



Bernie Wanden

Message from the Mayor

Kia ora Horowhenua,

It's a bit of a mixed bag this week, but there's a lot I want to talk to you about.

Let's start with the Electoral Commission's recent

announcement of electoral boundary adjustments in time for next year's election. Though the decisions aren't final it seems likely our Ōtaki electorate will disappear and we'll become part of the Rangitikei electorate.

The first thing to say is that this won't have any effect on our Local Body election later this year – you'll vote in the same wards as you have in the past. But it is still an important matter to me and to Council, which is why we plan to make a submission on the changes. I'd encourage you to do so too, by visiting www.elections.org.nz and having your say before 27 April.

It's not that the proposed change is bad, but joining a large rural electorate may change the nature of representation for Horowhenua. Whatever happens, though, you can be sure that your Council will continue to advocate strongly in Wellington for Horowhenua and will make sure that your concerns are top of mind with central government.

Speaking of making submissions, thanks to all of you who spoke up on the critical issue of who should deliver local water services. Local Water Done Well consultation closed yesterday, and at time of writing we'd had 56 submissions. The next step happens on 30 April, when people who made submissions will have the chance to talk about them to Council if they wish to. Why not come along and listen – it will be an interesting meeting.

We've now started asking for submissions on the proposed Dog Control Policy and Bylaw – see the item elsewhere on this page, and don't blame me for the puns.

It's also that time of year where you get to have your say about us as a Council. We're running our annual resident satisfaction surveys, covering topics including infrastructure, leadership and engagement, and places and spaces (libraries and the like).

Here's some information which might help inform your comments on our performance. We'll be spending around \$36m on capital projects in the 2024/25 financial year. This is all important stuff – for example roughly \$10m on roading improvements, another \$10m on maintaining and improving the drinking water supply, and \$7.5m on wastewater services.

Figures like those probably make your eyes water – mine too – but the spending is essential to keep pipes working and traffic moving. And you can rest assured that we don't spend a dollar without running a ruler along the balance sheet to make sure we – and you – are getting value for money.

The satisfaction surveys go live at different times over the next few weeks, and you can take part in them via our website. It's the chance to get things off your chest and send us some brickbats – though it's always nice to get a few bouquets as well.

On the subject of bouquets, I'd like to give one to the Manawātū Estuary Management Team, which recently unveiled its latest ten-year plan to protect the estuary. This is a great example of community cooperation involving iwi, ecological and community groups, government agencies and councils. Priority work includes dune management, pest control, and water quality monitoring. It's good to know that the estuary is in safe hands with a passionate team.

You'll see the next page is taken up with the calendar of events for ANZAC Day. More on this very significant day next time, but in the meantime I'd like to encourage you to attend a service near you – do note it in your diary.

Until next time,

Mayor Bernie Wanden

Council Meetings



Risk & Assurance Committee Meeting

Wednesday 30 April 2025, 1pm
Council chambers, Horowhenua District Council, 126 Oxford Street, Levin
(Livestreamed)



Extraordinary Council Meeting

hearing submitters on Local Water Done Well consultation.
Wednesday 30 April 2025, 10am
Council chambers, Horowhenua District Council, 126 Oxford Street, Levin
(Livestreamed)

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.



Food scraps collection trial benefits Enviroschools

Council has begun a three-month trial to collect people's food scraps and turn them into compost – and local Enviroschools will benefit.

Selected households have been given a collection bin for food scraps which will be picked up every week and taken to a Foxton company to be made into compost.

Council is making the compost available to schools in the district that are enrolled in the Enviroschools program.

We're running the trial in Queen Street and Wereroa Road in Levin, but unfortunately there aren't enough bins to give one to everyone in those streets.

horowhenua.govt.nz/FoodScrapsCollection

Have your say on the proposed Dog Control Policy and Bylaw

We're reviewing our Dog Control Policy and Bylaw which set the local rules for owning dogs, providing them with recreational areas, and keeping people safe.

