

DOG REGISTRATION
DUE 31 JULY



Tuia Taitonga Southlink

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

STDC says No to Three Waters

At Tuesday's (19 July) extraordinary meeting, South Taranaki District Councillors unanimously approved a submission vigorously opposing the Government's Three Waters Reform Proposal.

The submission follows introduction of the Government's Water Services Entities Bill, which is currently sitting with Parliament's Finance and Expenditure Select Committee.

The controversial Bill, if enacted in its current form, will take control, management, and delivery of three waters services (water, wastewater, and storm water) away from councils and give them to four mega entities. Under the legislation all three waters staff, assets and liabilities will transfer to the new entities on 1 July 2024. For South Taranaki this means the Council's three water assets would be taken over by the Western - Central entity, an amalgamation of 22 Councils across the Waikato (including Hamilton), Bay of Plenty (including Tauranga and Whakatāne) and Taranaki Regions and the Ruapehu, Whanganui and Rangitīkei Districts.

South Taranaki Mayor, Phil Nixon says the Council submission accepts some reform is needed in the three waters space, however not the centralised 'one size fits none' approach the Government has taken.

"The Government's analysis underpinning their whole programme is totally flawed. The degree of investment claimed to be needed is considerably overstated and the supposed cost savings under the proposal are highly implausible. Critically, ownership and accountability has been taken away from the communities who actually own the assets," says Nixon.

"Our Council has a good track record for delivering three waters infrastructure for building, maintaining, and operating this



infrastructure. We certainly have the financial capacity to continue to do this and under our own long-term plan we would have achieved the outcomes Government is seeking well before 2050. We simply don't see the value for our communities in the proposed reforms," he says.

Nixon says the Council has been extremely disappointed with the Government's handling of this proposed reform.

"There has been no meaningful consultation with Iwi, Council or our community – the promise of opting out was taken away from us, and it's been councils that have had to continue to engage in good faith and not the other way around. I can only hope that the Government takes our concerns seriously and listens to the wishes of the people." You can read the Council's full submission on the Water Services Entities Bill on www.southtaranaki.com

Upcoming meetings

Ordinary Council
Monday 8 August, 7pm
Council Chamber, Administration Building, Albion Street, Hāwera

Eltham-Kaponga Community Board
Monday 15 August, 10.30 am
Taumata Recreation Centre, Preston Street, Eltham

Te Hāwera Community Board
Monday 15 August, 4.30 pm
Council Chamber, Administration Building, Albion Street, Hāwera

Taranaki Coastal Community Board
Tuesday 16 August, 2.30pm
Te Niho, Parihaka Road, Pungarehu

Pātea Community Board
Wednesday 17 August, 4pm
Waitōtara Community Hall, 12 Kaipo Street, Waitōtara

Saturday closing for LibraryPlus centres

Due to illness-related staff shortages, LibraryPlus centres will be closed on Saturdays from 30 July and throughout August, reopening 3 September 2022. We apologise for any inconvenience and look forward to seeing you during the week.

LYSAGHT-WATT TRUST
RONALD HUGH MORRIESON
LITERARY AWARDS



ENTRIES DUE WEDNESDAY 17 AUGUST

Get your pen to paper!

Do you have a talent for poetry? A thing for short stories? Is your passion to delve deep into research and truth?

Whatever your bent, get writing as entries for the 2022 Lysaght-Watt Trust Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Awards are due in less than a month.

This competition (comprising Short Story, Poetry and True Story sections) is open to residents and ratepayers of South Taranaki and the wider Taranaki community.

These annual Awards honour the work of local novelist and short story writer Ronald Hugh Morrieson (29 January 1922 – 26 December 1972). Morrieson wrote four novels: coming of age tale *The Scarecrow* (1963), *Came a Hot Friday* (1964), *Predicament* (published in 1975) and his only contemporary novel *Pallet on the Floor* (1976).

This year the Lysaght-Watt Trust Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Awards celebrates its 35th year with Judges Airini Beautrais and Robert Sullivan.

The competition for 2022 is open and entries need to be in before Wednesday 17 August. Find out more, or enter, go to www.southtaranaki.com/rhm



**SUNDAY
AUGUST 7**

10am - 12noon

@ Goldbush Micro Farm
278 Austin Road, Normanby

Don't know your hot from your cold or your worm from your in-situ compost heaps? Then this is for you! Come along and check out all 4 types of composting you can do at home with Michelle at Goldbush Micro Farm.

Limited numbers! Register before August 4 by emailing envirosus@stdc.govt.nz or call Tarin on 0800 111 323.

**MAKE
YOUR
MARK**

**PŌTI
2022**
NGA PŌTITANGA Ā-ROHE

**VOTE
2022**
LOCAL ELECTIONS

Make Your Mark by standing for the local body election

Candidate nominations close at 12noon sharp on Friday 12 August.

If you want to find out more about what it means to be Mayor, a Councillor or a Community Board member, head to www.southtaranaki.com/vote2022 or you can also give us a call on 0800 111 323 and ask to speak to one of the Electoral Officers.

www.southtaranaki.com

Ph: (06) 278 0555 or 0800 111 323