

Tuia Taitonga Southlink



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

Rates Rebate Scheme to Help Low-Income Households

Changes to the Rates Rebate Scheme mean that approximately 100,000 low-income households will receive increased support to pay their council rates from 1 July.

The maximum annual rebate increased from \$665 to \$700, and the income abatement threshold increased from \$26,510 to \$28,080 for the year to March 2022.

"The refunds are estimated to be worth up to \$56 million a year", says the Minister of Local Government, Nanaia Mahuta.

STDC Chief Executive Waid Crockett said increasing support will mean more low-income households in the District will be eligible for the rebates depending on the individual circumstances. "Some people might qualify for the full rebate, while others might qualify for less." To apply for the rebate, people must provide a summary of earnings from the IRD as proof of their income level. It must relate to the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

"If you are not sure whether you are eligible to apply, call us on 0800 111 323. Council staff are available to assist you with scheme details and forms. We encourage ratepayers to take advantage of this government initiative."

"Applicants who qualified for the previous year are sent a new application form each year. To make sure they remember to reapply", says Crockett.

"But you need to get your application in to the Council before 30 June 2023, or it won't be accepted."

You can apply for a rates rebate if:

- You are on a low income (if you earn up to \$50,000 and depending on the level of your rates, you might be eligible for a rates rebate)
- You must pay rates on the address you live at, and
- You were living there at the beginning of the rating year (1 July), and
- Your name is on the rates bill, or
- You are the owner of an "Owner-occupier flat" and your name is not on the bill, but you pay some of the rates (proof is required).

You cannot apply if:

- Your property is mainly used for commercial activities, such as farming or business
- Your property is a rental property or holiday home

For more information go to www.govt.nz/rates-rebate

Upcoming meetings

Policy and Strategy Committee
Monday 25 July 2022 at 1 pm
Council Chamber, Administration Building, Albion St, Hāwera

Ordinary Council
Monday 8 August 2022 at 7 pm
Council Chamber, Administration Building, Albion St, Hāwera



Will you join the challenge?

Plastic Free July is here – are you ready to challenge yourself to use less (or no!) single use plastics for the month of July?

Head to www.plasticfreejuly.com to find out more and join the challenge today.

Manaia Multipurpose Community Space Town Hui

This is a fun, whānau and community focused hui to discuss the aspirations for Manaia multi-purpose spaces.

Come join us to discuss the approach, share memories and aspirations, and workshop ideas.

There will be activities for children and kai to share.

See you there!

MANAIA MULTIPURPOSE COMMUNITY SPACE

TOWN HUI

ROBERT GIBSON MEMORIAL HALL

MONDAY, 25 JULY

5.30 - 7.30PM

MAKE YOUR MARK on South Taranaki - Local body elections candidate nominations open

VOTE 2022

If you want to make your mark on your community, consider standing for the South Taranaki District Council in this year's local body elections.

Council chief executive, Waid Crockett says despite the challenges it's an exciting time to be involved in local

government.

"With a huge raft of government reforms and the effects of COVID-19 still impacting it's a challenging time, but also one which provides a unique opportunity to be involved in the changing face of local government," says Crockett.

"The rewards certainly outweigh the challenges, as you work together to make the best decisions for the future economic, social, cultural and environmental wellbeing of our District," he says.

Nominations opened on Friday 15 July and close at 12noon on Friday 12 August.

Nomination forms are available at www.southtaranaki.com/vote2022 and candidates have until noon on Friday, 12 August to submit their forms. You can also come into the South Taranaki District Council main building and pick up a Nomination Pack.

www.southtaranaki.com/vote2022 contains all the information candidates need to know as well as handy links and facts for voters including how to enroll.

Give your feedback to Government before 22 July

Time is running out for the community to demand better three waters reform and reject the Government's one size fits none plan, says South Taranaki Mayor Phil Nixon.

The public currently have their one and only opportunity to have their say on the water reforms through the Select Committee process and Mayor Nixon says it's important that they don't miss the opportunity. **Everyone has until July 22 to have their say.**

Mayor Nixon says that he and other Councillors had been approached by many people unhappy with what was being suggested, now it was time for everyone to take action.

"This is the only chance that you will get to have any say whatsoever on what happens to our District's infrastructure," he says.

"We need to deliver a strong message to the Government that people want a better form of reform that respects the decades of investment by local communities and enables them to preserve a real say in how their money is spent in future.

"Through Communities 4 Local Democracy He Hapori mō te Manapori we've developed a common-sense model for reform that everyone can get behind and that delivers every outcome sought by the

Government," says Mayor Nixon.

"We've worked hard to create a model for reform that will ensure better long term water services for every community, now it's time for our community to take a few minutes and demand better water reform. "If you don't want to see future water services that are 'all pay, no say' this is your only opportunity to stand up and be counted."

Submissions are now being accepted on the Water Services Entities Bill at: https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/make-a-submission/document/53SCFE_SCF_BILL_124081/water-services-entities-bill

For guidance on how people can provide their feedback and support our work to deliver better water reform, visit www.demandbetter.nz



LOCAL VOICE DOWN THE DRAIN



www.southtaranaki.com

Ph: (06) 278 0555 or 0800 111 323

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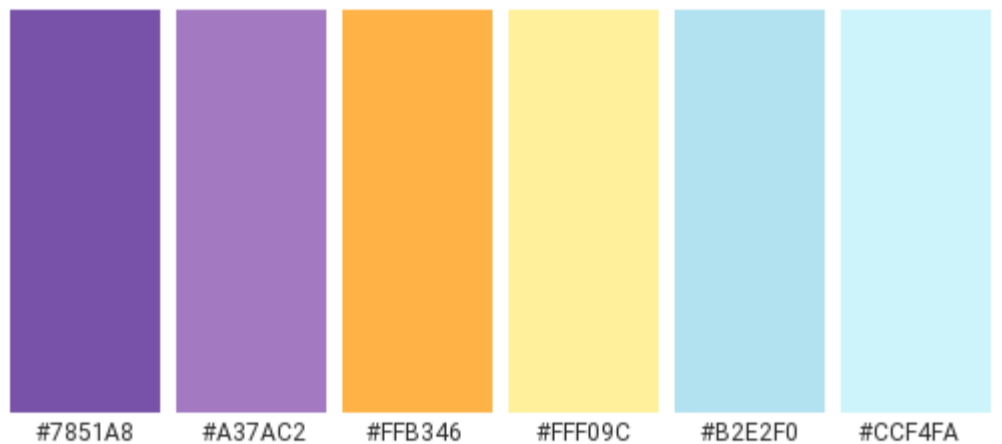
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Orange, Purple Color Scheme - by SchemeColor.com



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