



Mayor Bernie Wanden

## Message from the Mayor

It has been an exciting and challenging year for our district and many people in Aotearoa. As I reflect on 2021, I want to thank you all for playing your part. As with every community

worldwide, our region has faced the upheavals caused by COVID-19. While many of our people have felt these impacts deeply, the crisis has shown our region's resilience – with connected communities supported by new infrastructure, care for the environment and strong iwi partnerships, all on a stable financial footing.

One of the year's highlights for Council is the Civic Honours awards, where we acknowledge the meritorious commitment and hard work for voluntary service to our community. Both nominees and recipients make me proud to be Mayor of Horowhenua. Read more on page 2.

Every year Council measures public perception of how we are performing through a survey of residents, and this is designed to gather feedback about the services and facilities Council provides. This year the survey was conducted online, and 482 surveys were completed, and 135 commented on social media posts. See the summary on page 4.

Although results informed us that we are not delivering to expectations on all services or activities, this provides us with a good sense of where we can improve.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to answer the questions. We have heard your feedback and will work hard to remedy the areas that saw a decline against previous years. Council is committed to open and transparent communications and to keep you informed and involved in all Council decisions in finding collective solutions to controversial issues. We will work harder and find ways to build trust to ensure that you feel better listened to.

As highlighted in the 2020/21 Annual Report, with increased investments in capital projects, supporting grants from the Crown, together with additional revenue from higher building activity, we have had the best financial result in 15 years and we delivered \$31 M of capital projects on time and to budget. Thank you to the Council staff and elected members for your hard work and dedication to the District.

Although we can't have our annual Christmas parade and festival in Horowhenua, we're celebrating Christmas in a sparkly new way this year! The Levin Adventure Park is lit up with a six metre illuminous Christmas tree and numerous festive lights for all to see. This is a new initiative to celebrate Christmas while keeping everyone safe and will be up until 27 December.

**I wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year for 2022.**



## COVID-19 Protection Framework Council Services & Facilities at Orange

**For now staff are not required to have vaccination passes.**

**From 3 December 2021, New Zealand moved to the COVID-19 Protection Framework (the Traffic Light system). The framework introduces a flexible three-level approach to managing COVID-19 in the community.**

Horowhenua has moved to Orange in the new COVID-19 Protection Framework. Council is currently working through the guidance from central government. The framework allows a greater level of freedom for vaccinated people than would be possible under the Alert Level system, reducing the social and economic burden of public health restrictions. "Our staff and community's interests and safety are central to our decision making as the new framework does have implications for our public-facing or close contact environments, particularly our community facilities," says David Clapperton, Chief Executive of the Horowhenua District Council.

### Vaccination passes

For now, we do not require vaccination passes at any of our facilities except for our cafés in Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō and Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom. The cafés will operate as contactless only for those without a vaccine pass. Dine-in service will be

available to those with a vaccine pass.

We do not require vaccination passes at our pools at the moment; however, as we work through a risk assessment process and further guidance, it may mean that we're required to change how we operate Council's services and facilities in the future.

**While there are some additional routines to include in our days, we're already doing many things that are an essential part of the new framework too, including:**

- get vaccinated
- keep track of where you have been, turn on Bluetooth in the COVID-19 tracer app and scan QR codes. Manual record keeping should also be available at all locations
- wash and dry hands, cough into elbow, avoid touching your face
- regularly disinfect surfaces - handrails, elevator buttons, etc.
- stay home if you're sick, get a test and isolate at home until you get the result.

### Council Services

For more information about Council's services and facilities and how they will be operating under the new framework visit

[www.horowhenua.govt.nz/CouncilServicesatOrange](http://www.horowhenua.govt.nz/CouncilServicesatOrange)

If you're unable to access the internet or you'd prefer to talk to us directly, please get in touch with our Customer Services team on ☎ 06 366 0999.



Wash your hands with soap and water often (for at least 20 seconds). Then dry.



Cough or sneeze into your elbow or by covering your mouth and nose with tissues.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects, such as doorknobs.



Don't touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean.



Put used tissues in the bin or a bag immediately.



Stay home if you feel unwell.

# 2021 Civic Honours Awards and Youth Excellence Scholarships presented

**Outstanding voluntary community service saw three people recognised with Civic Honours and two with Certificates of Recognition at the 2021 Civic Honours Ceremony on Thursday 2 December. Mayor Bernie Wanden presented the awards with support from Mayoress Sharon Wanden.**

In addition, Council's 2021 Youth Excellence Scholarships were presented to 12 outstanding young people who have excelled in the areas of

academia, arts and culture, community service, and sport.

Mayor Bernie said, "These awards are one of the highlights of the year for Council, where we acknowledge the meritorious commitment, and hard work, and for some, long voluntary service to our community. Our Youth Excellence Scholarship programme is an initiative that commenced 17 years ago, with more than 200 young people acknowledged with a scholarship which assisted with

a multitude of costs such as tertiary study, sporting equipment and travel."

