He karere tā te Kaunihera ō Taranaki ki te Tonga News from the South Taranaki District Council

Taranaki Anniversary (Monday 10 March) opening hours

Kerbside Collection will continue as normal over the public holiday, so please put your wheelie bin and glass crate out on your usual day. To see when Council facilities are open, visit www.southtaranaki.com/taranakianniversary

Council to consult on Taranaki regional water entity

South Taranaki District councillors voted 7 - 4 on Wednesday 26 February to consult with the community on a proposal to join a Taranaki regional water entity with New Plymouth and Stratford **District Councils for** delivering future water and wastewater services, as part of the Local Water Done Well reforms.

Local Water Done Well (LWDW) is the Government's plan to

address New Zealand's long-standing water infrastructure challenges which include the rising costs associated with replacing ageing infrastructure meeting new environmental and health standards, and higher consumer expectations and environmental compliance.

The LWDW reform programme replaces the previous government's Three Waters reforms (called Affordable Waters) and aims to provide local councils with the choice of how they will provide reliable and safe water services to their communities over the next 30 plus years.

Under LWDW councils can choose to deliver water services either by themselves or with other councils as long as they meet all relevant standards, can provide the infrastructure investment required and are financially sustainable. South Taranaki District Mayor, Phil Nixon says the Council has been looking at several different delivery options for water services since March last year, including delivering water independently, as well as working with Stratford and New Plymouth district councils to consider what joint water services delivery could look like in Taranaki.



"In September we decided to undertake more in-depth investigations into three models of water services delivery. A South Taranaki District Council (STDC) in-house water services business unit. an STDC council-controlled organisation and a regional (Taranaki) water services council-controlled organisation (WSCCO)," he says.

"Further investigation showed that a South Taranaki council-controlled organisation on its own was not financially sustainable, which left two remaining options, the STDC in-house business unit and a regional (Taranaki) water services council-controlled

organisation."

"After really good and robust debate, we agreed to consult with our community on both options, with our proposed model being a joint Taranaki regional water entity with New Plymouth and Stratford District Councils."

Mayor Nixon said the discussion reflected how complex and important the decision in front of them was and continues to be, noting that both options have their advantages and disadvantages.

This is just for consultation, there is still a lot of water to go under the bridge before we make a decision, no pun intended, which is why it will be important to hear from our community on what they believe is the best long-term option for South

Consultation on the proposal will be available from 30 April on www.southtaranaki.com and will run throughout May. New Plymouth and Stratford District Councils have also both chosen a joint Taranaki regional model for waster services delivery as their preferred option when consulting with their communities.

Monday 10 March will be the last day the community summer pools will be open for the season.

Upcoming Meetings

Public are welcome to attend

District Plan Committee - Plan Change 3 Hearing (Papakāinga)Tuesday 11 and Wednesday 12
March 2025 at 9am

Te Hāwera Community Board Ōkaiawa Hall, Ahipaipa Road, Ōkaiawa

Pātea Community Board Waverley Community Centre, Chester Street, Waverley

Extraordinary Risk and Assurance Committee - to review Fund *Managers* Tuesday 18 March 2025 at

Eltham-Kaponga Community

Wednesday 19 March 2025 at 10.30am, Rotokare Scenic Reserve, 365 Sangster Road, Rāwhitiroa

Taranaki Coastal Community

at 2.30pm, Manaia Golf Club (Bennett Drive, Manaia)

Extraordinary Council -Submissions Hearing - Hāwera to Normanby Corridor Strategy Monday 24 March 2025 at 9am

Policy and Strategy Committee Monday 24 March 2025 at 1pm

Te Kāhui Matauraura Wednesday 26 March 2025 at

Environment and Hearings

Wednesday 26 March 2025 at

Unless specified, meetings are held at Camberwell Lounge, TSB Hub,



In collaboration with the Hawera Budget Advisory Services, Council is hosting a series of free *Meal Planning on a Budget* workshops, to help households stretch their grocery budgets while reducing food waste. Attendees will have access to resources, including meal planning templates, recipe books and other tools to simplify the meal planning

These workshops are being held through March to correspond with the nation-wide Love Food Hate Waste campaign. For more information or to register your interest, email envirosus@stdc.govt.nz



Hāwera Community Centre Lounge, Albion Street, Hāwera.

<u>Ōpunakē</u> **Tuesday 18 March** 10.30-11.30am Tui Ora / Heartlands Building, 21 Napier Street, Ōpunakē.

<u>Pātea</u> Wednesday 26 March 10.30-11.30am Pātea LibraryPlus, Egmont Street, Pātea.

