

COMMUNITY PĀNUI | UPDATE

17 AUGUST 2023

LONG TERM PLAN 2024-34



What is your vision for Kawerau?

We are now into the new financial year 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

This means it is time for us to start preparing for the Long Term Plan 2024-2034.

The last one was completed in 2021 and since that time a raft of central government reforms are in progress including Three Waters; Resource Management and Future for Local Government Reforms.

The Long Term Plan sets the direction for all Council activities, services and projects; and outlines how they will be funded: from rates, user-pays and other funding sources.

It is a balancing act between what the community wants in terms of levels of service, projects and infrastructure renewals and how much ratepayers are able and willing to pay.

Although the Long Term Plan doesn't come into effect until 1 July 2024, it requires considerable planning and reviews of the service levels now in place. Then Council can complete the financial modelling to project

the rates that will be charged for the first three years of the Long Term Plan.

With so much change, it is more important than ever this time, to ensure that we are focussing on the right priorities that the community needs and wants.

As Council starts this process, we thought it was a good opportunity to cast the net out to the community to see what are the issues, priorities and needs for residents and ratepayers.

The back page of this newsletter is a two-page survey, that can be dropped into the Council Office, site or District Library or completed online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YourvisionforKawerau>

This is the first round of early engagement with the community. We will hold a round of formal engagement in March and April 2024 when we have developed the draft Long Term Plan 2024-2034.

Telling us what you think, helps Council focus on the areas that the communities wants us to prioritise.

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- Have Your Say

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Drinking Water Update

We are pleased to report on a major drop in water complaints after Council investigations isolated the source of the brown water to higher manganese levels in Te Wai o Marukaa | Pumphouse Springs. This was reflected by only three water complaints in July, down from 57 in June which were related to water pipe replacement project in River Road.

Please contact Council on 07306 9009 with any water-related issues anytime and our Three Waters team will assist.



Rates Payments Due

The 2023-2024 rates instalment 1 notices have been sent out.

Rates are due for payment by **5pm Friday, 25 August 2023**. Penalties for unpaid rates will be applied from Monday 28 August 2023.

If you have not received your rates notice yet, or your contact details have changed, please contact our customer services team on 07 306 9009 or visit the Council Office.

Council Briefs



'How To' Workshops at the Kawerau District

Learn to upcycle your wardrobe

Bring an item of clothing you want to mend or embellish.

Workshops are on Thursdays;
17, 24 and 31 August. From 10am – 12 noon.



Photography Classes with Kawerau Arts Society Photography Club

Saturday 19 August - 10.30am -11.30am

- Introduction to photography.
- How to take photos with phones.

Saturday 26 August - 10.30am -11.30am

- Bring your own device for photos.
- Photo editing.

Limited space available – free to attend but you must book in advance on 07 306 9041.



Rates Rebates

Rates rebate applications are now open for the 2023-2024 rating year. The maximum rebate allowed is now \$750.00

You can check your eligibility and apply for a rates rebate online at www.kaweraudc.govt.nz

Kawerau Christmas in the Park 2023

Council recently resolved for funding applications to be sent to our trusted funders for Kawerau Christmas in the Park 2023. This cherished event is only made possible thanks to the support from our awesome team of sponsors.

A new idea in the works for the proposed Kawerau Christmas in the Park 2023 will pay tribute to Kawerau's loved ones.

As part of the Kawerau Christmas in the Park Community Show, we are looking at creating a 'Memorial Tribute Video', to be publicly shared at Christmas in the park and through Council media channels. This memorial tribute video will remember community members who have passed, as well as national and international artists that were loved by our community.

Our aim for the video is to provide a special moment for us to remember our loved ones by and honour their legacy together.

The Community Show is all about our local talent and those close to home, so it's fitting that we close the show with a tribute video to celebrate our whānau | family we have lost.

If there's anyone you would like to remember, we encourage you to send a photo to us.

To submit a loved one for the video, please make sure to email the following information to kaweraudc@kaweraudc.govt.nz no later than 16 November 2023.

- Name
- Photo
- Date of Passing

We kindly ask that submissions are only for Kawerau residents who have passed within the last 12 months. Please ensure that the image is high resolution, otherwise, we may not be able to use it on the big screen.

Early Community Engagement for our Long Term Plan 2024-2034

What will Kawerau be like in 10 Years?

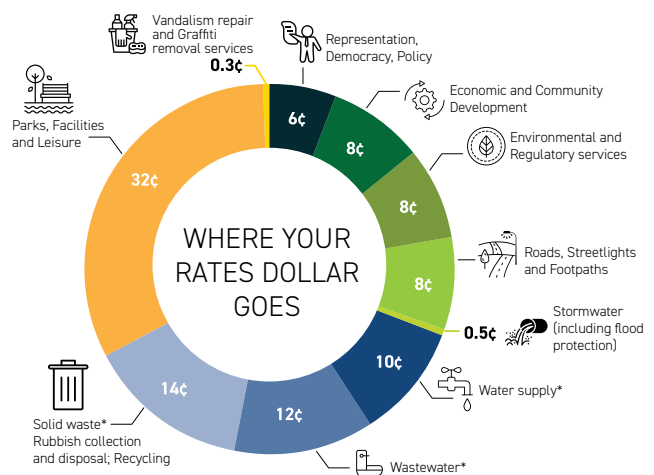
Council wants to hear from you, our community to guide us in the preparation of the 10-year plan.