Cr Tukapua, Chair of the Community Funding and Recognition Committee, added, "The Committee was heartened with the high calibre of nominations. Almost 40 nominations were received for rangatahi aged between 12 to 24 from across the district. As a Council, we are immensely proud of our young people thriving despite the many challenges of 2020 and 2021."



From left to right: Liam McLeavey, David Roache, Mayor Bernie Wanden, David Brewerton, Barrie Buck and John Hewitson.



## Civic Honours awards were presented to:

-  **John Hewitson** - Community Affairs
-  **Barrie Buck** - Community Affairs & Religious Affairs
-  **David Roache** - Community Affairs, Cultural Affairs, Education Services, Social Affairs/Services, Recreation and Sport, Religious Affairs.

## Certificates of Recognition were awarded to:

-  **Liam McLeavey** - Community Affairs
-  **David Brewerton** - Education Services.

## Horowhenua Youth Excellence Scholarships were awarded to:

From left to right:

-  **Octavia King**  
(Community Service)
-  **Kearndra Tohill**  
(Arts & Culture)
-  **Courtney Fitzgibbon**  
(Sport)
-  **Hana Kerins**  
(Sport)
-  **Kalanee Rauhihi-Wicks**  
(Arts & Culture)
-  **Sophia Kingi**  
(Community Service)

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-  **Callum Baines**  
(Academia)
-  **Elijah Bathan**  
(Academia)
-  **Misipeka Ana**  
(Community Service)
-  **Nicole Burlace**  
(Academia)
-  **Elizebeth Logologo**  
(Arts & Culture)
-  **Taylah Sen**  
(Sport)

# New way to pay for parking in Levin

**We have upgraded the parking meters in Levin over the past week.**

Improving our parking meter system will provide a better parking service to our community, with more reliable and user-friendly meters and increase the efficiency of our parking wardens.

The meters will still look the same. The biggest change in December is that you enter the vehicle registration plate into the meter as a way to record your time and payment, instead of the parking space number.

The new Pay by Plate (PBP) system means no more paper ticket receipts. You won't need to receive or display a ticket because your licence plate number is used to confirm your parking has been paid. Instead, you'll have the option of getting your receipt emailed using the eReceipt function.

"We'll be out and about next week helping people adjust and use the new system," said Wendy, Horowhenua District Council's Parking Officer.

Contactless PayWave will also be rolled out in the New Year as part of the upgrade; this means you'll be able to pay with your credit or debit card, and you can still pay with coins.

There's no increase in Council's parking infringement fees. However, if you choose to use PayWave you'll be charged the standard merchant transaction fee.

Being mindful of our environmental impact, we've kept our existing parking meters. We have only needed to replace the electronic and solar panels to allow for this change, and we won't be installing more meters, only upgrading the ones we already have.



# Horowhenua Health and Wellbeing Hub planning is underway

**Horowhenua District Council has agreed to sell Council-owned property 15-23 Durham Street (Levin) to The Horowhenua Company Limited. The terms of the agreement stipulate that the land be used to develop a primary healthcare facility for Horowhenua, a vision Council has been culminating for several years.**

Horowhenua New Zealand Trust (HNZT) Chair Antony Young says, "Our joint vision is to build a modern and multi-purpose health and wellbeing hub that meets the health needs of our community today while being fit for future growth."

Early discussions have taken place with a range of stakeholders, including MidCentral DHB, Muaūpoko Tribal Authority and local health providers, to ensure the vision is supported.

Mayor Bernie Wanden says, "Horowhenua residents have said they want localised, affordable healthcare that is flexible, responsive and adaptive to meet their needs. The decision by Council to sell this land for the development of a modern health and wellbeing facility was a unanimous one."

The need for further investment in local healthcare has never been so pressing. Horowhenua is in a period of unprecedented growth. This growth, coupled with the fact that 24.7% of the Horowhenua population is 65 years and over, and the deprivation challenges the district faces make healthcare in the district a primary focus shared by many.

The Horowhenua Company Limited CEO Catriona McKay says, "While we don't want to get ahead of ourselves, we look forward to working with community representatives to design and build a facility we can all be proud of. The community can expect to see a facility that provides for a range of their primary health care needs. Everyone understands the enormity of this project and its importance to our community."

Muaūpoko Tribal Authority CEO Di Rump says, "We have a holistic view of health in Te Ao Māori. It is important to consider the physical alongside the mental, emotional, social and spiritual wellbeing of people. We look forward to working together with partners, to deliver a facility that acknowledges and caters to those values and needs."

McKay says, "In the coming weeks, we will establish an advisory group to provide input into the business case. All going well, we anticipate decisions to progress with the development to be made by the end of March 2022. We expect the build to take 18 months, so we could see a modern, fit for future health and wellbeing facility in Horowhenua by the end of 2023-early 2024."



Current Horowhenua Health Centre in Levin

## Have your say

### Consultation on the Future of the Levin Landfill

**We're reviewing the future of the Levin Landfill and seeking your views before deciding on this important matter.**

We've scheduled a two month consultation period rather than the usual one month consultation period to give you, our community, sufficient time to consider the options and provide us with feedback.

