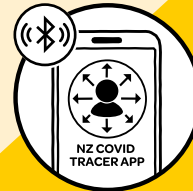


COMMUNITY UPDATE

15 MARCH 22

**Don't wait,
vaccinate**



**Unite
against
COVID-19**

CURRENT KAWERAU COVID-19 TRAFFIC LIGHT SETTING: RED



From the Mayor

The thick end of Covid-19 is here and increasing numbers of people are being affected by the pandemic in our community and throughout the country.

By the end of last week, there were more than 400 positive cases in Kawerau and some 700 people isolating as household contacts.

Tūwharetoa ki Kawerau Hauora is providing support to a large number of whānau affected by Covid-19 along with the Kawerau Medical Centres and the BOP District Health Board. Council continues to support the Covid-19 response as part of the Kawerau Collective.

The Rapid Antigen Tests (RAT) mean people can get faster results and then isolate at home which helps slow the spread in the community. If you are feeling unwell, please get tested and follow the advice of your health provider.

Health experts advise that with vaccination the majority of people who contract the Omicron variant of Covid-19 will manage at home, although Covid-19 does affect vulnerable people especially those with underlying health issues, which is why vaccination and boosters are encouraged.

Council has been focused on continuing to provide services and at this stage have had only minimal disruption.

Many projects are continuing including the water pipe replacement project in the town centre a good example. This work continues as the next phase of the Long Term Plan 2021-2031 reticulation upgrade due to be completed in April 2022.

Meanwhile, Council is supporting KADAP (Kawerau and Districts Ageing in Place) group with the Kawerau Seniors Survey. This survey is for people aged 55 and over and the answers will help KADAP and Council with planning and decision-making.

Other projects, such as the Netball Pavilion rebuild, have been impacted by the pandemic with contractors swamped with a backlog of work and a shortage of some building materials.

At this time, all we can all do is pull together as our community has done many times before. Offer support to friends and family where you can or reach out if you need to – support and help is available.

- **Malcolm Campbell**

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LOW WATER PRESSURE AREAS

Some Streets in Kawerau District are experiencing low water pressure during the summer months due to high water use. Council is aware of this problem and there is no immediate solution in the short-term other than to request residents to restrict the amount of water taken during peak times.

In the medium term, the drinking water pipe replacement programme will address these issues when pipes are replaced in 2023 (River Road areas) and 2024 (Valley Road areas).

Council apologises for the inconvenience this is causing to specific households.

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS, TESTING AND RAT COLLECTION



VACCINATIONS AND BOOSTERS

Standard vaccination clinic times are:

Every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday

- Monday - 9.00AM - 4.00PM at the Concert Chambers.
- Wednesday - 1.00PM - 7.00PM at the Concert Chambers.
- Saturday - 10.00AM - 4.00PM Drive-Through at the Rec Centre Carpark

COVID-19 TESTING

Feeling māiuiui / sick?

Need to get a COVID-19 test but don't know where to go?

Give Tūwharetoa Ki Kawerau Hauora a call on 07 323 8047 to make an appointment with one of their trained nurses.

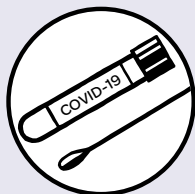
RAPID ANTIGEN TEST COLLECTIONS

For people who have ordered their RAT kit online, you are able to collect the kit from outside the Town Hall from 11am - 2pm every day this week except Saturday.

You must show proof of your order to the administration team in order to collect. You can do this by showing your online order number.

To order your RAT kit online please visit here - <https://requestrats.covid19.health.nz/> or you can ring 0800 222 478 (select option 3) from 8am to 8pm.

Council will continue to keep you updated on any further updates or changes.



KIRITAPU ALLAN VISITS KAWERAU

On Thursday 24 February, Member for East Coast Labour Party, Kiritapu Allan made a visit to Kawerau.

