

Community

Pānui Update

7 AUGUST 2025

LOCAL BODY ELECTIONS 2025



2025 KAWERAU DISTRICT COUNCIL NOMINATED CANDIDATES

Mayoralty (1 Vacancy)

ION, Carolyn

TUNUI, Faylene Karen Ngareta

District Wide ('At Large') Councillor (2 Vacancies)

ANDREWS, Wayne

ION, Carolyn

JULIAN, Berice Joyce

KINGI, Sela

Kawerau General Ward (3 Vacancies)

DRUMMOND, Melissa Joy

HILL, Tracy (Independent)

KENNEDY, Lyndal

ROSS, Justin

WORSLEY, Anthony Ross

Kawerau Māori Ward (3 Vacancies)

APIATA, Waikite

DOWIE, Mal

HOWARD, Lyzette

LEOKAVA-TAANI, Gloria Te Paki



Your Voice Your Vote



If you are not currently enrolled to vote, but you wish to vote in this year's local election, you can still enrol, right up until the day prior to election day on 11 October.

However, you will be required to complete a special vote in the upcoming election.

You can enrol online at vote.nz, text 3676 or phone 0800 36 76 56

Are you interested
in hosting a meet the
candidates' evening
for the Kawerau
community?

Meet the Candidate's evening

This event is an opportunity for our community to engage with the nominated candidates, ask questions, and hear their visions for our future. If so, contact Council on 07 306 9009 or email info@kaweraudc.govt.nz

Elections 2025 Timeline:

- 9 – 22 September Voting papers delivered
- 9 September – 12noon 11 October Voting is open
- Tuesday 7 October Last day for posting your vote by mail. After this date votes must be dropped to the secure ballot boxes at Council Office, District Library or Kawerau New World
- Saturday 11 October 12 noon – Last day to vote in the Local Body Elections and Māori Ward Poll: Drop your voting papers to the Council Offices, District Library or Kawerau New World
- Friday 17 October Declaration of results

Our future

Mahere Iwa Tau Long Term Plan 2025 – 2034 Adopted

Korero mai
Let's talk

The Mahere Iwa Tau | Long Term Plan 2025 – 2034 was adopted by Council on Wednesday 25 June 2025.

Thank you to the 23 people who made a submission on the Mahere Iwa Tau | Long Term Plan 2025 – 2034 and all the people, businesses and groups who attended one of the consultation hui.

Following feedback from the community, Council made the following decisions:

1. Overall rates increase of 8.5% this financial year to maintain the current levels of service.
2. Transition over nine years to water and wastewater activities being fully funded by targeted rates (as part of Local Water Done Well).
3. Keep funding the depreciation on Council's strategic assets (roading, water and wastewater networks and infrastructure) at 65% in 2025-2026. Then increase funding for depreciation by 3% each year for the next 12 years back to being fully funded.
4. Delay the \$60,000 funding for investigating Community Library and Research Centre until the next Long Term Plan in 2027-2028.

Fees and charges 2025 – 2026

Council also adopted the new fees and charges for the financial year from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026. Most fees and charges have risen at the rate of inflation (around 2.5%) and are available on the Council website.

Key changes are as follows:

BUILDING FEES

In a move towards a fairer user-pays system, building fees are being increased by 20%. This includes:

- Processing and inspection fees increase from \$140 to \$190 per hour
- Residential LIMs have increased from \$179 to \$260
- Project Information Memorandum (PIM) which provides information about land and the requirements of other Acts that might be relevant to proposed building works are increasing from \$73 to \$120

FREEDOM CAMPING POWER CONNECTIONS

New fees for freedom camping include:

- A daily power charge of \$12 a day for freedom campers to connect to power
- The refundable bond for the power key has increased to \$40

TRANSFER STATION CHARGES

The fees to drop solid waste or unsorted recycling at the Transfer Station are now based on weight, rather than cubic metres, to remove any guesswork and to encourage recycling. The new charges for refuse are \$334 per tonne for waste that goes to landfill.

Recycling is free if sorted at the Kawerau Transfer Station

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| ✓ Cardboard | ✓ LPG/ BBQ gas cylinders |
| ✓ Glass bottles and jars | ✓ Tyres (excluding tractor and bicycle tyres) |
| ✓ Plastics 1,2 and 5 | ✓ Waste oil |
| ✓ Aluminium cans | ✓ Paper (must be dropped off at the Transfer Station, not kerbside) |
| ✓ Tin cans | |
| ✓ Other scrap metal | |
| ✓ Automotive batteries | |
| ✓ Small batteries (AA, AAA, etc.) | |

Whiteware containing fluorinated gases accepted with a fee of \$47 per item.

REPLACEMENT BINS

The cost of replacement bins has increased to:

- recycle crate \$20
- 80-litre residual wheelie bin \$25
- 120-litre residual wheelie bin \$27
- 240-litre green wheelie bin \$29

Please note, the actual cost of a new bin is substantially higher (\$71.35 for 80L). The new costs above account for 35% of the actual costs. These costs will continue to increase to recover costs.

