



Mayor Michael Feyen

Message from the Mayor

Happy New Year to you all – I trust you are taking advantage of this fantastic summer and accessing the local beaches and rivers to cool down.

While many of us relish the summer weather, we do need to think of the difficulties farmers have experienced with the lack of water and rain. Water restrictions were imposed by Council and residents are to be commended on their water conservation efforts.

Many wonderful local events occurred throughout the District last month. The AP&I show was once again a great event, as was the Foxton Beach Fair and Waitarere Beach Big Dig – to name a few.

Council will soon be asking for submissions on the Long Term Plan and I urge residents to take the opportunity to be active in providing an input into Horowhenua's future.

NZTA will be consulting with property owners over the possible placement of the expressway and Council is maintaining a close watch on how the process unfolds.

As Mayor I will continue to work towards attaining the goals for which I was elected and I am currently organising appointments with Ministers of the new Government to discuss a number of aspects pertaining to our region.

I personally look forward to working on projects such as the commuter train, regional hemp growing, Levin landfill, tangata whenua relations and environmental matters.

Have your say in shaping Horowhenua's future

This year will be an important one for shaping the future of Horowhenua.

There are six major public consultations taking place between mid-February and the end of April – five by Horowhenua District Council and one by NZ Transport Agency (NZTA). The feedback received during these consultations will influence the policies, projects and plans that determine Horowhenua's future. These consultations are your opportunity to have your say before final decisions are made.

2018-2038 Long Term Plan

This plan outlines key decisions about the projects Council will deliver and the levels of service Council will provide over the next 20 years. It also considers how much these projects and services will cost and how they will be funded.

Decisions in this plan determine the Council facilities and services available to you in the future. These affect your rates.

Horowhenua Growth Strategy 2040

This strategy identifies where future growth areas are likely to be and how the District will accommodate the expected population increase and economic development.

The new growth areas could affect your land or your neighbour's land. This could mean that the character or density of your neighbourhood changes.

Levin Town Centre

This project aims to make Levin Town Centre an attractive destination by improving safety and connectivity and creating a more welcoming space for locals and visitors. It will also look at issues facing the town centre, including changes in retail, the potential effect of the expressway, and the effects of earthquake-prone buildings.

This project could include actions that affect your retail property. It will mean big changes for everyone who shops in Levin.

Earthquake Prone Buildings - Priority Thoroughfares

The new Building (Earthquake-prone Buildings) Amendment Act 2016 makes it Council's role to identify all potentially earthquake-prone buildings, assign an earthquake rating if applicable, and put the information into a national register. The first priority is to identify busy roads and footpaths and assess all buildings on those routes. Council needs your help to identify the routes that are busy enough to warrant prioritisation.

Horowhenua is in a high earthquake zone, so we need to be prepared for when the 'big one' happens. The new law affects all buildings open to the public, such as police stations, schools, libraries and shops. A building you own or use may have to be strengthened or demolished.

Engagement dates are subject to change.

*This is a NZTA run engagement activity



January 2018 | February 2018 | March 2018 | April 2018

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Draft Waste Management Minimisation Plan

This plan addresses how we as a community manage our waste and ways to minimise the waste that goes to landfill.

This plan will determine the waste and recycling services that are available to you in the future. It's your chance to influence how we deal with waste and recycling in the District.

Ōtaki to North of Levin Expressway (NZTA consultation)

The NZ Transport Agency proposes to build a four-lane expressway from Taylors Road (north of Ōtaki) to north of Levin.

It will address a number of issues, including road safety and transport efficiency, and will result in a bypass of Levin.

The proposed routes and interchanges could include your property or home. There are strong links between this project and some Council projects, particularly the Levin Town Centre and Horowhenua Growth Strategy 2040.

To provide feedback visit the Have Your Say page of Council's website, www.horowhenua.govt.nz. Submissions can also be made by email, post or in person. For more information please visit Council's website, contact Council on (06) 366 0999 or call into a Council customer service centre.

To provide feedback on the Ōtaki to North of Levin Expressway consultation, visit the Consultations page of the NZTA website, nzta.govt.nz, between Wednesday 7 February and Friday 16 March, or visit the pop-up shop at 183 Oxford Street before Thursday 8 March.

Foxton Beach gets pumping

Cyclists, skateboarders and scooter riders will soon be able to enjoy one of the largest asphaltic-surfaced pump tracks in the country at Holben Reserve, Foxton Beach.

A pump track is a circuit containing berms and 'rollers' (mounds) that riders can use, instead of pedalling, to gain and keep momentum.

Work on the track started in January and construction is expected to take eight weeks. When complete, the facility will measure 50 metres squared, making it first-equal with the Grey Lynn pump track in Auckland as the largest in New Zealand.

"The design incorporates track circuits for all ages and abilities, including a track for children aged two to four years and loops for beginners, intermediate and advanced riders. People can progress from the easy loop to the more difficult ones as they develop their skills," said Zane Bull, Parks and Property Project Lead.

The project is being funded out of the \$1 million Council set aside from the Foxton Beach Endowment Fund with the agreement of the Foxton Community Board for reserve development. It is expected to cost approximately \$340,000.



