

# COMMUNITY UPDATE

14 February 22

**Don't wait,  
vaccinate**



**Unite  
against  
COVID-19**

**CURRENT KAWERAU COVID-19 TRAFFIC LIGHT SETTING: RED**



## From the Mayor

We have faced extraordinary circumstances over the past two years since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Throughout this time, Kawerau District Council has followed Government advice based on the best available scientific and medical evidence.

As the Covid-19 virus evolved, particularly during the Delta phase, the Council continued to review expert advice and based on that, we put in place measures to help keep our people and community safe.

With the outbreak of the Omicron variant, Council met on Friday, 28 January 2022 and decided that vaccine passes will be required for the public to enter all indoor, staffed Council facilities venues and the Maurie Kjar Memorial Swimming Pool Complex to minimise the spread of Covid-19.

The implementation date for the vaccine passes at all indoor staffed Council venues and the Maurie Kjar Memorial Swimming Pool complex will be Monday, 21 February 2022.

We recognise that some people are concerned about having the vaccine, and that others are worried about being exposed to unvaccinated people.

This decision takes into consideration that more than 82.5% of the Kawerau District (who are eligible) are fully vaccinated.

Council will continue to review its position as the pandemic and Government advice changes.

In time, it is the aim of Council to return to "normal" but for now, this decision balances

the health and safety needs of the majority of people in the Kawerau District and the obligations of Council as an employer under the Health and Safety Work Act.

Council confirms that all Council staff, contractors and volunteers at all these indoor staffed areas, including the Maurie Kjar Memorial Swimming Pool Complex are fully vaccinated.

We understand this is a considerable change for our community and we ask that people please be patient and kind as our staff implement these changes and do their best to continue providing services to our community safely.

This week, our customers will note that Council has dedicated personnel on the entry to these areas to advise customers and contractors of the requirement from next Monday for my vaccine passes and to let people know of alternative options available.

- **Malcolm Campbell**

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### Contact Council for Queries

Council Offices open:

8:00am to 5:00pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

8:30am to 5:00pm Wednesdays

NOTE: Please phone ahead to check the availability of AA Driver Licensing services

Phone 07 306 9009 to talk to our team

Email [kaweraudc@kaweraudc.govt.nz](mailto:kaweraudc@kaweraudc.govt.nz)

# WHAT COUNCIL FACILITIES ARE IMPACTED BY THE MY VACCINE PASS SYSTEM?

From **Monday, 21 February 2022**, My Vaccine Pass is required for contractors and the public (aged 12 years and over) to enter:



- **District Office and Neighbouring Council Office (formerly ANZ)**
- **Kawerau District Library and Sir James Fletcher Museum**
- **Maurie Kjar Memorial Swimming Pool Complex**
- **Kawerau i-Site and Visitor Information Centre.**

In all areas - please wear a face mask (correctly over your nose and mouth) and please scan or sign in. Please be patient, and don't be offended as you will be asked to show your Vaccine Pass or medical exemption.

## HOW WILL THE MY VACCINE PASS SYSTEM WORK FOR EACH AREA?

From Monday, 21 February 2022, all customers, contractors and volunteers entering these Council facilities will be met by dedicated personnel outside the entrance who will ask to check and scan the My Vaccine Pass (electronic version i.e., on your phone) or to sight the My Vaccine Pass card (if printed).

Note: If you are vaccinated or have a medical exemption (which will need to be shown for entry) you are able to access all of Council's indoor staffed areas and the Maurie Kjar Memorial Swimming Pool Complex.

Dedicated personnel are on these entry areas from Monday, 14 February '22 to advise customers and contractors of the upcoming requirements and to explain any alternative methods of assistance or services available.

### ▶ **COUNCIL OFFICES AND NEIGHBOURING COUNCIL OFFICES (FORMERLY ANZ)**

Any customers, contractors or volunteers affected by the introduction of the My Vaccine Pass system, are encouraged to phone, email or message Council.

