

COMMUNITY PĀNUI | UPDATE



20 FEBRUARY 2025



LOCAL WATER DONE WELL

In the coming weeks, Council will be talking to our community about our water service delivery.

As part of the Government's "Local Water Done Well" reforms all Councils must assess the financial sustainability of their water service delivery (i.e. drinking water, storm water and waste water). As part of the assessment of financial sustainability, Councils must also consider forming partnerships with neighbouring Councils where it is appropriate.

Last year, along with the other Bay of Plenty Councils, Kawerau has been assessing the financial viability of a multi-Council model for water service delivery. This assessment does not commit Kawerau District Council in any way, but the model helps form a useful comparison for the community with our current inhouse delivery of water services.

The new legislation enables Council to:

- Continue delivering water services in-house OR
- Join with other councils to form a multi-Council owned organisation OR
- Establish new water organisations that can be owned by councils and/or consumer trusts

At the 26 February Council meeting, a report will outline the options available to Kawerau District Council, the costs and the benefits, opportunities, and any drawbacks. Elected members can choose what they believe are the best options for community consultation. We will then hold a series of meetings

and make information available for our community to have your say about the way water services are delivered to the district.

This process will run in parallel with the Long Term Plan consultation and will include a series of public meetings, and people will be asked to provide formal feedback through the submission process.



Changes to how you receive your newsletter

To enhance sustainability and reduce costs, Council will distribute only one printed newsletters to residents' homes each month.

Thank you to Kadap (Kawerau and Districts Ageing in Place) and Tarawera High School who deliver these newsletters.

The following fortnight, another newsletter will be published online (on our website and via our social media pages). For those who prefer a hard copy newsletter, some printed copies will be available at the District Library, isite and Council Offices.

To keep up to date with what is going on in the community, please check our website, follow us on social media and Antenno.

All our newsletters past and present are online, please use the following link:
kaweraudc.govt.nz/community-newsletters



**Kawerau
Youth Council**



Applications will close Friday 21 February for the 2025 Kawerau Youth Council.

Thank you to everyone who put their name forward. With the support of the Council youth projects officer JJ Rika, the process of interviewing and selections will now take place. Watch this space for announcements in the coming issues.

have
your
say

on state highway speed limit changes

Some speed limits lowered over the past few years may soon revert to their previous higher speed limits. NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi has begun consulting on some of these changes to see if people who use the roads and the local communities, support the current speed limits in some locations, or wish to see them revert to the previous higher limits.

Sections of state highway currently 80km/h that are open for feedback about keeping the lower limit or reverting to 100km/h include:

- SH30 Te Ngae Junction to Lake Rotoiti
- SH30 Lake Rotoehu to Lake Rotomā
- SH30 Lake Rotomā to Te Teko
- SH30 Te Teko to Awakeri
- SH30 Awakeri to Whakatāne

Consultation on community support for lower speeds in this area is open until 13 March 2025.

To find out more and provide feedback, visit nzta.govt.nz/speed-consultation

Conserve Water



Council is still encouraging the community to reduce water usage.

In January the district's water usage averaged at 2,594 cubic metres per day. This is above the usage expected for a district of our size, although still within consented limits. With the hot weather likely to continue for a few months yet, it is important to get on top of our water usage now.

In Kawerau, based on the 2,594,000L/day, every person is using 331 litres, per day. Our goal is to reduce the daily water usage to 200-250 litres per person. This will help us be better stewards of the resource, will help us stay within our resource consent limits, and will ensure there is water in the reservoirs for emergencies, such as forest fires.

Since December the Tarawera Bores have been unable to provide an adequate water supply to meet the community's demand. Māori Investment Limited generously allowed the district to use water from Umukaraka Springs under an approved emergency resource consent. Council wishes to thank Māori Investment Ltd once again for allowing us to use the water on such short notice.

Please be mindful of our kaitiakitanga and responsibility to look after and protect the water for ourselves and future generations.

Please note: the water usage figures do not include commercial and industrial users of water. Industry generally has resource consents to take water directly from the Tarawera River. Commercial businesses which source water from Council, are metered and charged for their usage.