Have your say on the Shannon Reserves Management Plan



Horowhenua District Council wants to know what you think about the parks in Shannon and how they should be managed in the future.

Council is reviewing its Reserves Management Plan for Shannon's parks, including Te Maire Park, Hyde Park, Shannon Domain, Moynihan Park and Stafford Street Esplanade.

As part of the review process, Council invites members of the community to share their thoughts, experiences and ideas at two community drop-in sessions:

Evening drop-in session – Wednesday 21 February, 7-9pm, at the Shannon Memorial Hall

Weekend drop-in session – Saturday 24 February, 2-4pm, at the Shannon Memorial Hall

If you are unable to attend either of the community drop-in sessions but still want to contribute your ideas, you can contact the project team by email to reservemanagementplans@horowhenua.govt.nz or by telephone on (06) 366 1098.

New e-waste recycling service in Foxton

Horowhenua residents can now recycle their e-waste at the Foxton Transfer Station and Resource Recovery Park.

E-waste, or electronic waste, is discarded electrical or electronic devices such as televisions, computers, printers, cameras, batteries, and fixed-line and mobile phones.

"E-waste is the fastest-growing type of waste, and it's among the most toxic to the environment and people's health if it's not disposed of properly," said Ryan Hughes, Environmental Engineer for Horowhenua District Council.

The new e-waste recycling service is available on Monday, Thursday and Friday from 12pm to 4pm, and on Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 4pm.

Small items, such as mobile phones, are free to recycle. For larger items, such as televisions and photocopiers, user charges help to cover the cost of processing and transportation for recycling, Mr Hughes said.

A full list of prices is available on the Waste Transfer & Recycling Stations page of Council's website.

Understanding the water restrictions

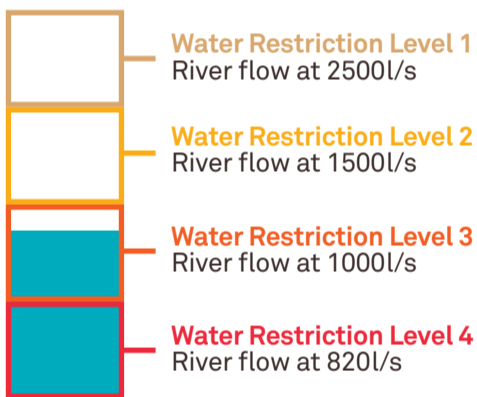
Water restrictions are a hot topic at the moment. This article answers some of the most commonly asked questions about the restrictions.

Q1 Does Council have to impose water restrictions?

A Yes. Council has to impose water restrictions to ensure a continuous supply for everyone during very dry weather conditions and to comply with resource consents. These resource consents allow Council to take a specified amount of water from rivers, and they contain conditions that require Council to implement water restrictions when river flows fall below certain levels.

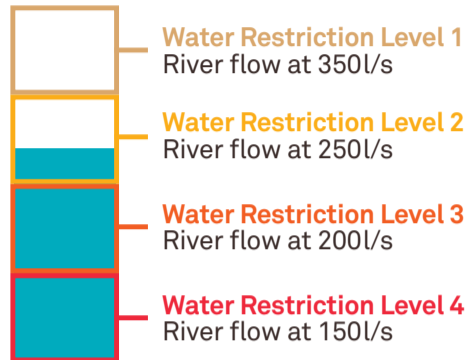
Q2 What triggers water restrictions in Levin?

A Water restrictions in Levin are triggered by dropping river flows in the Ōhau River. Council implements Level 1 restrictions for Levin when the river flow is at 2500 litres per second (l/s), Level 2 at 1500l/s, Level 3 at 1000l/s and Level 4 at 820l/s. When the flow drops below 820l/s, Council reduces the water take from 15,000 to 13,000 cubic metres per day.



Q3 What triggers water restrictions in Shannon and Tokomaru?

A Water restrictions in Shannon and Tokomaru are triggered by dropping river flows in the Tokomaru Farmland River. Council implements Level 1 restrictions when the river flow is at 350l/s, Level 2 at 250l/s, Level 3 at 200l/s and Level 4 at 150l/s.



Q4 Why are there water restrictions in Foxton and Foxton Beach?

A Water in Foxton and Foxton Beach comes from bores and restrictions are driven by demand. Water supply plants for these communities have limited production capacity and water restrictions are put in place to avoid shortages when conditions are hot and dry and demand for water is high.

Q5 Why do I see Council contractors using water when restrictions are in place?

A Council has a number of consents with Horizons Regional Council to extract water from bore holes for irrigation and general purposes. This water is untreated and cannot be used for town supplies. Council's contractors use the bore water for operational activities.

Q6 What happens if someone breaches the water restriction?

A Council takes an educational approach to the enforcement of water restrictions. When Council is made aware of any breaches to the restrictions, a Council officer will contact the owner/occupant of the house or premises to discuss the reported breach. Depending on the circumstances surrounding the reported breach and the outcome of the discussion, the owner/occupant will be informed about the water restrictions and how to save water. If the breach is confirmed, the occupant will also be given a warning, which will be confirmed in writing. Any repeated breaches may result in further action from Council, which can include, but is not limited to, restricting the supply of water to their property and/or installing a water meter.

