

Community Connection

Issue 198 MAY 2024

Horowhenua
DISTRICT COUNCIL



Bernie Wanden

Message from the Mayor

Kia ora Horowhenua,

A highlight of the last few weeks has definitely been wrapping up the hearings of the oral submissions for our Long Term Plan

for 2024-2044. And wow, what a turnout and level of engagement we saw!

It's been an enlightening process, and I want to extend a huge thank you to everyone who came forward to share their perspectives. It's your insights and opinions that truly help steer the direction of our community's future.

The breadth of topics covered was as diverse as our district, from environmental concerns and community services to infrastructure and financial strategies and planning. Every voice added value, showing our community's diverse needs and aspirations. I was really impressed by the passion and depth of knowledge shown.

We hosted 34 events in Levin, Foxton and Shannon throughout the consultation period, including five online gatherings that brought together over 300 participants from our youth community. Our outreach also included visits to six schools, such as Levin East Primary, Waiopahu, Horowhenua and Manawatū Colleges, plus a tailored program for 17 students at Levin Intermediate, which spanned five weeks and focused on council operations.

We also organised five Citizen Panel workshops with more than 120 participants and held four informal 'Cuppa with Councillor' sessions across Horowhenua. Our efforts extended to meetings with a variety of community stakeholders, including local iwi and hapū, Greypower and other community and ratepayer groups, highlighting a broad and

inclusive approach to public consultation. Overall, we received 499 formal submissions on the LTP 2024-2044.

Looking ahead, we've got some challenging decisions to make as we sift through all your feedback. Balancing the proposed rates increase with the essential services and projects you've told us are important is not going to be straightforward. Be assured we're committed to tackling these challenges head-on, aiming for the best outcomes for everyone in Horowhenua.

Council will meet on Wednesday 22 May and Thursday 23 May to deliberate on these matters. This meeting will be open to the public, and I encourage you to attend or follow along as we navigate these important discussions.

On a different note, the nationwide test of the Emergency Mobile Alert system is scheduled for Sunday 26 May between 6pm and 7pm. This is a good opportunity to make sure you're set up to receive important alerts during emergencies. Your safety is paramount, and ensuring you receive these alerts is a key part of that.

Finally, remember to check if you are eligible for a rates rebate before the end of June. Information is available on page 2. Also, keep an eye out for upcoming events for Youth Week and Matariki celebrations. It's a wonderful time for us to come together and celebrate.

The Community Wellbeing Strategy 2024-2027 consultation process closed on Sunday 12 May 2024. Thanks again for your fantastic engagement and contribution and let's keep this momentum going.

Ngā mihi,

Mayor Bernie Wanden



EMERGENCY
MOBILE ALERT
NATIONWIDE TEST

Council Meetings



Community Wellbeing Committee Meeting

Wednesday 22 May 2024, 10am
Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin

Council Meeting – LTP Deliberations

Wednesday 22 May 2024, 1pm
Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin



Council Meeting – LTP Deliberations

Thursday 23 May 2024, 10am
Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin
The meeting will only go ahead if required



Te Awahou Foxton Community Board Public Forum

Monday 27 May 2024, 5.30pm to 6pm
Foyer, Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, 92 Main Street, Foxton

Te Awahou Foxton Community Board meeting

Monday 27 May 2024, 6pm to 8pm
Ngārongo Iwikātea Room, Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, 92 Main Street, Foxton



Public Forum

Wednesday 12 June 2024, 12.15pm – 12.45pm
Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin

Council Meeting

Wednesday 12 June 2024, 1pm
Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin



Council Meeting – Adoption of LTP

Wednesday 26 June 2024, 1pm
Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin

Meeting dates and times are subject to change. Please refer to horowhenua.govt.nz/Council/Council-Meetings for the full meeting schedule, minutes and agendas.

Catch Up With MAYOR BERNIE

An informal opportunity to chat with the Mayor.

