

Hāwera Aquatic Centre Temporarily Closes to Install New Heat Pumps



The Hāwera Aquatic Centre will be closed on **Tuesday 31 October and Wednesday 1 November** while the facility switches over from its gas fired boilers to new electrical heat pumps. Council's Property and Facilities Manager Phil Waite says commissioning the new electric heat pumps is expected to take about two days although Thursday has been set aside as a contingency should any problems arise. "Turning on the new heat pumps will be quite a momentous day which will see the Council being able to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by around 33%," says Mr Waite. "The Hāwera Aquatic Centre accounts for approximately 97% of the Council's annual natural gas use which represents about a third of the Council's total carbon emissions. Installing electric air-water heat pumps at the Aquatic Centre will have the single biggest impact on reducing our emissions footprint across all our facilities.

It's estimated to reduce the Aquatic Centre's annual carbon emissions by 324 tonnes, the equivalent of taking 118 cars off the road," he says. "In addition, there will be significant energy savings to be made through the upgrade, so it's a win-win for the Council, our ratepayers and the environment." Mr Waite says replacing the boilers with electric heat pumps cost \$448,500. The Council received \$174,000 from EECA's (Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority) Technology Demonstration fund, with the remainder being paid for by a loan. "The loan will be paid for in seven years with savings made from the Aquatic Centre's reduced energy costs, so the whole project is cost neutral," he says. Residents can check the Hāwera Aquatic Centre's Facebook page or the Council website to see when the pool is reopened.

Have Your Say on Speed Limits

South Taranaki residents are being urged to have their say on road speeds across the District as part of the Council's 2024 – 2034 Speed Management Plan. South Taranaki Mayor Phil Nixon says Waka Kotahi/NZ Transport Agency requires councils, as road controlling authorities, to develop 10-year speed management plans every three years and that it's important people have their say. "Over the last 12 months we reduced speed limits outside our schools. Over the next three years we'd like to focus on delivering safe speed limits around marae, the Hāwera CBD, beach communities and on some of our 70km per hour roads," he says. Mayor Nixon says speed management is about achieving safe and appropriate speeds on roads that reflect the road's function, design, safety and use. "While our Speed Management Plan will be reviewed before 2027, we are still required to consider reducing speeds limits on our rural roads and townships over

the 10-year period. So, to start the conversation we are also asking people what they think of speeds on some of our rural roads and in our townships too," says Mayor Nixon. "The proposals to lower some speed limits across the District will have an impact on everybody, from our residents to our organisations and businesses. So, it's vital that we get the balance right between safety and road user convenience." The easiest way to have your say is to complete the online form at www.southtaranaki.com/consultation or drop into your local LibraryPlus or the Hāwera administration building to pick up a hard copy form. **Consultation runs until 29 October 2023.**

Key proposals 2024 - 2027

- 60km/h outside all marae
- 30km/h in Hāwera CBD
- 30km/h in beach communities like Ōhawe/Waiiui
- Reducing 70km/h roads to 60km/h



Upcoming meetings

Ordinary Council
Monday 30 October, 4pm

Extraordinary Council
Full Speed Management Plan Hearings
Monday 6 November, 9am

Extraordinary Environment and Hearing Committee
Wednesday 8 November, 4pm

Te Hāwera Community Board
Monday 13 November, 11am
Normanby School, 3 Hunter Street, Normanby

Pātea Community Board
Monday 13 November, 4pm
Hunter Shaw Building, Egmont Street, Pātea

Eltham-Kaponga Community Board
Wednesday 15 November, 10.30am
Taumata Recreation Centre, Preston Street, Eltham

Taranaki Coastal Community Board
Wednesday 15 November, 2.30pm
Location to be advised

Unless stated, meetings are being held in the Council Chamber, Administration Building, Albion Street, Hāwera



OH WHAT FUN
CHRISTMAS CABARET
FRIDAY 8 DECEMBER, TSB HUB, HĀWERA
TICKETS ARE \$70 PER PERSON OR \$650 FOR TABLE OF TEN (FROM ISITE AND TSB HUB). CASH BAR | R18
DISCO/ABBA NIGHT
ENJOY A UNIQUE CHRISTMAS DRAG CABARET, FULL OF DANCING, SINGING AND INCREDIBLE COSTUMES! ENJOY A CHRISTMAS BUFFET MEAL BEFORE DANCING THE NIGHT AWAY WITH DJ COCO!

Disco Christmas Cabaret

Oh what fun - it's time to eat, drink and be merry! South Taranaki District Council is once again hosting the popular end of year Christmas Cabaret, so get a group together and come and celebrate the festive season with us at TSB Hub on Friday 8 December. South Taranaki District Council TSB Hub Team Leader Tash Willison says this is the perfect end of year social event for local businesses, friends' groups or just someone who wants a good night out. Live entertainment will treat you throughout the evening. The night will start off with an incredible interactive performance from Flash Mob Entertainment's very own Drag Queens as they put on a Disco/ABBA themed

cabaret. To finish off the evening, DJ Coco will no doubt keep the dance floor alive well into the night. "We will provide a delicious Christmas buffet with all the trimmings, so get your workmates, social club or group of friends together and come dance the night away with us," says Tash. Doors open at 6pm for a 6.30pm show start. Email events@stdc.govt.nz for more information.

Tickets are now available from the South Taranaki isite Visitor Centre and TSB Hub for \$70 each, or \$65 each for groups of 10 or more.