

COMMUNITY PĀNUI | UPDATE

6 MARCH 2024

Maurie Kjar Aquatic Centre Manaakitanga | Respect for all



As we enjoy the sunshine and refreshing waters at the Maurie Kjar Aquatic Centre, let us remember the individuals who work to keep us safe: our lifeguards.

This team devotes their time to the safety of you, your whānau and the well-being of all swimmers. Recently, we had two occasions where our lifeguards had to save children's lives, so please respect them as they are there to protect you.

How to support our lifeguards to keep the Maurie Kjar Aquatic Centre safe and fun for all:

- 1 **Thank You:** a simple "thank you" goes a long way – please take a moment to thank the lifeguards for their service.
- 2 **Follow Rules and Guidelines:** Lifeguards enforce rules and guidelines to keep everyone safe.

The most important rules as shown by the recent rescues, are:

- Children in your care five years old or younger must be an arm's distance away (at all times)
 - Children aged between six and eight years old must be within your line of sight (close by)
 - Children aged eight or younger, must not be left in any pool unattended
- 3 **Be Patient and Respectful:** Lifeguards work hard to ensure the safety of all swimmers. Be patient and understanding.
 - 4 **Spread Kindness:** Encourage others to show kindness and appreciation towards lifeguards.

As a community, let us show our lifeguards the appreciation they deserve for their role in keeping us safe.

Please note that lifeguards have other responsibilities in the background like water testing, mixing chemical, equipment checks and repairs. Meaning, that lifeguards will not always be on the poolside.

Get the Antenno app to contact Council and get news

Want to get important notifications straight to your phone? Antenno is a mobile app that sends alerts and messages from refuse collection day changes to careers available at Kawerau District Council.

Antenno gives you quick updates from us, along with the ability to let us know if you spot an issue or something that needs our attention around the district. It can be anything like potholes, graffiti, or broken streetlights. See it, snap it, send it!

Open the app, select 'Report it' and follow the on-screen prompts. Just hit send and let Kawerau District Council take care of the rest.

Some key features are:

- Get up-to-date, relevant information about places and topics you care about.
- No need to check multiple sources of information. Antenno sends information directly to you.
- You can engage with us easier and get involved in the community by reporting issues, responding to surveys, and providing feedback through Antenno.
- Antenno is a fast and easy way to get things fixed in your community.
- No need to know who to contact and no waiting around to report your issue.

You can download Antenno on the App Store or the Google Play Store. It is free to download and use

Important dates

March 7 to April 5 2024

Early engagement period for Representation Review

Wednesday March 13 - 9am

Regulatory and Services Committee

Wednesday March 27 - 9am

Ordinary Council Meeting Committee

Monday April 8 - 1pm

Audit and Risk Committee Meeting

Wednesday April 10 - 9am

Regulatory and Services Committee

Wednesday April 24 - 9am

Ordinary Council Meeting Committee

What are the different types of plastics that you can recycle?



Number 1 plastics are polyethylene terephthalate or PET, a 100 per cent recyclable material. PET is a robust and lightweight plastic that is typically transparent. Examples of PET are bottles and other plastic containers, such as soft drink and water bottles, peanut butter jars and condiment containers.



Number 2 plastics are polyethylene (high-density), or HDPE, typically used for large containers. Number 2 plastics are one of the safest as they have a high strength-to-density ratio, which means they have good wear resistance. Examples of HDPE are milk, detergent and oil bottles, vitamins and supplements containers, and some toys and plastic bags.



Number 5 plastic is polypropylene, or PP, a tough and rigid plastic. PP has excellent heat-resistance qualities. It serves as a barrier against moisture, grease and chemicals. When you try to open the thin plastic liner in a cereal box, it is polypropylene. This keeps your cereal dry and fresh. PP is also commonly used for disposable diapers, ice cream, margarine and yogurt containers and potato chip bags.

Wash out containers and remove lids before recycling.

Materials for Kerbside collection



Glass bottles and jars



Paper and cardboard



Plastic bottles, trays and containers 1,2,and 5



Aluminium steel tins and cans

Representation Review 2024

For the past year we have been talking to the community about the electoral process, with elected members voting to:

- ① retain the first past the post (FPP) voting system
- ② introduce designated Māori representation through the introduction of one or more Māori wards

As Council voted to introduce Māori wards in November 2023, in addition to general wards, we now need to consider how we best represent community voices at the council table with Māori wards included.

- ③ The representation review is the third and final step of the process required before the 2025 and 2028 elections. The introduction of Māori wards means we will have changes to the current representation.

Following feedback from tangata whenua and iwi, residents and ratepayers within the community, Council will propose how the district is best represented. You will have several opportunities to have your say through this process.

