

# Community Connection

Issue 189 NOVEMBER 2023

**Horowhenua**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL



Bernie Wanden

## Message from the Mayor

**Kia ora koutou,**

Hard to believe it's November already? The year is seemingly going faster than ever and hopefully we will soon be able to relish

those longer summer days and get out and about and enjoy the many great things our district has to offer. As the year comes to close there are many things that are progressing well, especially the new Waitārere Beach Surf Life Saving Community Facility and the redevelopment of the Foxton Pool. Both these projects have been a long time in their planning but to see them soon finally realised is a great credit to all involved and both will be of huge benefit to our community.

Last week was a special week. We blessed and officially opened the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs, "Local Job Hub" at Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō. This dedicated space is all about providing support to rangatahi with what they need to help them get into employment, from handy resources to computer access. Plus, it's a cool place to meet up with advisors and plot out those career dreams.

Last year, we supported 113 people in employment opportunities, and from this success, we started to consider ways that could better reach our community, while also supporting social services and their clients. We could not do this without the support of local employers and we are very grateful for the part they are playing in investing in the youth of our community.

A big thank you to Mayors Taskforce for Jobs, MSD, Muaūpoko Tribal Authority and Council officers for their input into this innovative space. Thanks to their dedication, we've got this awesome hub now. You've

just given our rangitahi a fantastic opportunity to start climbing the employment ladder, and that's definitely worth celebrating!

Recently, I had the pleasure of attending the Tokomaru Volunteer Fire Brigade 50th Jubilee where current and past brigade members gathered to celebrate and reflect on this milestone. Thank you to all the volunteers across our district for your dedication, bravery and commitment. We extend our deepest appreciation for your sacrifice and support to the families of our Fire Service men and women.

Council continues to support all age groups across our district and one of the highlights of the year coming up soon is the Age on the Go Expo. Mark your dairies and bring your whānau to this very popular event on Friday 10 November 2023 at the Levin Events Centre. This expo is free and is about learning more about a range of activities, services and products that enhance the lives of older people in our community.

As we do head towards the end of the year, I want to acknowledge the many challenges that exist in our lives today. I know it is not easy but I would encourage you to reach out to your family, friends and neighbours, support local businesses and show gratitude for the good things in life. It's these small acts of kindness and community togetherness that make us all feel a sense of belonging and inclusion. Together, we can build a community where we all can thrive and enjoy the benefits of being part of Horowhenua.

Until next time.

Mayor Bernie Wanden

## HOW ARE WE REALLY DOING?



**Scan this QR code to complete a survey about Rubbish and Recycling**

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



## Council Meetings



**Risk & Assurance Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday 8 November 2023, 1pm**

Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin



**Chief Executive Employment & Performance Committee**  
**Wednesday 8 November 2023, 10am**  
Ante Room, 126 Oxford Street, Levin



**Council Public Forum**  
**Wednesday 22 November 2023, 12.15pm to 12.45pm**  
Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin



**Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday 22 November 2023, 1pm**  
Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin

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

## Let's plan for our future together!

**Tell us what you think we should focus on in the upcoming Long Term Plan 2024-2044.**

Share your thoughts by participating in our:

- Quick polls;
- Survey; or
- Share your suggestions using our ideas tool.

Feedback will close at midnight on Friday 10 November 2023.

[letskorero.horowhenua.govt.nz/LTP](https://letskorero.horowhenua.govt.nz/LTP)

**Hard copies are available at all of our libraries/service centres.**

**If you prefer face-to-face chats, join us for a Cuppa with a Councillor on Thursday 9 November.**



**Remember to remove the lids before popping your plastic bottles or glass jars into the recycling bin or crate.**

**Golden rule – if it's smaller than a bank card, don't put it in your recycling bin or crate.**

**CUPPA**   
WITH A COUNCILLOR

**Let's talk LTP**



**Thursday, 9 November 2023**

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

**Time:** 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM



# Important Notices

## Disposal of Abandoned Vehicles by Public Tender

Horowhenua District Council intends to dispose of the following abandoned vehicles by public tender. Council has written to the last recorded owners of these vehicles, but they have not been claimed.

