## Waikato disability respite market

Waikato at a glance (Disability Support Link NASC region)

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| Number of people receiving DSS support in region | **2,905** |
| Number of people allocated respite in region (includes Carer Support) | **1,558** |
| % people allocated respite who are Māori | **30%** |
| % people with respite allocation aged 21 years or under | **73%** |

## Current respite allocations

* 90 people are allocated facility-based respite (66% are aged 21 years or less). The total annual value of the facility-based respite allocation in Waikato is currently just over $1 million per year.
* 89 people are currently allocated contracted in-home respite, at a total value of approx. $700,000 per year.
* 1,500 people are allocated Carer Support, at a total value of around $2.7 million per year.
* 15 people in Waikato use IF Respite at a value of $59,000.

## Current respite options available

### Overnight respite options

* There are two dedicated facility-based respite services for children and young people in Hamilton. One five-bed service caters mostly for infants and children aged 0 to 21 with physical disabilities. This service averages 55% occupancy. The second three-bed house cares for children aged 5 to 16, particularly those with challenging behaviours. This service has around 65% occupancy.
* There are two disability-specific respite services in the region for adults. One is a four-bed house for people with physical disabilities and operates at about 50% occupancy. The other is a dedicated respite bed in an established community residential house which has around 70% occupancy.
* There are currently no aged care facilities in the Waikato region that offer overnight respite for adults with disabilities, although around four facilities are providing respite using Carer Support, presumably with a cash co-payment.

### Daytime respite options

* There are around 20 services that offer weekday activity options for adults. These include community participation programmes, employment related activities, business enterprises and day services.
* There are two disability-specific school holiday programme options in the Waikato. Many mainstream school holiday programmes and some holiday camps operate, several of which have recent experience in supporting children and young people with disabilities.
* Sporting activities available for people with disabilities in the region include Riding for the Disabled, swimming lessons, sailing lessons, Boccia, Parafed, Special Olympics and Halberg All Sports.
* The region has relatively more social, recreational options available than other regions, with options including weekend day activities, overnight getaways, evening social activities, Lego clubs, and drama classes.
* There are around four organisations that provide dance, and drama and art classes for children and/or adults with disabilities.
* A social club for teens with disabilities operates in several locations across the region.

## Gaps in the Waikato respite market

* There are no disability-specific, facility-based respite options outside of Hamilton.