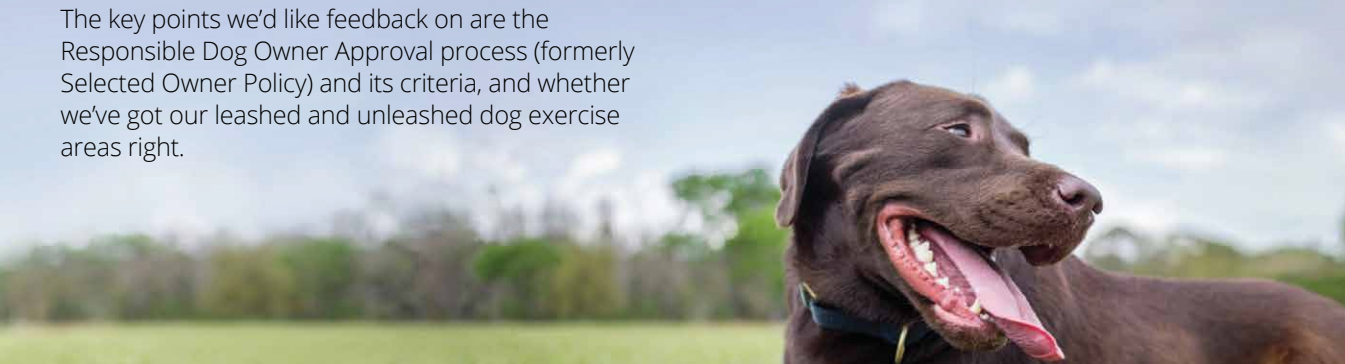
We've written a draft but before it's adopted, we want you to tell us if what we've written is treat-worthy, or if we're barking up the wrong tree.

The key points we'd like feedback on are the Responsible Dog Owner Approval process (formerly Selected Owner Policy) and its criteria, and whether we've got our leashed and unleashed dog exercise areas right.

At the end of the day, we want to make sure the rules we've set help your canine companions live their best lives, while keeping the community safe.

Find out more and have your say at:

letskorero.horowhenua.govt.nz/DogControl



**Don't just dream.
Vote to be heard.**

To vote in this year's Local Body Election in October, you must be enrolled. Remember to make sure your details are up to date.

For more information, go to:
horowhenua.govt.nz/elections

ANZAC Day Observances

Friday 25 April 2025

Commemorate ANZAC Day at services and ceremonies throughout Horowhenua.

Foxton 28th Māori Battalion Service

- 5:00am Service at St John's Methodist Church, Avenue Road
- 5:45am Head to cenotaph for Foxton Dawn Service

Foxton Dawn Service

- 5:30am Assemble on Clyde Street, outside Foxton Memorial Hall
- 5:45am Parade moves off to Cenotaph
- 6:00am Cenotaph Service begins

Wet weather alternative: Service will take place in Foxton Memorial Hall.

Foxton Civic Ceremony

- 9:00am Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, Main Street
- 9:35am Parade assembles on Wharf Street and moves off to Cenotaph
- 9:40am Cenotaph Service begins

Wet weather alternative: Ceremony will take place inside Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom.

Levin Dawn Service

- 5:45am Assemble on the corner of Kent and Winchester Streets
- 6:00am Parade moves off to Cenotaph
- 6:15am Cenotaph Service begins
- 6:45am Return parade down Kent Street

Wet weather alternative: Service will take place at Levin RSA.

Levin Civic Ceremony

- 10:00am Parade assembles on Kent Street, past Thompson House Gardens
- 10:10am Parade moves off to Cenotaph
- 10:15am Cenotaph Service begins

Wet weather alternative: Ceremony will take place in Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō.

Levin Retreat Ceremonies

- 4:45pm The Avenue Cemetery
- 5:15pm Tiro Tiro Road Cemetery

Manakau Special Memorial Service

- 7:20am Assemble outside Manakau Hall to march to the War Memorial in Honi Taipua Street

Moutoa Civic Ceremony

- 9:00am Moutoa Memorial Gates, Foxton-Shannon Road

Ōhau Civic Ceremony

- 3:00pm Formal reflections and acknowledgement of ANZAC Day at Ōhau Community Hall
- 3:30pm Tea/Coffee and ANZAC biscuits – All welcome

Shannon Civic Ceremony

- 11:15am Parade assembles at the corner of Vance Street and Plimmer Terrace
- 11:25am Parade moves off to Cenotaph
- 11:30am Cenotaph Service begins

Wet weather alternative: Ceremony will take place in Shannon Memorial Hall.

Tokomaru Civic Ceremony

- 10:00am RSA and Country Club, Matipo Street

Waitārere Beach Civic Ceremony

- 8:30am Tea/Coffee at Waitārere Beach Bowling Club, Park Avenue
- 9:00am Service begins

In event of bad weather, commemorations will move indoors. Some locations will change as indicated. Updates will be posted on Facebook (@HorowhenuaDC) on ANZAC Day morning if a venue change is required due to wet weather.

Visit horowhenua.govt.nz/ANZAC for ANZAC Day observances throughout Horowhenua

