item has missing component(s) - Consider replacing missing components

8 - Low Risk

Item: Climbing Frame
Manufacturer: Playground People
Surface Type: Woodchip
Item Quantity: 2
Equipment Compliance: Yes
Surface Area Compliance: Yes
Life Expectancy: 5 -10 Years
Total Findings: 1

**Finding 1**

There is algae or moss on the surface of the equipment - Clean and treat appropriately

1 - Very Low Risk

Item: Low Rotator
Manufacturer: Playground People
Surface Type: Woodchip
Item Quantity: 2
Equipment Compliance: Yes
Surface Area Compliance: Yes
Life Expectancy: 5 -10 Years
Total Findings: 1

**Finding 1**

This item is satisfactory - no work required -

 1 - Very Low Risk

Item: Free Standing Slide
Manufacturer: Playground People
Surface Type: Woodchip
Item Quantity: 2
Equipment Compliance: Yes
Surface Area Compliance: Yes
Life Expectancy: >10 Years
Total Findings: 1

**Finding 1**

This item is satisfactory - no work required -

 1 - Very Low Risk

Item: Low Rotator
Manufacturer: Playground People
Surface Type: Woodchip
Item Quantity: 2
Equipment Compliance: Yes
Surface Area Compliance: Yes
Life Expectancy: 5 -10 Years
Total Findings: 1

**Finding 1**

This item is satisfactory - no work required -

6 - Low Risk

Item: Four Way Springer
 Manufacturer: Playground People
 Surface Type: Woodchip
 Item Quantity: 2
 Equipment Compliance: Yes
 Surface Area Compliance: Yes
 Life Expectancy: 5 -10 Years
 Total Findings: 1



Finding 1

There is some evidence of rot in the timber - Monitor for any further deterioration and replace as required

10 - Low Risk

Item: Balance Beam
 Manufacturer: Playground People
 Surface Type: Woodchip
 Item Quantity: 2
 Equipment Compliance: Yes
 Surface Area Compliance: Yes
 Life Expectancy: 5 -10 Years
 Total Findings: 2



Finding 1

There is some evidence of rot in the timber - Monitor for any further deterioration and replace as required

Finding 2

Bolts show signs of rust - inspect and replace bolts, screws and or nails as required

6 - Low Risk

Item: Log Walk
Manufacturer: Playground People
Surface Type: Woodchip
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: Yes
Surface Area Compliance: Yes
Life Expectancy: 5 -10 Years
Total Findings: 2



Finding 1

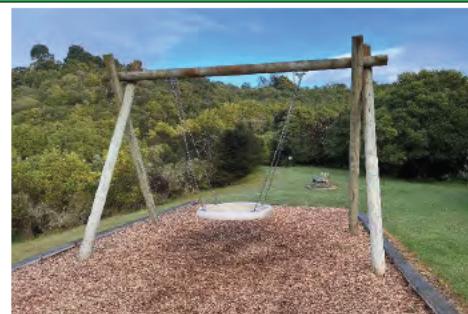
There is some evidence of rot in the timber - Monitor for any further deterioration and replace as required

Finding 2

The paintwork on this item has been damaged or worn exposing the metal underneath which is rusting - Treat any rusting components and repaint

10 - Low Risk

Item: Basket Swing - Type 1
Manufacturer: Playground People
Surface Type: Woodchip
Item Quantity: 2
Equipment Compliance: Yes
Surface Area Compliance: Yes
Life Expectancy: >10 Years
Total Findings: 1



Finding 1

Bolts show signs of rust - inspect and replace bolts, screws and or nails as required

6 - Low Risk

Item: Misc Springer
Manufacturer: Playground People
Surface Type: Woodchip
Item Quantity: 2
Equipment Compliance: Yes
Surface Area Compliance: Yes
Life Expectancy: 5 -10 Years
Total Findings: 1



Finding 1

The paintwork on the spring has been damaged or worn exposing the metal underneath which is rusting - Treat any rusting components and repaint

1 - Very Low Risk

Item: Safety surface
Manufacturer: Unknown
Surface Type: Woodchip
Item Quantity: 1
Equipment Compliance: N/A
Surface Area Compliance: Yes
Life Expectancy: 3 - 5 Years
Total Findings: 1