KŌRERO MAI, LET'S TALK WASTE

DRAFT WASTE MANAGEMENT AND MINIMISATION PLAN 2025-2031

Thank you to everyone who took part in the engagement carried out for the Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025 – 2031.

We appreciate your time, input and feedback. Council received 79 submissions.

The hearing for submitters to speak in support of their submission, has been delayed. If you made a submission to the solid waste plan, and do want to talk it through with the Council please contact Council on 07 306 9009 or email submissions@kaweraudc.govt.nz

COUNCIL NOW RECYCLES GLASS!

Council has partnered with Visy, a company in Auckland, to collect and recycle our glass. Removing glass from the waste stream that goes to landfill will help reduce costs to the community. Please follow these guidelines:

Rinse glass: Give glass bottles and jars a quick rinse to ensure all the food or drink residue is removed. Only glass jars and bottles can be recycled.

Remove the lid: Non-glass materials in glass recycling can prevent the glass from being accepted by manufacturers.

Kerbside: Put glass out in your recycling crate. Glass bottles and jars can also be dropped off free to the Transfer Station.

Acceptable Glass



Glass bottles (Clear, brown and green)
Glass jars (Clear, brown and green)

Unacceptable Glass/Non Glass Products



Light bulbs
and fluorescent
tubes



Window glass



TV tubes and
computer
screens



Pyrex dishes
and ovenware



Opal glass
(creamy-white,
looks like porcelain)



Vases and
ornamental
glass items



China and
crockery
(cups, saucers, plates)



Glass bricks
and mirrors



Stones, gravel
and dirt



Drinking
glasses



Medical and
laboratory
glass containers



If these materials are introduced into the manufacturing process, they will cause production problems and defective containers.

Maurie Kjar Aquatic Centre Update

Thank you to everyone for your patience and understanding while the steam bore that supplies the Maurie Kjar Aquatic Centre with heating is being repaired. There were several issues identified with the well, which included ground water coming into the bore and a build-up of calcium deposits.

Daily updates (on weekdays, excluding public holidays) are available on the Council website and via a pinned post on our Facebook page.

Council has been in contact with the Bay of Plenty Regional Council (who provide the resource consent for the steam well) and geothermal specialist to start working on next steps.

Applications opening soon for Community Grant Scheme

If you are a non-profit group or organisation, seeking funding to deliver a service to benefit the Kawerau district – the Kawerau Community Grant Scheme is here, to help you!

The Community Grant Scheme for 2025 – 2026 is opening Monday 11 August.

More information about the Community Grant Scheme, application and accountability forms are available online on our website Kaweraudc.govt.nz and to pick up from the Council Offices.

Applications for funding must be submitted in writing and received by 5pm on Friday 5 September.

Council remembers Russell Chase



A long-serving stalwart of Kawerau, Russell Chase sadly passed away on 10 July 2025 at home in Kawerau.

Russell served as a Councillor for four terms on the Kawerau District Council from 2001-2013. He also served on various boards, and community groups including Kawerau Social Services Trust that operates Mountain View.

Russell and Ngaire chose Porritt Glade Lifestyle Village to ‘retire to’ and he was the inaugural residents’ chair when the village opened.

Russell and his wife Ngaire had two sons Graeme and Adrian (who sadly passed away in 2024), and grandchildren and great grandchildren who they love spending time with.

Another great love was rugby and Russell dedicated decades to roles for Kawerau rugby clubs coaching, managing and in officer’s roles.

A loyal fan of the All Blacks and their beloved Chiefs super rugby team, Russell and Ngaire were long-term members attending many games.

Golf was another sport Russell enjoyed, spending many a year on the green.

Closer to home, he always kept an immaculate lawn and thriving garden, even at their smaller section at Porritt Glade Lifestyle Village.

A celebration of Russell’s life was held at Firmin Lodge (formerly Kawerau Sports Rugby Club) and the hundreds that came to pay their respects were testimony to his standing in the community.

Council passes on our sincere condolences to the Chase family.



Important dates and meetings

Friday 8 August Creative Communities Scheme Round One Closes

Monday 11 August – Friday 5 September Community Grant Scheme is Open

Monday 11 August 1pm Audit and Risk Committee Meeting

Thursday 21 August 1pm - 4pm Temporary change to Transfer Station Opening Hours

Wednesday 27 August 9am Ordinary Council Meeting

Monday 6 October Start of the Maurie Kjar Aquatic Centre Annual maintenance closure

RATES DUE DATES



Friday 22 August Rates Instalment One



Friday 21 November Rates Instalment Two



Friday 20 February Rates Instalment Three



Friday 22 May Rates Instalment Four

DO YOU USE THE



Bus Service?

With no new funding, Bay of Plenty Regional Council are reviewing bus routes to make smarter choices with what’s already in place.

Proposed changes for route 135:

Remove the Kakahoroa Drive section of the route to shorten journey time (due to low use).

Replace the low-use Saturday service with an additional weekday service, or remove it.

For more information or to have your say, visit the Bay of Plenty Regional Council’s Website participate.boprc.govt.nz

Submissions close Wednesday 13 August 2025

