

# Tuia Taitonga

Southlink



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

The South Taranaki District is now at COVID-19 Alert Level 2. Find out more at [www.covid19.govt.nz](http://www.covid19.govt.nz)



## 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 Rangitikei 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](http://www.southtaranaki.com). For more information on the Government's Three Waters reform proposal you can go to [dia.govt.nz/Three-waters-review](http://dia.govt.nz/Three-waters-review) or [www.lgnz.co.nz/reforms/three-waters/](http://www.lgnz.co.nz/reforms/three-waters/)



Did you know that the Council offers a kerbside greenwaste collection service? This service is a voluntary fortnightly collection using a large 240L wheelie bin. To opt in, all you need to do is come into Council, i-SITE or any LibraryPlus to buy a sticker that goes on the front of your bin, giving you a fortnightly kerbside greenwaste pick up for 12 months (on the same day as your other rubbish and recycling.) The registration year begins in October and ends the following September - stickers for the new year are now available. If you don't want to subscribe to the fortnightly kerbside collection service, you can also drop off greenwaste at your local transfer station for a fee.

## Greenwaste stickers now available

### Ngā hui o mua Upcoming meetings

**Ordinary Council**  
Monday 20 September, 7pm  
Hāwera Community Centre Hall,  
Albion Street, Hāwera

**Audit and Risk Committee**  
Wednesday 22 September, 1pm  
Hāwera Community Centre Hall,  
Albion Street, Hāwera

**Extraordinary Council**  
*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*

**Eltham-Kaponga Community Board**  
Monday 4 October, 10.30am  
Kaponga Memorial Hall,  
Victoria Street, Kaponga

**Te Hāwera Community Board**  
Monday 4 October, 1.30pm  
*Venue to be advised*

**Taranaki Coastal Community Board**  
Tuesday 5 October, 2.30pm  
Cape Egmont Boat Club,  
332 Bayly Road, Warea

**Pātea Community Board**  
Wednesday 6 October, 4pm  
Waverley Community Centre,  
Chester Street, Waverley



The Representation Review establishes how South Taranaki communities will be represented for the 2022 and 2025 local body elections.

**Consultation ends on 23 September. Give us your feedback on [southtaranaki.com/repreview](http://southtaranaki.com/repreview).**

## 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](mailto:fran.levings@stdc.govt.nz) by Monday 20 September.