Kiritapu Allan met with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and also attended the Kawerau Collective Hui which is managing the Covid-19 response in the district. The Kawerau Collective comprises Tūwharetoa Ki Kawerau Hauora, Iwi representatives, Kawerau District Council, BOP District Health Board, Ministry of Health, Kawerau Principals, ISK (Industrial Symbiosis Kawerau), KADAP, House of Hope and others. Also in Kiritapu Allan's busy schedule, she attended the Kawerau Health Shuttle Hui and congratulated the community for the initiative. Kiritapu Allan was given a thorough tour of the St. John Kawerau facility, along with a ride in one of the new health shuttles!

Pictured below (from left) Member for East Coast Labour Party, Kiritapu Allan and St. John Health Shuttle Driver, Gail Dobbin.



ASBESTOS CONTAMINATION REMOVAL AT CENTRAL COVE

Central Cove, Council's 31-section residential development on the former Central School grounds has been progressing well.

However, in late 2021, asbestos was discovered on sites during pre-build site investigations, which are carried out routinely on every build by qualified geotechnical engineers or engineering geologists. Earlier house sites were also investigated pre-build and no asbestos was present.

Asbestos has been removed from several sites, which have been sold and homes are now being constructed. The removal is carried out by qualified professionals who ensure there is no danger to any adjacent residents or neighbours of Central Cove.

COUNCIL VACANCY - Engineering Foreman

Check the Council website for details kawerauadc.govt.nz/vacancies

KAWERAU SENIORS SURVEY 2022

KADAP (Kawerau and Districts Ageing in Place) are conducting a survey to better understand and respond to the needs of Kawerau's senior residents. This survey is:

- An opportunity for you to have your say!
- For ages 55 and over
- For people living in the Kawerau District

Your answers will help KADAP (Kawerau and Districts Ageing in Place), the Kawerau District Council, Kawerau Seniors Forum and other organisations to have an opportunity to accommodate your needs.

Your help is greatly appreciated. Your answers will be treated with complete confidentiality. No names or personal details will be used in any report.

Thank you for participating in the survey. Your feedback is important.

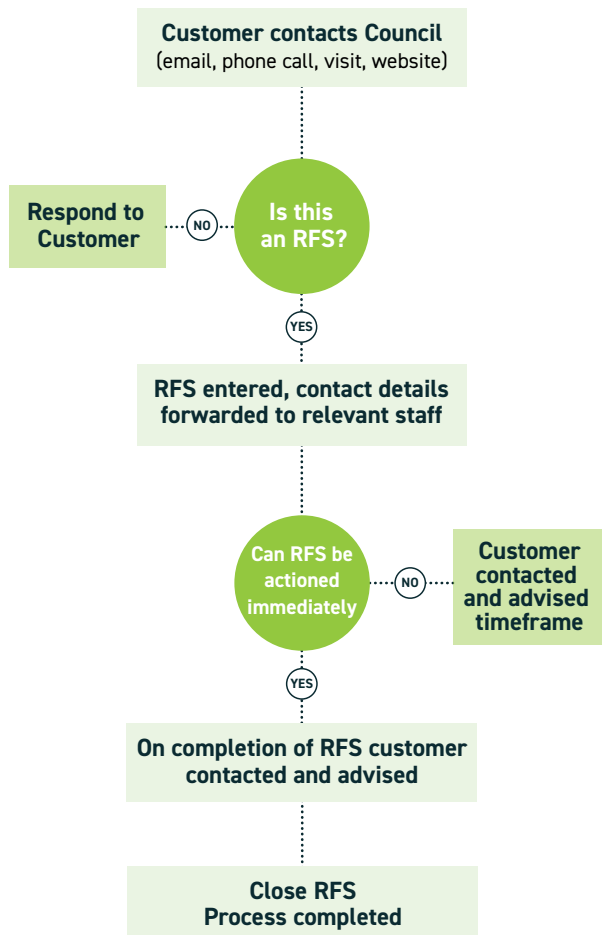
An online version and a printable version of the survey are available at www.kaweraudc.govt.nz. Extra Copies of the survey are available at the Council offices entrance, Library and iSITE. There is a return box for completed surveys stationed at the Council offices entrance.

