

Southlink

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



New \$2.1 million Waverley Water Treatment Plant

This week the taps were turned on and water started flowing through Waverley's new \$2.1 million water treatment plant.

South Taranaki District Mayor, Phil Nixon says he was extremely pleased to see the plant completed and operational as Waverley had been experiencing some issues with the town water supply.

"The Council has been working to address this and has built a new \$2.1 million water treatment plant for the town. The new Waverley plant will help ensure the town has safe drinking water that fully meets the Drinking Water Standards for New Zealand.

Fiona Aitken, South Taranaki District Council



Group Manager of Community and Infrastructure Services, says the new water treatment plant uses several processes to remove both organic and inorganic matter (like iron and manganese compounds) and bacteria from the water, including

using ultraviolet light to kill protozoa and any residual bugs. Chlorination and fluoridation is also part of the treatment process.

Taranaki District Health Board's medical officer of health Dr Jonathan Jarman congratulates the Council on the completion of Waverley's new water treatment plant.

Dr Jarman says safe drinking water is something that we all take for granted.

"Problems with drinking water supplies can be very disruptive and in a worst case scenario can cause a lot of illness very quickly. It is really good to see the investment that the South Taranaki District Council has made to protect the health of people in Waverley."

Satisfaction with Council services high in South Taranaki

The majority of South Taranaki residents are happy with the services Council provides according to an independent survey.

The Research First survey of 440 residents across all five South Taranaki wards found that 93% of residents were happy with the overall service the Council provides, while 5% were not satisfied.

85% of those surveyed also felt the Council was moving in the right direction with 9% disagreeing and 6% unable to comment.

83% of residents were also satisfied with the way rates are spent on services and facilities provided by the Council (the same as last year's result), while 14% were not very satisfied and 3% did not know.

The survey, which has been conducted regularly since 1993, allows the Council to assess its performance by finding out from residents what they think the Council is doing well and areas where it could do better.

Council services and facilities which residents were most satisfied with were the district's libraries (98%), the tidiness and maintenance of cemeteries (97%), parks, reserves and

playgrounds (97%), halls (93%) and the kerbside rubbish and recycling service (94%).

The services that had the lowest satisfaction rates were the condition of roads (69% satisfaction) and footpaths (75% satisfaction) and the control of animals (78% satisfaction).

Council CEO, Waid Crockett, says he is pleased with the results of the survey however Council is always looking to improve the services it provides. "We don't always get it right but I know how passionately our staff work for the people of South Taranaki and we are continually looking at ways we can lift the bar in terms of performance," he says. "But it is good to know that most people think we are moving in the right direction and understand we are trying to provide the best for our communities with the resources we have."

The district wide survey was conducted using random selection method by independent research company Research First over February and March 2020.

The survey results can be found under 'Plans, Strategies and Reports' on the Council's website www.southtaranaki.com



Upcoming Meetings

Ordinary Council
Monday 29 June, 7pm

Audit and Risk Committee
Wednesday 1 July, 1pm

All above meetings are being held in the Council Chambers, Administration Building, Albion Street, Hāwera



Canine COVID-19 Relief for South Taranaki dog owners

In recognition of the effects of COVID-19 on our community, Council has decided to extend a two-month grace period to dog owners before penalties are applied for late registration.

What that means is that dog registrations are still due by 31 July 2020, but owners won't be penalised for late registration until 1 October 2020. The normal registration timeline will revert back to 1 August for the 2021/22 registration next year. If you have any concerns about paying your dog registration, please contact the Regulatory Services Team on 0800 111 323 to discuss options.

HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE FUTURE EDUCATION PROVISION FOR HĀWERA AND SOUTH TARANAKI

The Ministry of Education's online survey runs until Sunday 21 June and includes six potential options for future schooling. More information and a link to the online survey can be found at www.dandgconsulting.co.nz/hawera-and-wider-south-taranaki Hard copies are available from Council's Administration Building and Hāwera LibraryPlus.