



Views wanted on central government's proposed Three Waters Reform

South Taranaki District Council is asking the community to share their views on the future of Three Waters by completing a short survey. The Government is currently proposing significant changes to the delivery of three waters (stormwater, wastewater and drinking water) including the creation of four publicly owned entities covering the whole country to deliver these services.

For South Taranaki District this would mean our three waters assets (as well as the debt attached to the assets) would be taken over by a new entity that would include councils across the Waikato (including Hamilton), Bay of Plenty (including Tauranga and Whakatāne) and Taranaki Regions, and the Ruapehu, Whanganui and Rangatīkei Districts.

The Government has outlined a process for councils to follow, which includes a period of full consultation with the community. However, we are not at that point yet. The stage we are currently at is one of analysing and assessing the Government's proposal and the impacts on local communities. Every council has until the end of September to do this.

South Taranaki District Mayor Phil Nixon says while this is a Government-led proposal, and Council does not have all the information yet, it is important to include the community's feedback at this stage in the process.

"While the Government has said formal consultation will come later, we think it's important to get our community's initial thoughts on the proposal at this stage, as that will help us assess local impacts and concerns," says Mayor Nixon.

"The Government believes it has established a compelling 'case for change' based on the financial requirements needed over the next thirty years to upgrade and manage the nation's three waters infrastructure to meet increasing health and environmental standards. They say the amount of investment needed would be almost impossible for councils to fund on their own, so some kind of change is needed.

"What we do know is that compliance costs for Three Waters will increase significantly over time so a key consideration for us is whether we are prepared to pay higher rates to keep ownership and control of these assets or do we potentially pay lower rates (as suggested by the government's modelling) by spreading the cost out across a wider area but see the ownership and control of these assets sit with central government."

"Our Council has a number of questions and concerns about the proposal and this survey will help us better understand the community's views on this balance of keeping costs affordable for households and retaining the delivery of Three Waters within Council.

After this, the Government has said they will consider next steps, including the process and timing for decision-making and consultation."

The survey closes on 29 September. To fill out the survey go to the Council website www.southtaranaki.com.

For more information on the Government's Three Waters reform proposal you can go to dia.govt.nz/Three-waters-review or www.lgnz.co.nz/reforms/three-waters/

Upcoming meetings

Ordinary Council
Monday 20 September, 7pm
Venue to be advised

Audit and Risk Committee
Wednesday 22 September, 1pm
Venue to be advised

Extraordinary Council
To discuss the next stages of the Three Waters Service Delivery Reform
Monday 27 September, 1pm
Venue to be advised

Extraordinary Council
Representation Review Hearing
Wednesday 29 September, 1pm
Venue to be advised

Shop Local



Now that we're in Level 2, be sure to show your local businesses some love! You can also visit www.shopsouthtaranaki.co.nz - the online marketplace showcasing the great range of businesses and community services in our District.

Representation Review Feedback needed



After more than a month of pre-consultation, the Councillors agreed to formally consult on an Initial Proposal consisting of 13 Councillors and a Mayor, with no change to the Community Boards.

Under the proposal the Council would be made up of two Māori wards with one councillor elected from each ward and four general wards with two councillors elected from the Eltham-Kaponga ward; two from the Pātea ward; two from the Taranaki Coastal ward; and five councillors from Te Hāwera ward.

All councils are required to review their representation every six years and Council's decision in November 2020 to establish a Māori

ward/s triggered the need for a review.

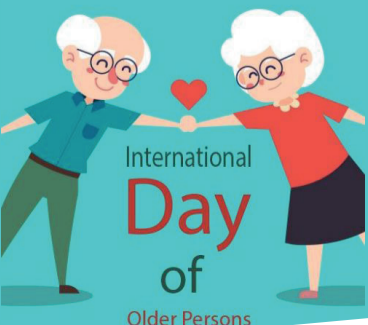
The Representation Review establishes how South Taranaki communities will be represented for the 2022 and 2025 local body elections. It considers things such as the number of councillors needed to represent the District, whether they're elected from wards or 'at large' across the whole District, or a mix of both and whether community boards should be retained or not.

Formal consultation on the Council's Initial Proposal started on 12 August and runs through to 23 September.

Visit www.southtaranaki.com/repreview to give us your feedback.

Help us celebrate International Day of the Older Person

Who is your favourite Older Person? We need your help!



October 1st is International Day of the Older Persons and we want to say thank you to our senior members of our District for their huge contribution within our communities.

To help us celebrate we would like you to send us a head and shoulders digital photo (can be by smartphone) of your favourite Older Person who inspires you the most. Tell us their name and in one word describe why you admire them. Spaces are limited, but you may just see their wonderful face in the Taranaki Star on the 30 September, just in time for INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS! Email to fran.levings@stdc.govt.nz by Monday 20 September.