MAY 31 Friday 31 May, 10:30am to 12:30pm
Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō

JUNE 6 Thursday 6 June, 10:30am to 12:30pm
Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom

JUNE 21 Friday 21 June, 10:30am to 12:30pm
Shannon Library



HOW ARE WE REALLY DOING?



Scan the QR code to complete the survey about Customer Service.

This survey should take less than two minutes to complete and we'd love to hear your thoughts.



In the Works

Horowhenua is reaping the benefits of leak detecting water meters



The first digital smart water meter was installed at Shannon's Anglican Church Venerable Bede in March 2024 and within two months 500 have been installed throughout the town. An additional 120 properties in Foxton have also had smart meters installed since the start of May.

The positive effects of installing water meters have been almost immediate. Leaks are in the process of being repaired and this will save a lot of money in the long run.

The new meters can pick up leaks within 14 days, much faster than analogue meters which could take up to nine months. In the past two months, the meters have picked up 65 properties with private side leaks. Once these leaks alone are repaired, this will save the district up to 85,000L of water a day (equivalent to 3.5 swimming pools full of water each day).

Many more savings are expected as our installers work hard to ensure that all properties in Horowhenua connected to town supply have the new meters by the end of 2025.

The new technology offers a more cost-effective solution than overhauling the entire network of pipes, which would cost significantly more. With a user-pays system potentially on the horizon, the community will be kept in the loop and consulted on any changes in water billing. This approach, combined with the ongoing three waters infrastructure enhancements—including major projects like the Poads Road Water Supply Reservoir—underlines Horowhenua's commitment to a resilient and sustainable water system.



In the bathroom

Be conscious in your daily routine

Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth or shaving.

For more water saving tips visit:

horowhenua.govt.nz/WaterSavingTips

CUPPA



WITH A COUNCILLOR

13

Thursday 13 June

- Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō
- Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom
- Shannon Library

Time: 10:30am to 12:30pm

Youth week

May 20 - 26, 2024

Māwherangi a tama roto ka taka, kāpuia ake ka pūrangiaho

We may not have it all together, but together we have it all.

Join us in celebrating Youth Week 2024

20

After School Programme

Monday 20 May, 3.30pm - 5.30pm
Youth Space, 10 Bath Street, Levin

21

After School Programme

Tuesday 21 May, 3.30pm - 5.30pm
Youth Space, 10 Bath Street, Levin

22

Laser Tag

Wednesday 22 May, 4pm - 6pm for ages 10+, 6pm - 9pm for ages 12+

Bookings essential for the later session!

@ youthspace@horowhenua.govt.nz

Youth Space, 10 Bath Street, Levin

23

Rangatahi Space Jam, Levin vs Palmy

Thursday 23 May, 4.30pm - 9pm
Youth Space, 10 Bath Street, Levin

Shannon Movie Night

Thursday 23 May, 4pm - 6 pm
Shannon Memorial Hall, 8 Grey Street, Shannon

24

After School Programme

Friday 24 May, 3.30pm - 5.30pm
Youth Space, 10 Bath Street, Levin

25

Radio Station Live

Saturday 25 May, 1pm - 4pm
106.9fm

Pool Jam

Saturday 25 May, 3pm - 5pm
\$2 Entry
Foxton Pool, 61 - 63 Main Street, Foxton

26

Youth Space Programme

Sunday 26 May from 1pm - 4pm
Youth Space, 10 Bath Street, Levin

Pool Jam

Sunday 26 May, 3pm - 5pm
\$2 Entry
Levin Aquatic Centre, Corner of Queen Street & Salisbury Street, Levin

Also visit Pūrākau: Human Library Exhibition at Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō throughout the week!

Are you eligible for a Rates Rebate?

Apply Now

horowhenua.govt.nz/RatesRebate

Rebates of up to \$750 may be available to eligible residents.



Keep your recycling bin lid closed.

Seal the deal with a bin lid clip available for \$5.30 from the Council.

To learn more about rubbish and recycling visit:

horowhenua.govt.nz/WhatGoesWhere