Media Release For immediate release 3 June 2021

Kawerau District Council continues the conversation

Starting a conversation and having a discussion has been the focus of consultation meetings between Kawerau District Council and stakeholders.

In the lead-up to the submission period opening on 14 May, Kawerau Councillors, the chief executive and leadership team began meeting with lwi and Tangata Whenua and stakeholders.

Further consultation meetings have been held with the industrial and commercial sector, Kawerau Putauaki School, Te Manaaki Preschool and neighbours of Stoneham Park (the old Soccer Club grounds).

A presentation to Tarawera High School seniors students and the Kawerau Youth Council was also completed this week.

"Questions and discussion from the Tarawera High School senior students showed critical thinking and understanding on par with that we have come across at public and stakeholder meetings," Mayor Malcolm Campbell said.

"Through our previous engagement with the Kawerau Youth Council and other senior students we know that good ideas can come from these discussions."

Malcolm said making the link and connecting with tomorrow's leaders was important.

The three consultation topics Kawerau are consulting on are:

- Drinking water pipe replacement programme accelerating the project by borrowing \$12million and replacing all 48km of old pipes over the next six years.
- 2. Using proceeds from residential developments to keep the rates increases to 5.1% in year one 2021/22.
- Growing Our District Council is asking if residents support the concept of developing Stoneham Park (the old Soccer Club grounds) using the concept of 60% residential and 40% enhanced recreational space.

The Council will host another public meeting at the Concert Chambers in Ranfurly Court at 9.30am on Wednesday, June 9.

Submissions can be made online via the Council website, by email to <u>sbumissions@kaweraudc.govt.nz</u> or dropped into the Council Offices in Ranfurly Court during office hours.

Submissions must be received in writing by 5:00pm on Monday, June 14.

[ENDS]