What do we have now?

As of 2022 we have 5,125 electors (people eligible to vote) in Kawerau.

Currently, Kawerau is represented by one mayor, eight councillors and no community board. Our councillors are elected 'at large', meaning they look after the whole district.

What does the review involve?

The objective of a representation review is to ensure fair and effective representation for individuals and communities. The review must consider:

- ① Defining communities of interest
- ② Effective representation of communities of interest, and
- ③ Fair representation of electors

Representation Review Key Dates

Preliminary consultation

7 March to 5 April 2024

Council meeting to propose representation for 2025 and 2028

26 June 2024

Submission period

1 July – 5 Aug 2024

Hearing/s for Submitters to present to Council

28 Aug 2024

Deliberations on submissions and Council adopts final proposal

25 Sept 2024

Appeal/objection period

30 Sept – 4 Nov 2024

LGC determination (if required)

by 10 April 2025

How your Council could look

One mayor plus

9 seats at Council table



8 seats at Council table



7 seats at Council table



6 seats at Council table



Pool of remuneration (cost) stays the same regardless of the number of elected members

What are we asking our community?

In this early round of engagement, we are asking how many seats should represent our community for the Māori electoral roll and how many seats should represent the general electoral roll?

Representatives for Māori wards will be elected by people who are enrolled on the Māori Parliamentary Electoral Roll. Electors of these wards will not be able to vote for members of the general wards. Similarly, people who are enrolled on the General Parliamentary Electoral Roll would vote for members of the general wards but not for members of the Māori wards. All electors would still vote for the mayor.

Community boards are unincorporated bodies which are neither local authorities nor committees. Community boards typically represent a smaller area within their council | kaunihera, to ensure smaller communities' voices aren't lost in the big picture conversations | kōrero.

How could you be represented?

Currently councillors represent the entire Kawerau District as one ward. With the inclusion of Māori representation, the seats at the table representing residents will now be both Māori and general wards. The councillors elected for each ward will look after the same number of people in the district.

There is an option to have a combination of both Māori and General wards and an 'at large' ward that everyone could vote for. If we keep eight councillors this could comprise seats for 3 Māori ward, 3 general ward and 2 'at large' councillors.



Kōrero mai – How do you want to be represented?

1. What is your age?

- Under 18
- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65+

2. What is your gender?

- Female
- Male
- Non-binary
- Prefer not to say
- Other (specific)

3. Which ethnicity best describes you?

- Māori
- Pacific Islander
- Asian
- European
- Middle Eastern/ Latin American /African
- Multiple ethnicities/other (please specify)

4. Do you think eight (status quo) is the right number of councillors to represent the interests of our district?

- Yes
- No

5. Do you want more or less seats at the council table?

- Six
- Seven
- Eight
- Nine
- Other

And why?

6. Do you think councillors should be elected from wards or a combination of wards and at large?

- Māori and General Wards only
- A combination of Māori, General and at large seats

7. Do you believe Kawerau needs a community board?

- Yes
- No

Why?

8. Should there be more than one ward for our district for either or both of the general ward councillors and/or Māori ward councillors?

- Yes
- No

Haere rā Hanno

Thank you, and all the best with your future endeavours.

Hanno van der Merwe joined Kawerau District Council in January 2017. During his time at Council, he worked as a project asset engineer before becoming the group manager for operations and services.

Whilst being the group manager of operations and services, he oversaw many teams, including parks and recreation, Maurie Kjar Aquatic Centre, solid waste, engineering and the assets and contracts team.

Hanno has enjoyed making a difference to the hapori of Kawerau and is looking forward to his next adventure working worldwide. Everyone is excited to see what the next chapter holds for you and your whanāu.

Thank you to our community for your support to close some services early to allow team members to attend the farewell.

1. Council asset and contract manager Tina Mitchell presenting Hanno van der Merwe with koha from Council
2. Left to right Fredrik Hoffmann, her worship the mayor Faylene Tunui, Michael Mitchell, Hanno van der Merwe, Bruce Turner, Morne de Lange and Carol Keightley
3. Left to right Riaan Nel, Hanno van der Merwe, Tina Mitchell, Simon Wren, Andrew Mitchell and former chief executive Russell George
4. Left to right Lee-Ann Butler, Riaan Nel, Michaela Glaspey, Hanno van der Merwe, Tina Mitchell, Andrew Mitchell and Azalea Palma
5. Left to right Steve Houia, Hohia Heurea, Keelyn Wikotu and Treivaan Taiapa embracing Tina Mitchell and Hanno van der Merwe after the haka