Customers can pay any fees, rates, dog registrations and fines via

- Phone using a debit or credit card
- Online banking
- Set up a direct debit with their bank or
- Phone Council staff on 07 306 9009 to deposit the payment in an envelope via the drop box on the Council building on Islington Street

Our team are ready to assist, please contact them on 07 306 9009 or email [kaweraudc@kaweraudc.govt.nz](mailto:kaweraudc@kaweraudc.govt.nz)

### ▶ **MAURIE KJAR MEMORIAL SWIMMING POOL COMPLEX**

#### **Public Use of the Pool**

During the public pool hours – members of the public aged 12 and over are required to show the My Vaccine Pass (or valid medical exemption) to the dedicated personnel on the venue entry.

Children aged 11 and under are able to visit the pool complex with an adult. From Monday, 21 February 2022 this adult will be required to show their My Vaccine Pass or a valid medical exemption.

Please be patient, and don't take offence as you will be asked to show the Vaccine Pass or the exemption.

#### **Private Hire of the Pool Complex**

Private Hires are not subject to the My Vaccine Pass requirement by Council.

All private hires must comply with the Government's Covid Protection Framework. In the 'Red' setting – the hirer is responsible for ensuring that if people are not vaccinated, the maximum number permitted in the facility is 25.

If the Hirer confirms that everyone has My Vaccine Passes, the maximum number permitted is 100 as per the Covid-19 Protection Framework. Check the Council website for more information.

### ▶ **KAWERAU DISTRICT LIBRARY AND MUSEUM**

During the Library and Museum's opening hours – members of the public aged 12 and over are required to show the My Vaccine Pass on entry.

As per the current guidelines, children aged 11 and under are able to visit the Library and Museum complex with an adult. From Monday, 21 February 2022 this adult will be required to show their My Vaccine Pass or medical exemption.

The District Library and Museum already offers a range of online services through the Library website and apps. There will also be a collection service available.

Please phone the District Library on 07 306 9041 for more information.

## ► KAWERAU I-SITE AND VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

During the i-SITE opening hours, people aged 12 and over will be required to show a My Vaccine Pass or medical exemption on entry.

For more information and assistance regarding online services please phone the i-SITE on 07 323 6300.



### FIRE BAN

The prohibited fire ban for the Kawerau District is now in place from Tuesday 25 January.

## KAWERAU HEALTH SHUTTLE

On Tuesday January 18, St John in conjunction with Kawerau District Council launched the Kawerau Health Shuttle service for the Kawerau District.

Tūwharetoa ki Kawerau Kaumātua Te Haukākawa (Boycie) Te Rire and St John Chaplain, Reverend Tom Poata performed the karakia at the service blessing the vehicles, volunteer drivers and those who would be using the service.

Deputy Mayor Faylene Tunui spoke on behalf of the Council acknowledging the support of St John to offer the service to Kawerau after it had been proposed by Mayor Malcolm Campbell.

Faylene thanked and acknowledged Kawerau Training and Education Trust, Chair, Nelson Rangi, who was originally a member of the Kawerau Lions. It was Nelson Rangi's initiative that the funding received remain in Kawerau.

Faylene thanked Bay of Plenty Regional Council Chairman, Doug Leeder for the Regional Council's donation towards the health shuttle service. Faylene also thanked and acknowledged the working group and volunteers who helped to make the service possible - "From Kawerau, for Kawerau".

"A huge thank you to the Kawerau residents who have volunteered as drivers and had completed a stringent vetting and training process".

This service comprises two health shuttles (a van and car) that can transport people of all ages to and from their medical appointments in Kawerau, Whakatāne, Tauranga and Rotorua.

The health shuttles are now available. Phone the friendly team at St. John on 0800 824 325 and select option #2.

Please call at least 24 hours ahead of your appointment.

*Top - Shuttle Drivers (from left): Brian Dent, Lorraine Baker, Diane Menso, Rachael Tinklin (Rotorua based Co-Ordinator), Brian Manning and Gail Dobbins.*

*Below - St John Community Engagement Manager, Central Region, Kathryn Elsmore (left) and Deputy Mayor Faylene Tunui (right) testing out one of the new shuttles*

## 2021/2022 RATES INSTALMENT

The 2021/22 Rates Instalment three notices have been sent out. If you haven't received your rates notice yet or your contact details have changed, please contact our Customer Services team on 07 306 9009 or call into the office.