Keep up-to-date

Know the right information

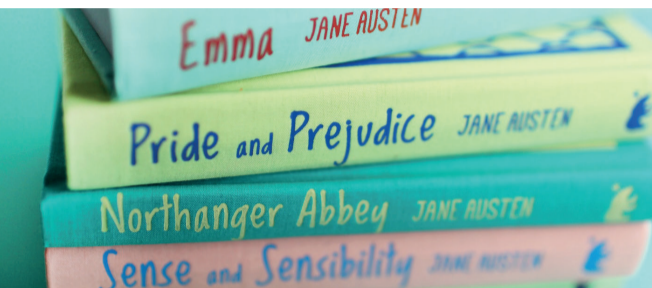
- Download the **Antenna** app
- Follow us on our **Facebook** page 'South Taranaki District Council'
- Check our website www.southtaranaki.com

Tuia Taitonga Southlink



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

Click and Collect at Level 2



coming in to select books. Staff have decided to offer contactless 'click and collect' for the foreseeable future. People can place holds at home through the online catalogue or ask staff to select items for them. When people receive an email or phone call that their holds are ready, they're welcome to choose a time for contactless collection and staff will leave the books on a table at the door. Cath says residents can find 'how to' videos on the South Taranaki Libraries Facebook page showing how to search for books and how to place holds. "All books are issued for four weeks and there are no fines for late returns. If you would like to renew your items, phone or email and we'll be happy to help," she says. If residents are unable to access the catalogue from home, or if you are unsure of your login, or need your password reset please phone 0800 111 323 or email librarycontact@stdc.govt.nz and staff will help you out.

The move to COVID-19 Alert Level 2 on Wednesday 8 September will mean South Taranaki readers can again access physical books from their local LibraryPlus via the 'click and collect' contactless system. South Taranaki District Council libraries and cultural services manager Cath Sheard says, while the LibraryPlus are open as normal, staff realise not everyone will feel comfortable

First Rates Instalment due

Now that facilities are back open in Level 2, this is a friendly reminder that you have until 4.30pm on Tuesday 14 September to pay your first rates instalment without facing penalty. You also have until then to pay your yearly rates in full to receive a 2% discount. You can pay at our Hāwera Administration Building or are your local LibraryPlus. Don't forget that there are still contactless ways that you can pay, including online, find out more at www.southtaranaki.com/rates.

Council Services at COVID-19 Alert Level 2

What's Opening and When

At Level 2 Council will resume all services, including reopening our facilities when all safe public health measures for Alert Level 2 are in place in particular face coverings, physical distancing and contact tracing measures.

This means:

- Most facilities opened on Wednesday 8 September with restrictions
- Some public programmes will remain on hold/closed
- Face coverings are mandatory at public indoor venues
- We ask everyone to keep at least 2 metres apart from people not in their bubble
- We need to collect visitor details for contact tracing
- We continue to encourage contactless payments
- We ask people to stay at home if they're feeling unwell
- Indoor gatherings, hospitality and event venues have a limit of 50 people. Outdoor venues have a limit of 100 people
- There will be limits on the number of visitors allowed in our facilities at any one time to meet physical distancing requirements

HĀWERA ADMINISTRATION BUILDING - OPEN

- Open via Princes Street entrance only

LIBRARY PLUS CENTRES – OPEN, NORMAL HOURS

- All LibraryPlus centres will open normal hours except for Kaponga LibraryPlus which will open on Friday 10 September (due to a planned power outage on Thursday)
- The Click and Collect Service will restart and continue for the foreseeable future

HĀWERA AQUATIC CENTRE - OPEN FOR LANE SWIMMING ONLY.

- Wednesday 8 September Open 10am – 6pm
- Thursday 9 September, normal hours 6am – 7pm weekdays
- Lane swimming only – bookings preferred Contact the Aquatic Centre (06) 278 0021
- No hydro-slide or recreational swimming
- Toddler and learner's pool closed
- Weekend hours 9am – 4pm
- Aquarobics and Learn to Swim Programmes will resume when Alert Level guidelines enable closer distancing between people

TSB HUB – OPEN

Limited programmes operating (contact TSB Hub on (06) 278 0646 or email or check out the TSB Hub facebook page)

AOTEA UTANGANUI – MUSEUM OF SOUTH TARANAKI

- Open normal hours

PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS - OPEN

- Don't forget to wash and dry hands or use hand sanitiser before and after using playground equipment
- Lake Rotokare Reserve open

PUBLIC HALLS – OPEN

- Subject to restrictions on numbers and/or types of event

I-SITE VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE – OPEN

- This includes AA Services being available

CEMETERIES

- Open with maximum number of attendees and contact tracing protocols in place

KERBSIDE REFUSE/RECYCLING COLLECTIONS

- All kerbside collections will continue normal collection day

TRANSFER STATIONS

- Transfer stations will open as per their normal operating hours to accept the usual general waste, glass and mixed recycling and green waste and 24-hour recycling will resume
- Transfer station opening hours and charges are available at www.southtaranaki.com

CAMPGROUNDS, FREEDOM CAMPING SITES AND BOAT RAMPS – OPEN



Please wear a face covering



Please keep 2 metres apart

Unite against COVID-19

www.southtaranaki.com
Ph: (06) 278 0555 or 0800 111 323