Finding 1

This item is satisfactory - no work required -

1 - Very Low Risk

Item: Treated Pine Sleepers
Manufacturer: Unknown
Surface Type: Woodchip
Item Quantity: 3
Equipment Compliance: N/A
Surface Area Compliance: N/A
Life Expectancy: 5 -10 Years
Total Findings: 1



Finding 1

This item is satisfactory - no work required -

20 - High Risk

Item: Cable Runway
Manufacturer: Unknown
Surface Type: Compacted Earth
Item Quantity: 3
Equipment Compliance: No
Surface Area Compliance: No
Life Expectancy: 3 - 5 Years
Total Findings: 6



Finding 1

Protruding wires - Secure protrusion

Finding 2

We recommend that the main cable is thoroughly inspected at least once every 2 years this; will involve either removing the cable or gaining access by ladders and/or steps to inspect for damage or internal rusting, this will help to ensure the continued safe use of the equipment - Inspect cable every 24 months

Finding 3

The rocks forms a hard object within the falling space of the equipment in contravention of the requirements of NZ 5828:2015 Part 1 - Relocate runaway so not over the stream

Finding 4

Seat not secured on chain - Secure seat so it cannot move up the chain

Finding 5

An impact absorbing surface is recommended for this item of equipment - Provide an appropriate impact absorbing surface

Finding 6

The chain openings are in excess of 8.6mm as recommended by NZ 5828:2015 - Monitor use and replace with compliant chains when swings needs replacing

Findings information

2 - Very Low Risk (Finding 1)			
Item:	Swings - 2 Bay (2 Flat, 2 Cradle)	Risk Level:	V - Very Low Risk
Manufacturer:	Playground People	Surface:	Rubber Tiles
			
Finding: The item has missing component(s)		Action: Consider replacing missing components	

8 - Low Risk (Finding 1)			
Item:	Activity Equipment - Climbing Frame	Risk Level:	L - Low Risk
Manufacturer:	Playground People	Surface:	Woodchip
			
Finding: There is algae or moss on the surface of the equipment		Action: Clean and treat appropriately	

6 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Rocking Equipment - Four Way Springer
Manufacturer: Playground People

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Woodchip



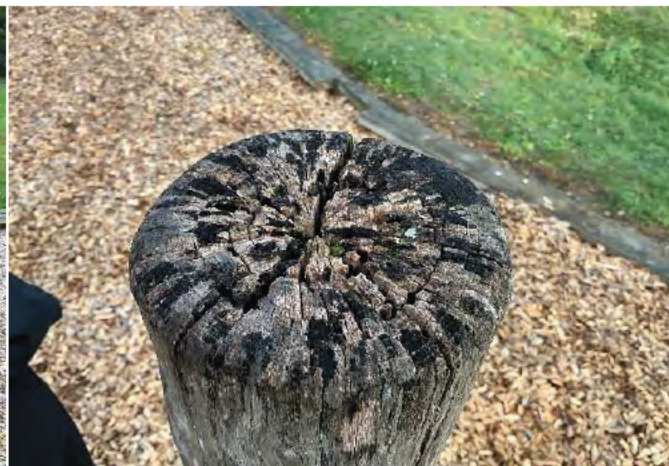
Finding: There is some evidence of rot in the timber

Action: Monitor for any further deterioration and replace as required

6 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Activity Equipment - Balance Beam
Manufacturer: Playground People

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Woodchip



Finding: There is some evidence of rot in the timber

Action: Monitor for any further deterioration and replace as required

10 - Low Risk (Finding 2)

Item: Activity Equipment - Balance Beam
Manufacturer: Playground People

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Woodchip



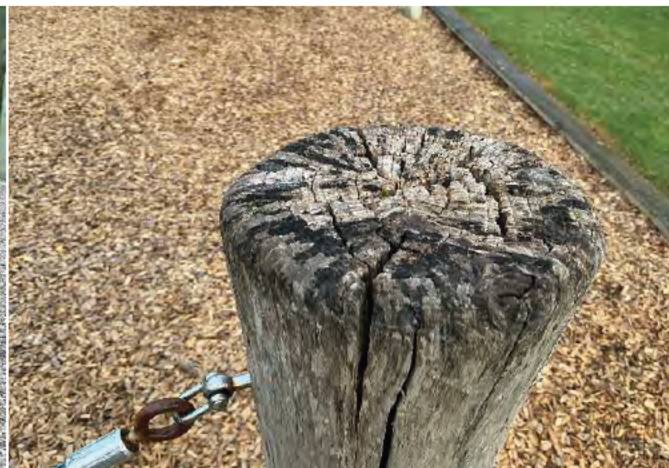
Finding: Bolts show signs of rust

Action: inspect and replace bolts, screws and or nails as required

6 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Activity Equipment - Log Walk
Manufacturer: Playground People