Calling our Creative Community Champions

Your Creative Communities Scheme Committee are committed to growing participation, visibility and presence of the Arts for Kawerau whānau | families and warmly welcomes project applications for Round 2 of the 2024/5 scheme, from Monday 3 February to Friday 28 February, closing at 3pm. Your committee has been working closely with the Creative NZ national and regional team to secure resourcing for Kawerau and we need you.

Be it Matariki, kapa haka, community choirs, hip-hop groups, musical performances or events, poetry recitals, printmaking, script-writing, crafts, clay and/or knitting, photography and/or film, classic, modern or traditional dance, tukutuku, whakairo or kowhaiwhai for marae, weaving, pottery, carving, wearable arts or public artworks through wananga, workshops, performances or exhibitions – the Creative Communities Scheme is here for you.

Project applications are invited by groups or individuals to help your Creative Communities Committee support those within our hāpori | community keen to share their gifts and talents with others as a celebration of our creative, artistic, cultural diversity, to capture and convey Kawerau Yesterday, Kawerau Today and Kawerau Tomorrow.

If you have any questions or need help or pointers to fill out an application, contact our Economic and Community Development Manager, Lee Barton on 07 306 9009



Rates payments due

Rates instalment three notices have been sent out.

Rates are due for payment by 5pm Friday 21 February 2025. Penalties for unpaid rates will be applied from Monday 24 February 2025.

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 Offices.

If you are struggling to pay your rates, please get in contact with Council 07 306 9009 or visit our website www.kaweraudc.govt.nz/residents/rates/rates-rebate-scheme

Recycling Update

You may have noticed a few changes to our recycling collection process. Our team is now sorting recyclables at the kerbside (rather than later on). This helps increase efficiency, as it is much easier and quicker to sort one bin at a time rather than sorting all the bins after they are collected and taken to the Transfer Station. Only the recyclable items will be picked up from your recycling crate. Thank you to the community for your patience, as we moved into the new system of sorting at the kerbside.

What Can I Recycle?

In Kawerau, you can recycle plastics numbered 1, 2, and 5, cans, tins, glass jars and bottles, paper, and cardboard. Remember, you can still sort your recycling separately by squashing down and neatly bundling paper and cardboard. Glass bottles and jars can be placed in the crate in the box they originally came in.

Please ensure that all items are rinsed, and food scraps and lids are removed before recycling.

What if items are left in the recycling crate?

Our recycling team will only collect what can be recycled. If something is left, you will probably also receive a note to advise what can be recycled. The aim is to improve recycling practices in our district and provide a more efficient and effective way to collect and sort recyclables.

Council would like to thank the waste and recycling services team for your hard work | mahi over the summer period. Keep up the great work!



Recycling Crate What and How to Recycle



Glass

- Glass bottles and jars only (all colours)
- Please rinse all bottles and jars
- Place in your crate
- **NO** broken glass and light bulbs go into the general waste



Plastic

- Grade 1,2 and 5 only e.g. milk and cream bottles, water bottles and yoghurt containers. All other plastic goes into your residual waste bin
- Please remove caps, wash and squash.
- Place in your crate



Cans

- Please rinse all food cans
- Remove the lids and place inside of cans (flatten preferred - no need to remove labels)
- Place in your crate



Paper

- All grades of paper and cardboard
- Please flatten all cardboard and tie together if needed to reduce flying away
- Place beneath your bin if oversized

PREPARE, SET, READY

In an emergency, the water supply may be cut off, or water and sewerage lines may be damaged, and you may need to use improvised emergency toilets. To make an emergency toilet, use sturdy, watertight containers that can hold approximately 15 – 20 litres. For example, a rubbish bin or an empty paint bucket. Your container should have a snug-fitting cover.

Line buckets with plastic bags if possible and pour or sprinkle a small amount of regular household disinfectant (such as chlorine bleach) into the container each time the toilet is used. This will reduce odour and germs. If you don't have disinfectant, you can use dirt and dry materials. Be sure to replace the lid after each use, and thoroughly wash your hands using soap and water, or use hand sanitiser after using the toilet. When your toilet reaches capacity, dispose of the waste following public health advice.

