

COMMUNITY UPDATE

13 AUGUST 2021



from the Mayor

During my time in Council we have faced many challenges and the proposed Three Waters Reform ranks highly.

Most of you will be aware that the Three Waters Reform proposes that the water assets currently managed by our Council and all other councils throughout New Zealand will be owned and operated by four large entities.

Last week, our Chief Executive, Manager Operations and Services and myself attended another Three Waters Reform hui.

The meeting was for the 22 councils which the Three Waters Reform proposes will become part of Entity B.

The aim was to clarify the process and timelines which were initially announced at the Local Government New Zealand conference recently.

We now understand that the time-frame up until 1 October, is going to give our Council time to understand the proposal and how it affects us and our community. We now know that we aren't expected to make any formal decision on the reform during this period.

We are also using this time to carry out analysis to understand the impact of reform and how it will affect our community today and into the future.

To assist with this, we have commissioned an independent review which is being completed by Wellington-based consultants Castalia Limited to assess:

- The impacts of maintaining the Three Waters assets in its current community ownership, which are managed by Council;
- The impacts of Kawerau's Three Waters assets under the control and ownership of the Government's proposed Three Waters entities (Entity B).

Once we have this data and further information from the government's Three Waters Reform, we will be scheduling consultation and sharing this information with our community. This is likely to be between October and December. Like many other Councils, we have concerns about the impacts of the Three Waters Reform on the community, the loss of local control, representation, impact on local contracting firms and protection against privatisation of the assets longer-term.

We will be making regular announcements to keep you informed. Meanwhile, we are working hard to fix the issues around the heating and the borehole of the Maurie Kjar Memorial Swimming Pool complex.

We know how well loved this complex is and we will be ensuring it is repaired and available for use again as quickly as possible.

- Malcolm Campbell

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Three Waters Reform Updates

Council will keep you posted on the latest updates via this newsletter, Facebook and our website.

RATES INSTALMENT 1 NOTICES HAVE BEEN POSTED OR EMAILED

All the rates notices have been posted or emailed out, if you haven't received yours, please contact Council on 07 306 9009 or email kaweraudc@kaweraudc.govt.nz



When are my rates due in 2021-2022?

- 5:00pm Friday 27 August 2021
- 5:00pm Friday 26 November 2021
- 5:00pm Friday 25 February 2022
- 5:00pm Friday 20 May 2022

Apply Now For Your Rates Rebates?

Home owners who wish to apply for this year's Rates Rebate (1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022) can now do so once they receive their Instalment 1 Rates Notice by post or email.

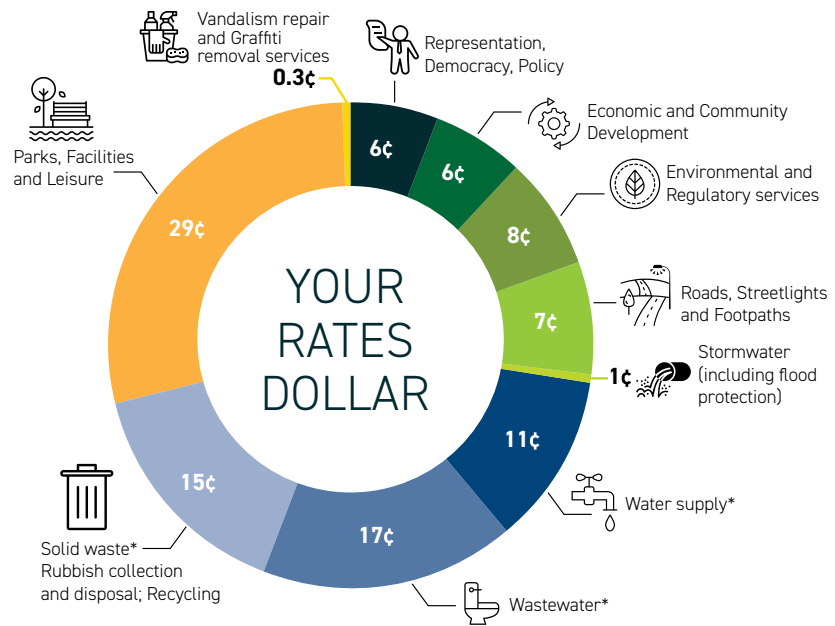
Application forms are available at the Council Offices or you can download them from the Department of Internal Affairs.

To apply you will need your income details for the 2020-2021 tax year (1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021).

WHERE YOUR RATES DOLLAR GOES

This is indicative only for an average residential property.

*These rates comprise a uniform annual charge per property and the remainder of this charge is based upon property value.



COMMUNITY GRANTS

The Community Grant Scheme is a Council fund to enhance the well-being of Kawerau people by supporting groups and services that improve the quality of life of local residents.

Applications for 2021-2022 community grants opened on Monday, 2 August 2021 and close on Wednesday, 1 September 2021.

The Community Grants Committee will meet on Tuesday 7 September 2021 to consider all applications.

The Scheme is available to any non-profit group that provides a service which enhances the quality of life of Kawerau residents. Check the Council Facebook or Website for more details or call into the Council Offices to collect an application form.

REMINDER YOUNG ACHIEVER AWARDS CLOSE 14 AUGUST 2021

Nominations close on Saturday, 14 August for the 2021 Kawerau Young Achiever Awards. You can make your nomination online – check the Council Facebook or website for the links.