The Long Term Plan sets the direction for all Council activities, services and projects; and outlines how they will be funded - from rates, user-payers and other funding sources.

Thank you in advance for completing the Kawerau District Council Long Term Plan 2024 – 2034 Early Engagement Survey on the next two pages of this newsletter.

Please hand in your completed survey to the Council Office, Kawerau District library or Kawerau isite.

We greatly appreciate your feedback on what matters most to you in the Kawerau district. We will review the responses to this survey and look to incorporate the results into our Long Term Plan that we are developing next year.



Community Survey - Have your say by 2 September 2023

What will Kawerau be like in 10 Years? What will Council do to bring that about?



NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

1. How long have you lived in Kawerau?

- I'm new to Kawerau (0-2 years)
- I've been here a while (3-10) years
- I've lived here most of my life (10 years +)
- Born and raised here and have moved back home recently
- I don't live in Kawerau

2. What is your vision for Kawerau?

3. Thinking about the Council: what is important to you and your whānau | family?

4. What do you believe Council should prioritise during the next 10 years?

5. Community Safety

Thinking about community safety (i.e., security cameras, lighting) should Council spend;

- less
- about the same
- more

6. Thinking about road safety, what should Council spend (i.e., reducing vehicle speeds, traffic management systems)

- less
- about the same
- more

Suggestions / Comments...

7. Community Spirit

In terms of events for our community: does Council spend;

- too much
- about right
- not enough

8. Parks and Recreation

Kawerau is a beautiful district. Council maintains sports fields, reserves, road berms, street trees, annual bedding displays, children's playgrounds and the cemetery. For example, Council spends \$162,000 each year on flower bedding displays.

What do you want Council to prioritise (select as many as you wish):

- sports fields
- accessibility
- walkways
- playgrounds
- a particular reserve or reserves (comment below)
- Annual Bedding Displays

Suggestions / Comments...

9. Does the Library and Museum meet the community needs

- not enough
- about right
- too much

Suggestions / Comments...

10. Transport, Roading and Footpaths

Thinking about accessibility, should Council spend;

- less
- about the same
- more

11. Do you want any other areas prioritised such as;

- speed reduction
- raised crossings
- shared walkways
- bus shelters

Suggestions / Comments...

12. Economic Development

In terms of encouraging new business development to the district, does Council spend;

- too little
- about right
- too much

Suggestions / Comments...

13. Residential Development

Council owns rental pensioner housing and Porritt Glade Retirement Village for over 60's and is progressing housing development at Stoneham Park.

Should Council continue to invest in housing;

- less
- about the same
- not enough

Suggestions / Comments...

14. Facilities and Venues

Council owns a number of halls and venues including: Ron Hardie Recreation Centre, Town Hall, Concert Chamber, Firmin Lodge, Bert Hamilton Hall, Rangi Delamere Pavilion, Prideaux Park Pavilion and Tarawera Park Pavilions.

Thinking about the facilities listed, does Kawerau have the right number of facilities and venues

- about right
- too many
- not enough

15. Are these facilities the right ones to take us into the future?

- mostly
- yes
- not at all

Suggestions / Comments...

16. Dogs – Animal Control Services

Do you wish Council to focus on dogs and animal control services;

- about the same
- more
- less

Suggestions / Comments...

17. Do Kawerau ratepayers and residents want Council to investigate adding a charge for general entry and use of the Maurie Kjar Aquatic Centre? (Note: Council already charges for private hires; and group bookings)

- Yes - but only for visitors/tourists to the district (non-residents)
- Yes - to everyone (including residents)
- No - keep things the same (free entry to everyone)

Suggestions / Comments...

18. Communication and Engagement

What types of communications do you prefer from Council?

- Printed
- Social Media (Facebook / Instagram)
- Website
- Council Meetings
- Public Meetings
- Community Group Meetings
- Other (please outline below)

Suggestions / Comments...

19. Should Council be advocating for social issues and needs (such as crime, education, safety, health and well-being)?

- less
- about the same
- more

Suggestions / Comments...

20. Anything Else?

Are there other areas of Council's operations that you wish to highlight? Other suggestions to add/reduce services or costs

Please note:

Council is undertaking the 10-year plan on the basis that the Three Waters (drinking water, wastewater and stormwater) will transfer to the Bay of Plenty Water Services Entity as legislated by the government. Council is committed to completing the drinking water pipe project in 2026-2027. Emergency Management has legislative requirements for Council regarding planning and resourcing.

Climate Change is an area that Council is working to improve the district's resilience to the impacts of climate change. For instance, Council has completed various flood detention measures and other measures will be proposed in the Long Term Plan.