Rates are due for payment by 5.00PM on Friday 25 February 2022.

**Dates for Direct Debit for the remainder of the 2022 rating year.**

Instalment	Date of Direct Debit	Due Date
3	Wed, 23 Feb 2022	Friday, 25 Feb 2022
4	Wed, 18 May 2022	Friday, 20 May 2022

## RATE REBATES

Home Owners who wish to apply for this year's rates rebate (1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022) can now do so.

Application forms are available at the Council Offices or you can download them from the Department of Internal Affairs.



## LIBRARY SUMMER READING ACTIVITIES

Kawerau District Library ran another successful 'Annual Summer Reading Programme' with the theme 'Reading Colours Your World'.

Each week a different colour was celebrated, with kowhai yellow being the most popular colour of book borrowed from the library.

There were 118 Summer Reading Packs given out by the library comprising an activity booklet, crafts and stationary. More than 200 books were given away, along with many prizes including Lego, board games and more books!

In total, the children who signed up for the Annual Summer Reading programme read more than 300 books! Even the adults/

parents got involved with activity books and reading logs to complete, along with a short story competition.

Other fun activities run as part of the programme was the 'guess the number of lollies in the jar' competition and an online scavenger hunt completed in a record time of 20 minutes.

Escape Room Participants were cast back in time 35 years to experience an overtime shift at Norske Skog Tasman Paper Mill. The escape room was a resounding success with locals who found it hard to crack the challenges and puzzles in 90 minutes and escape the room.



### WINNERS

#### Postcard Design Winners (\$25 New World Gift Cards and book)

Mikaere Peters, Elijah Koopu, Ohaaki Mihinui  
Sarah Maree – Still needs to claim prize!

#### Postcard Design Runner-Ups (Book and chocolate bar)

Book and Chocolate Bar  
Emily – Kawerau South School (KSS)  
Nyuih – KSS  
Juliet Rieger – Kawerau Putauaki School (KPS)  
Aaria Peri-Woods - KPS  
Rosalie  
Jack Jordan – Kawerau Preschool Learning Centre (KPLC)  
Dina Jones - Tumanako Kohanga Reo  
Jaxon Marshall - KSS  
Kaladin Jones - Tumanako Kohanga Reo  
**Online scavenger hunt winner (\$100 gift pack)**  
Jessica McKeeman  
**Guess the Lolly jar competition winner**  
Omiao Mokai

## KAWERAU VACCINATION RATES

Kawerau is getting very close to the 90% fully vaccinated target with 87% of the eligible population partially vaccinated and 82.5% of the eligible population fully vaccinated.

Boosters are available for people aged 18 and over three months after your second vaccination.

Reminder – you can walk-in to a clinic in Kawerau on Monday, Wednesday or Saturdays (see timetable) or you can ring and book a time by calling 0800 829 001.

## COVID-19 VACCINATION CALENDAR

The Kawerau COVID-19 vaccination clinics are now at the Concert Chambers.

There are three clinics each week on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.

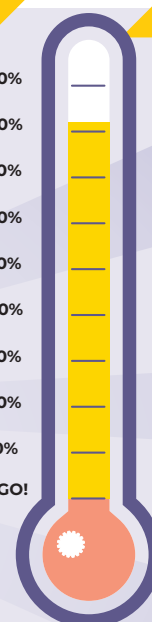
Each of the below clinics are walk - in with no booking required.

Kawerau Vaccination Clinic Times:

- Monday's - 9.00AM - 4.00PM – Concert Chambers
- Wednesday's - 1.00PM - 7.00PM – Concert Chambers
- Saturday's - 9.00AM - 4.00PM – Concert Chambers

First and second vaccinations, boosters and now the paediatric vaccine for 5 to 11-year-olds is also available here in Kawerau.

90%  
80%  
70%  
60%  
50%  
40%  
30%  
20%  
10%  
GO!



**KAWERAU  
VAX RATES**  
SHOT KAWERAU!