Q7 What is Council doing to manage water supplies in the future?

A Following public pre-consultation on the Long Term Plan 2018-2038, Council is exploring three broad approaches to water sustainability:

- introduce household water meters
- investigate additional water sources, most likely groundwater
- increase water storage.

Council will consult the community on these potential solutions in February and March.

Further submissions open on District Plan changes

Further submissions on proposed changes to the Horowhenua District Plan are now open.

Two changes are proposed. Proposed Plan Change 1 would extend the list of protected heritage buildings, structures and sites. Proposed Plan Change 2 would amend provisions relating to residential development in the District Plan.

Council received seven submissions on Plan Change 1 and 19 submissions on Plan Change 2 during the first round of public consultation held in November and early December last year.

Further submissions are open to anyone. However, they can only support or oppose the original submissions made last year, and they cannot introduce new matters.

A summary and full copy of submissions are available on the Have Your Say page of Council's website or at Council service centres in Levin, Foxton or Shannon.

Further submissions close at 4pm on Monday 19 February and can be made using the online form available on the Have Your Say page of Council's website, by email to districtplan@horowhenua.govt.nz, or in writing to: Strategic Planning, Horowhenua District Council, Private Bag 4002, Levin 5540. By law, within five working days of lodging your submission with Council, you must also send a copy of your further submission to the person who made the original submission that you wish to support or oppose.



What's happening

For further details and events visit www.horowhenua.govt.nz/events

February is set to be a fun-filled month with a lot going on. Enjoy summer with your family and friends at the many events taking place.



Thursday 1 February to Tuesday 27 February
HDC - Home of Dynamic Creativity

Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō. Inspiration and work come together in this unique exhibition featuring the diverse talents and creative interests of Horowhenua District Council staff.

10 Saturday 10 February
Taiko Drumming

1pm to 1:30pm at Youth Space, Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō. This free performance features high-energy taiko drumming by the IPU Kodama Japanese Drumming Team.

10 Saturday 10 February
Medieval Market

9am to 4pm at Levin Showgrounds. This fun family event offers medieval re-enactments, crafts, foods, games and activities.

Entry is \$5 per adult; kids are free.
For more information, contact Di Traynor on 021 1515 490 or dtraynor@orcon.net.nz

14 Wednesday 14 February
Valentine's Day at the Pools

From 10am at Levin Aquatic Centre. Attend any Aqua or land-based fitness class, or even just come for a paid swim, and you'll be in the draw to win a Meal and Movie Pass for two at Focal Point.



Friday 16 February (Shannon), Saturday 17 February (Foxton) and Saturday 24 February (Levin)
Let's Move Together

From 4:30pm at Shannon Primary School, from 8am at Foxton Pool and from 8am at Levin Aquatic Centre. Fun events and activities for the whole family, including a children's triathlon, scooter races, egg-and-spoon races, bouncy castles, fun run, and more.

All events and activities are free.

17 Saturday 17 February
Pasifika Celebration Day

3pm to 7pm, Levin Adventure Park. This is a free family-friendly event with food, arts, crafts and culture.

18 Sunday 18 February
Super Cheap Auto Spectacular Car Show

10am to 2pm, Shannon Domain. Bring your own unique vehicle or just come along and enjoy over 500 vehicles of different makes and models.

25 Sunday 25 February
Sunday Concert - Devon Welch

2pm, Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō. Talented Kāpiti-based musician Devon Welch plays numerous instruments and musical styles.

28 Wednesday 28 February
Pop-Up Eats Horowhenua

5pm to 8:30pm in the Levin Mall Carpark. This popular monthly food market offers great truck food and live entertainment.

Council Meetings

Foxton Community Board Meeting

12 Monday 12 February at 6.00pm in Ngarongo Iwikatea Room, Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, 22 Harbour Street, Foxton. All welcome.

Extraordinary Council meeting

19 Monday 19 February at 4:00pm in Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin. All welcome.

Strategy Committee

28 Wednesday 28 February at 4:00pm in Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin. All welcome.

Horowhenua District Councillors



Michael Feyen (Mayor) **Wayne Bishop** (Deputy Mayor) **Ross Brannigan**



Ross Campbell **Neville Gimblett** **Barry Judd**



Victoria Kaye-Simmons **Jo Mason** **Christine Mitchell**



Piri-Hira Tukapua **Bernie Wanden**

Foxton Community Board



David Roache (Chair) **Tricia Metcalf** (Deputy Chair) **David Allan**



John Girling **Jenny Lundie**

Horowhenua DISTRICT COUNCIL

The Horowhenua Vibrant Communities Grant 2017/18 is open for applications!

This year, the Grants Subcommittee has announced that the fund will be directed towards Interactive and Intergenerational projects.

The \$10,000 will be allocated to between one and three successful applicants. We warmly invite you to apply.

Applications close 5pm 4 March 2018

For further details, please visit www.horowhenua.govt.nz and search 'Vibrant Communities Grant'.