### Drop-in sessions

Drop-in sessions are scheduled to allow you to talk with us and get answers from experts on the issues and options. Do make use of these opportunities.

Submitters who wish to speak to their submission will have the opportunity to be heard during a hearing held in February 2022.

### Where can I get more information?

Copies of the Statement of Proposal, Supporting Information and submission forms are available on the 'Have Your Say' page of Council's website. Hard copies are available at Council's customer service centres and libraries.

[horowhenua.govt.nz/FutureofLevinLandfill](https://horowhenua.govt.nz/FutureofLevinLandfill)

### Timeline

- Submissions open**  
30 November 2021
- Drop-in session - Levin**  
Tuesday, 25 January 2022  
11am to 2pm at Horowhenua District Council, Levin
- Drop-in session - Hōkio Beach**  
Tuesday, 25 January 2022  
4pm to 7pm at Hōkio Reserve, Hōkio Beach
- Submissions close**  
31 January 2022 at 5pm
- Hearing**  
February 2022
- Adoption**  
March 2022



## 57 Roadwork detour northbound

We're working to make SH57 safer for everyone

Roadwork on SH57 will close the **northbound** lane, in stages, between the intersection with SH1 and Heatherlea East Road, Levin on Sunday 9 January 2022 depending on the weather.

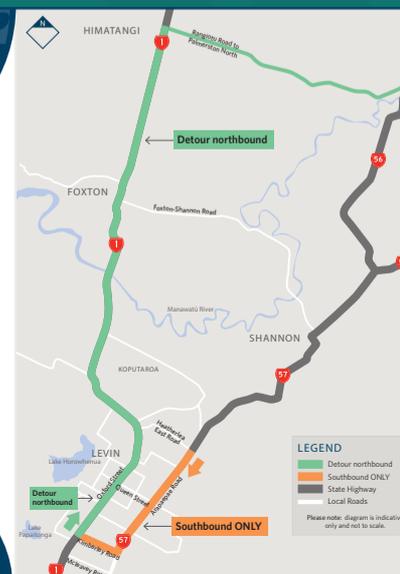
The southbound lane on SH57 and east-west connections across SH57 will remain open.

The posted speed for sections under construction will be 30-50km/h, 24 hours 7 days.

People travelling to Palmerston North need to detour on SH1 to Himatangi, Rangiotu Road and SH56.

Check [journeys.nzta.govt.nz](https://journeys.nzta.govt.nz)

Follow Waka Kotahi Central North Island on Facebook



# Resident Satisfaction Survey 2021



The online survey was conducted from 2 -18 July

482 surveys were completed

135 social media comments were also made

## Consulting with our community

We asked how satisfied you were with processes to provide feedback on Council plans or strategies.

68%

68% were satisfied or very satisfied with how easy the process was to navigate.

61%

61% were satisfied or very satisfied with the availability of information.

38%

38% were satisfied or very satisfied that Council considered your views.

## Leadership

46%

46% were satisfied or very satisfied that the Mayor and Councillors display sound and effective leadership.

31%

31% were satisfied or very satisfied with the way Council responds to issues raised by the community.

35%

35% believe that Horowhenua District Council has a good overall reputation.

33%

33% say they are well informed about what Council is doing.

27%

27% say that Horowhenua District Council is open and transparent with our decision making.

## Rubbish and Recycling



62% satisfied  
Kerbside rubbish



84% satisfied  
Recycling stations



69% satisfied  
Kerbside recycling



60% satisfied  
Shannon transfer station service

## Council facilities



90% satisfied  
Library services



87% satisfied  
Sports grounds



69% satisfied  
Drinking water



71% satisfied  
Wastewater services



93% satisfied  
Cemeteries



85% satisfied  
Parks and reserves



73% satisfied  
Swimming pools



47% satisfied  
Stormwater

## Roads



62% satisfied  
Parking



61% satisfied  
Street lights



43% satisfied  
District road maintenance



53% satisfied  
Footpath maintenance

# 72%

Overall satisfaction with Council facilities and services for 2021 was 72%.

## Method used

One of the ways we measure the public perception of how we are performing is through our annual survey of residents.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to answer the survey questions and provide feedback on how we're progressing. Your input will help us determine which areas we need to focus on most.

(Results are based on all respondents, excluding those who had no opinion on the service).

## Council Meetings



### Community Wellbeing Committee

Tuesday 8 February 2022, 1pm,  
Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street,  
Levin.



### Council Meeting

Wednesday 9 February 2022, 4pm,  
Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street,  
Levin.



### Finance, Audit & Risk Committee

Wednesday 23 February 2022, 4pm,  
Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street,  
Levin.

## Did you know?

You can watch meetings of Council and the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee online at:

[horowhenua.govt.nz/councilmeetingslive](https://horowhenua.govt.nz/councilmeetingslive)

Want to receive Community Connection in your email inbox?  
Sign up online:

[horowhenua.govt.nz/CommunityConnection](https://horowhenua.govt.nz/CommunityConnection)

Customer service at Aquatics Horowhenua, Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō, Horowhenua District Council Main Office and Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom achieved 79% satisfaction, with the Library services scoring an overall 90% satisfaction rate.