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Woodchip



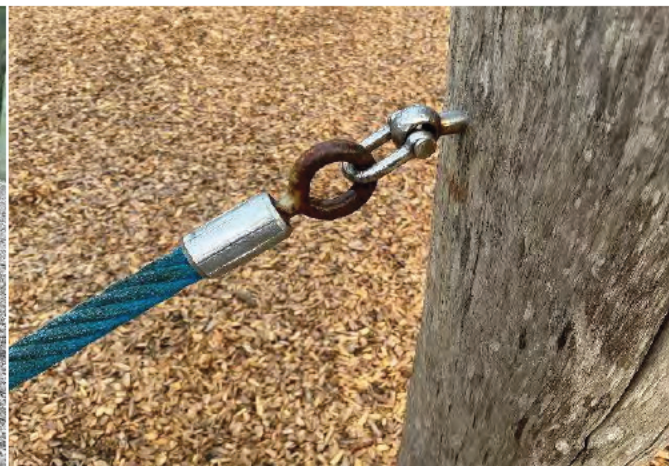
Finding: There is some evidence of rot in the timber

Action: Monitor for any further deterioration and replace as required

6 - Low Risk (Finding 2)

Item: Activity Equipment - Log Walk
Manufacturer: Playground People

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Woodchip



Finding: The paintwork on this item has been damaged or worn exposing the metal underneath which is rusting

Action: Treat any rusting components and repaint

10 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Swings - Basket Swing - Type 1
Manufacturer: Playground People

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Woodchip



Finding: Bolts show signs of rust

Action: inspect and replace bolts, screws and or nails as required

 6 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Rocking Equipment - Misc Springer
Manufacturer: Playground People

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Woodchip



Finding: The paintwork on the spring has been damaged or worn exposing the metal underneath which is rusting

Action: Treat any rusting components and repaint

 10 - Low Risk (Finding 1)

Item: Other - Cable Runway
Manufacturer: Unknown

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Compacted Earth



Finding: Protruding wires

Action: Secure protrusion



6 - Low Risk (Finding 2)

Item: Other - Cable Runway
Manufacturer: Unknown

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Compacted Earth



Finding: We recommend that the main cable is thoroughly inspected at least once every 2 years this; will involve either removing the cable or gaining access by ladders and/or steps to inspect for damage or internal rusting, this will help to ensure the continued safe use of the equipment

Action: Inspect cable every 24 months



20 - High Risk (Finding 3)

Item: Other - Cable Runway
Manufacturer: Unknown

Risk Level: H - High Risk
Surface: Compacted Earth



Finding: The rocks forms a hard object within the falling space of the equipment in contravention of the requirements of NZ 5828:2015 Part 1

Action: Relocate runaway so not over the stream

 12 - Moderate Risk (Finding 4)

Item: Other - Cable Runway
Manufacturer: Unknown

Risk Level: M - Moderate Risk
Surface: Compacted Earth



Finding: Seat not secured on chain

Action: Secure seat so it cannot move up the chain

 10 - Low Risk (Finding 5)

Item: Other - Cable Runway
Manufacturer: Unknown

Risk Level: L - Low Risk
Surface: Compacted Earth



Finding: An impact absorbing surface is recommended for this item of equipment

Action: Provide an appropriate impact absorbing surface

 4 - Very Low Risk (Finding 6)

Item:	Other - Cable Runway	Risk Level:	V - Very Low Risk
Manufacturer:	Unknown	Surface:	Compacted Earth



Finding: The chain openings are in excess of 8.6mm as recommended by NZ 5828:2015	Action: Monitor use and replace with compliant chains when swings needs replacing
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