Vehicles to be disposed of by tender are:

YEAR	MAKE AND MODEL	COLOUR	PLATE	LOCATION FOUND
2007	Nissan Skyline Saloon	Red	JRB666	Rutland Street, Levin
1996	Isuzu Bighorn	Blue	BRK722	Tui Glen Drive, Levin
1994	Mazda Familia Clair Saloon	Red	MUC390	Victoria Road, Tokomaru
UNKNOWN	Nissan Pulsar	White	No plates	
UNKNOWN	Toyota Hatchback	Silver	No plates	
2003	Volkswagen Golf Hatchback	Red	HAE350	Carlisle Street, Levin
2002	Subaru Legacy B4 Saloon	Silver	DDT959	Hōkio Beach
2003	Holden Astra City Hatch 1.8L Auto Hatchback	Silver	BHR337	Clyde Street, Foxton
1999	Mitsubishi Galant 24 Viento GDI Saloon	White	BQL582	
2006	Mazda MPV Station Wagon	Blue	GSF920	
UNKNOWN	Suzuki	White	No plates	
UNKNOWN	Toyota	White	No plates	
1981	Ford Cortina Saloon	Silver	KJ3523	
1997	Toyota Estima Emina Light Van	White	DLG344	

Tender forms are available from Council's Main Office at 126 Oxford Street, Levin. Tenders close at **5pm on Friday 10 November 2023.**

Vehicles will be disposed of in 'as is, where is' condition, with the successful tenderer being responsible for removal. All vehicles have expired Registrations and Warrants of Fitness and are in varying condition.

Viewings are by appointment only. If you would like to arrange a viewing, or you have any questions, please contact Horowhenua District Council on 06 366 0999 or [enquiries@horowhenua.govt.nz](mailto:enquiries@horowhenua.govt.nz)

Sections 356 and 356A of the Local Government Act 1974 provides Council the power to remove abandoned vehicles from a road or public place providing certain criteria is met, and dispose of them by sale or otherwise if the vehicle is not claimed after a 10-day period.

## Waitārere Beach carpark upgrade underway

Things are heating up at the Waitārere Beach carpark with the current site at the end of Waitārere Beach Road getting an upgrade. Beach goers will enjoy new public toilet facilities with outdoor showers, a picnic area, a new concrete footpath, carpark resurfacing, and new line markings once the work is completed.

Work began on the upgrade in mid-October 2023, and it is expected it will be completed by March 2024. To keep disruption to a minimum the carpark will remain open, but sections will be closed as different parts of the area are upgraded.

The existing public toilets are now closed and will be relocated to a new site in late 2023. Public toilets are available at the Waitārere Beach Domain at 627 Waitārere Beach Road.

The recycling station at the carpark will also remain open during the construction period.

In December 2023, the impressive new Waitārere Beach Surf Life Saving Community Facility will open boasting a range of features to benefit the community.



The design concept shows an improved space for Waitārere Beach visitors



## We need your feedback on our proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw

We're proposing to put a new bylaw in place that strikes the right balance between attracting and supporting tourism in the Horowhenua, while also protecting special places in our district. The proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw gives Council a tool to respond to issues relating to freedom camping.

The proposed Bylaw identifies those areas where freedom camping is appropriate, and those areas which need protection for reasons that include environmental and cultural significance, risks to health and safety, and other practical considerations. We want to ensure we meet the needs of our communities, our visitors, and all those who choose to freedom camp.

We need your feedback to ensure the Bylaw reflects the views of the community. Consultation is now open until **4pm, Monday 4 December 2023.**

Anyone can make a submission to the Proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw, and we encourage you to let us know your views. This feedback will be considered during the decisionmaking process and will inform the final bylaw.

[letskorero.horowhenua.govt.nz/  
FreedomCampingBylaw](https://letskorero.horowhenua.govt.nz/FreedomCampingBylaw)

## Proposed Rates Remission & Postponement Policy

We'd love to hear your thoughts on the proposed policy.

Submissions close at **5pm on Monday 20 November 2023.** Hard copies are also available at our service centres.

[letskorero.horowhenua.govt.nz/rpp](https://letskorero.horowhenua.govt.nz/rpp)

Download free app Antenno to report issues, as well as receive alerts and notifications.

[www.horowhenua.govt.nz/Antenno](https://www.horowhenua.govt.nz/Antenno)



Download on the  
App Store

GET IT ON  
Google Play