The 2021 Kawerau Young Achiever Awards will be held on Wednesday, 25 August 2021 at the Kawerau Town Hall.

KAWERAU HEALTH SHUTTLE VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED

This new service requires at least 20 volunteer drivers to help transport people from their home to their medical appointments and back home again.

Nine people have signed on to become volunteers at the first recruitment sessions, but the service needs at least 11 more people to be viable.

Volunteers can offer as much or as little time as you can spare.

The working group is looking to launch the Kawerau Health Shuttle service in Spring 2021.

To learn more about becoming a St John Health Shuttle Volunteer please contact: Angela Bryan on 027 220 3376 if you are interested.

Visit the website and register your interest join.stjohn.org.nz/role/siid/j5ll9/125

Or contact Council on 07 306 9009 and leave your name, contact phone number and email address.

Note: Prospective volunteers need to bring two forms of ID (including your driver's licence) and your email address.

NEW LIGHTS FOR KAWERAU SKATEPARK



New floodlight poles and lights have been reinstalled back at Kawerau District Council's skatepark and basketball court area.

The former poles and luminaries had badly degraded and were removed, creating visibility and safety issues. Trust Horizon provided the funding needed to install additional lighting, which also allowed the park's CCTV system to be reinstated.

Kawerau District Council is thankful for the ongoing investment by Trust Horizon in our community.

Funding from Trust Horizon provides much more than light for our rangatahi - it provides an opportunity for friendship and the freedom of spontaneous fun and exercise on the basketball court and adjacent skatepark.

Above: Trust Horizon Trustee Edwina O'Brien with rangatahi at the Kawerau Skatepark

RAISED PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS – CAUTION REQUIRED

The two raised pedestrian crossings being installed in Glasgow and Plunket Streets are almost completed. The two crossings, which have been installed on the recommendation of the Kawerau Accessibility Committee and on request from other users, are waiting for the plates to be installed over the drains.

Please take care using the crossings – we plan to have these last finishing touches installed soon.



COUNCIL VACANCIES

ENGINEERING FOREMAN

Full-Time, Fixed Term

Reporting to our Engineering Manager, we are seeking an Engineering Foreman who is skilled in a range of areas to manage small projects and work in the Engineering Department for a one year fixed term. This is a general role, supporting all aspects of engineering, operations and services at Kawerau District Council. Responsibilities will include working with the Engineering Manager on building and road maintenance, the Three Waters Manager on infrastructure maintenance, and the Parks and Reserves Manager. There will also be a focus on assisting with and managing small engineering and other projects.

Applications close 5pm Friday, 20 August 2021.

For more information, please contact Council via the website kaweraudc.govt.nz or email vacancy@kaweraudc.govt.nz

DOG REGISTRATION RENEWALS

Thanks to all our dog owners who ensured their favourite friend was registered by 31 July 2021. Congratulations to the following people who were drawn from the registered owners pool. The results are:

1st	Kennel and Run	Carl Taiatini
2nd	Dog biscuits	Dianne Kavetoa
3rd	Dog biscuits	David Dowie



NZ Blood Service will be at the Kawerau Concert Chambers on

Thursday, 19 August from 8.30am to 12.30pm.

Telephone 0800 GIVE BLOOD (448 325) to book an appointment



HOUSING FORUM HOSTED BY HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Deputy Mayor Faylene Tunui, Councillor Berice Julian, Chief Executive Russell George, the leadership team and Ngāti Tūwharetoa Settlements Trust Chairperson Karilyn Te Riini attended the Hastings District Council Housing Forum last week.

Hosted by the Hastings District Council the forum aimed to share the learnings of the Hastings Based Housing Plan. Attendees from some 20 Council attended.

Kawerau District Council saw it as an opportunity to learn about innovative models for residential housing developments.

The forum included an overview of the Waingakau Housing Village in Flaxmere, Hastings District Council housing developments and the Aorangi Papakāinga development.

The collaborative approach by those involved was shared by forum presenters who represented the Hastings District Council, Ngāti Kahungunu, Regional Director Kainga Ora, Te Puni Kokiri, Ministry for Social Development, the District Health Board and the Ministry for Housing and Urban Development.

Above: One of the Papakāinga housing developments.

Middle: An overview of the Waingakau Housing Development which is a mixture of freehold house and land packages and social housing.

Bottom: Kawerau Deputy Mayor Faylene Tunui at Waingakau housing development being co-developed by Hastings District Council



MAURIE KJAR MEMORIAL SWIMMING POOL

Council has been working with geologists and well drillers to resolve the heating issues with the pools. A silica build-up in the well was suspected, so the well was drilled and flushed. The blockages were removed, however the well carried on releasing fine sand and other debris over the following week.

The well was flushed and blown (the process of allowing high pressure steam to blow out any loose material) several times according to standard well procedures, the amount of material decreased, however a small release of material continues to cause blockages in the filters and heat exchangers of the pool heating system.

This continued release of material suggest a failure in the well structure. The well will be evaluated with a well probe to determine the cause.

Council will evaluate its options once we have received professional advice from geologists.

The pools will remain closed as Council decides on the best option moving forward. We know how much this complex is used by our community and we will be working to find the best long-term solution as quickly as possible.

Council will continue to provide regular updates and thanks the community for your patience.