For more information or help with this survey, please contact:

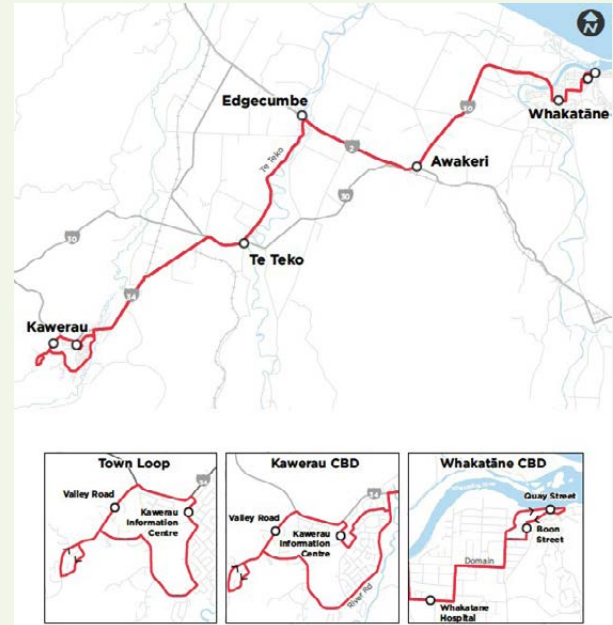
Karen Stanton, KADAP ph 07 2193940, Mobile 027 554 1428.

REQUEST FOR SERVICE PROCESS

Council operates a Request for Service process to ensure that issues and problems raised by the public are logged and actioned. The following process is what happens after Council is contacted by the public



KAWERAU TO WHAKATANE BUS SERVICE



A reminder for residents that the bus service from Kawerau to Whakatane is still up and running despite being in the 'Red Light' setting of the Covid-19 protection framework.

As the bus is considered an essential service, Baybus does not require users of the bus to be vaccinated or show their 'My Vaccine Pass' - however Baybus asks that users follow the below rules:

- Users over the age of 8 or in year 4 of school are required to wear a face mask.
- Bus users are kind to each other and ensure good hygiene.
- Use a form of contactless payment (although cash is still accepted).
- Do not travel if you have cold, flu or Covid-19 symptoms.

In the image below you may recognise the bus stop sign. These signs are commonly placed across many towns around the country. The bus will not always stop automatically at each of these signs, unless the bus driver notices someone there waiting to be picked up, or an occupant of the bus is wanting to get off at that stop. To best ensure you are noticed at the bus stop, hail/ signal the bus driver as they approach.





What to do if you test positive for COVID-19

If you have COVID-19 symptoms such as a cough, sneezing and runny nose, a fever, sore throat or shortness of breath; organise a test and isolate.

Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) can be ordered online at RequestRats.Covid19.health.nz and collected from a participating local pharmacy, GP or testing centre.



Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs)

- Follow the packet instructions.
- Results will be visible **20 minutes** after you complete your test.
- Support to carry out a test or understand the results is available on **0800 358 5453** or at Covid19.govt.nz

If you test negative but have symptoms, stay at home and test again 24 hours later. If you test negative again and still have symptoms, contact a health professional for support.



What to do if you test positive

1. If you test positive, you need to self-isolate.
 - **If you have symptoms**, you need to self-isolate from when they started.
 - **If you don't have symptoms**, you need to self-isolate from when you got a positive test.
2. Everyone else in your household needs to self-isolate and get tested. Go to Covid19.govt.nz/household for more details. If they test positive, they also need to follow these steps.
3. Record your RAT result in your *My Covid Record* with this, call **0800 222 478**

Note: If your test was at a community test centre or other health provider, you don't need to do this, as the result will be automatically added to your *My Covid Record*

4. If you have provided your mobile number, you will receive a text message from **2328** within 24 hours with a unique code to access an online form. Complete this form to help us identify if you need additional health or welfare support and any high-risk locations.
5. Household contacts can end their self-isolation at the same time as you (as long as they haven't tested positive). Household contacts must do a RAT on day three and day seven.

How long do I need to self-isolate for?

You must isolate for seven days. To find out how long you need to self-isolate go to Covid19.govt.nz/positive