Food Safety Course for Kawerau Businesses

We're excited to announce an upcoming Food Safety Course in Kawerau. This is a fantastic opportunity for any business keen on enhancing their food safety knowledge.



Monday, March 10, 2025



\$80 + GST



1pm - 3pm



Rangi Delamere Centre

Course Content:

- NEW changes to the Food Control Plan (must be adopted by February 2024)
- Understanding allergens and the importance of knowing what's in your food
- Training and competency
- Sourcing, receiving, and storing foods
- Cooking poultry and mincemeat (the most risky meats)
- Managing water supplies
- Handling sick staff
- What to do when things go wrong
- Choosing the right cleaning products for kitchens
- Understanding bacteria and associated illnesses
- Identifying the riskiest foods for people

Don't miss out on this essential training!

Secure your spot and ensure your business is up to date with the latest food safety standards.

If you are a business making or selling food and think this is something you might be interested in, please contact Annette or Raiha by email or phone for more information or to sign up.

✉ annettem@odc.govt.nz

☎ 07 315 3030

✉ Raiha.Andrews@kaweraudc.govt.nz

☎ 07 306 9009

Easter Trading Policy consultation open

Submissions for the Draft Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy are now open!

The purpose of the policy is to allow shops in the Kawerau district to open on Easter Sunday. Kawerau District Council has previously had an Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy in place, that has been revoked. This consultation asks the community and local businesses if they would like to reinstate the policy.

Council is aware that over the Easter weekend, more people are entering the district, to visit, shop and stay. Currently, Council does not have a policy, that allows shops to open on Easter Sunday. This means, only businesses that comply with section 4, of the Shop Trading Hours Act 1990, can open on Easter Sunday. This is a disadvantage for other local businesses, who may wish to trade on the public holiday.

Please note, if this policy is adopted, it will give shop owners the choice of whether they want to open or not. Employees are not obliged to work, as it is a public holiday, it is up to the employee's discretion.

- **For more information**, please visit the consultations page on our website Kaweraudc.govt.nz
- To have your say, please fill out a submission form online or pick up a submission form from the isite, District Library or Council Office.
- Please make a submission by 5pm Monday 17 March 2025.

Dog Control

Our dog rangers have been putting in the hard mahi | work recently. Over December and January, the dog rangers have responded to 137 service requests. 102 of these service requests were related to roaming, barking and attacks.

During the past two months, there have been a few issues involving attacks on people and animals. Handled on a case-by-case basis, these issues have resulted in some dogs being impounded or surrendered, warnings being issued to owners and property inspections being completed.

In the same period, 22 dogs were impounded. Four of the dogs were returned to their owner and 14 dogs /puppies were rehomed or placed with the SPCA.



Thank you



Council would like to thank Trust Horizon for their generosity and support. Trust Horizon has granted Council \$9163.20 (excluding gst) for two air conditioning units in the Bert Hamilton Hall. Trust Horizon, has also granted Council funds towards air conditioning units, for the Rangi Delamere Centre. The air conditioning units were much needed and will be able to keep whoever books either facility at a comfortable temperature for any of the special events, occasions or meetings. Thank you for your commitment to improving our community facilities!



Important dates and meetings

Friday 21 February, 5pm

Rates Instalment Three is Due

Friday 21 February, 5pm

Kawerau Youth Council Applications close

Wednesday 26 February, 9am

Ordinary Council Meeting

Friday 28 February

Applications for Creative Communities Scheme Round Two closes

Monday 10 March, 1pm

Food Safety Course for Kawerau businesses

Wednesday 12 March, 9am

Regulatory and Service Committee Meeting 9am

Thursday 13 March

NZTA speed consultation and submissions close

Monday 17 March

Submissions for the Draft Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy close

Wednesday 26 March, 9am

Ordinary Council Meeting

Wednesday 26 March

Proposed hearing for the Draft Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy

Friday 4 April

Consultation Period and Submissions Open for the Long Term Plan 2025-2034

Friday 4 April

Consultation Period and Submissions Open for Local Water Done Well