

## Māpua and Districts Community Association meeting update – August 2024

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### Feline feedback open now

When we recently asked you about your feline friends and moggy mates we received a good quantity of worthwhile feedback.

Those comments and views have helped shape our draft Cat Management Bylaw which we're now seeking formal feedback on.

There were a lot of comments related to unmanaged cat populations, such as public health concerns and nuisances from stray cats.

Overpopulation leads to many stray cats suffering from poor health, disease, and malnutrition. Furthermore, unmicrochipped/unregistered pets are harder to reunite with their owners if lost. To tackle these issues and enhance the welfare of cats, our proposed bylaw focuses on humane and effective population management. The draft was developed with input from animal welfare organisations and the community and had strong public support in early engagement.

Key provisions of the Draft Bylaw:

- Microchipping and registration: All companion cats over six months old must be microchipped and registered on the National Companion Animal Register.
- De-sexing: Companion cats over six months old must be de-sexed, unless the owner is a registered breeder or has a vet-issued exemption certificate.

If you already have a cat you have until 1 June 2027 to meet these requirements.

You can see full details and share your feedback at [shape.tasman.govt.nz/cat-bylaw](https://shape.tasman.govt.nz/cat-bylaw), via email to [haveyoursay@tasman.govt.nz](mailto:haveyoursay@tasman.govt.nz) or drop it at one of our service centres. Submissions are open until 27 August 2024.

### Check before you chop our native forest

The recent conviction of a Murchison farmer and his associated business for illegally clearing almost 10 hectares of native bush on two sites has emphasised the need to check and understand the Tasman district's plan rules associated with an activity before undertaking work.

The sentencing Judge said that the offending was a “serious failure” of the defendants to fail to check the district plan provisions—in our case, this is the Tasman Resource Management Plan (TRMP).

Nearly half of our native plants and 82% of native birds are currently threatened or at risk of extinction. The removal of indigenous forest from both properties has had a significant adverse impact on the environment, resulting in the loss of valuable habitat for animals like kākā and South Island robin.

We acknowledge that making people aware of where to find the best information can reduce the likelihood of illegal activity taking place and the potential for prosecution.

Before doing any work on your farm or rural property, we recommend you assess your proposed activity against these rules to make sure you comply with our permitted activity status or whether you need to apply for Resource Consent.

The rules around the TRMP removal of indigenous forest can be found on the Council’s website [www.tasman.govt.nz](http://www.tasman.govt.nz), search ‘TRMP Part II - land ’

Our Tasman Rural Hub page is also a great resource for finding out the regulatory requirements for your activities [Tasman's rural sector rules | Tasman District Council](#) .

If you have any doubts about whether your proposed work will need Resource Consent or not, or have any questions , please contact our Duty Planner via [NRDutyPlanner@tasman.govt.nz](mailto:NRDutyPlanner@tasman.govt.nz).

## A word about water

How we manage and provide public water supply services, protect the water supply network, ensure public health and safety, and provide clear guidelines on water usage restrictions are the focus of our Public Water Supply Bylaw.

The review of this bylaw is needed to address legislative changes and clarify existing clauses for effective management of the public water supply.

There is also a new section to outline regulations at bulk water supply stations.

You can find out more and share your thoughts at [shape.tasman.govt.nz/public-water-supply-bylaw-review](http://shape.tasman.govt.nz/public-water-supply-bylaw-review), via email to [haveyoursay@tasman.govt.nz](mailto:haveyoursay@tasman.govt.nz) or drop it at one of our service centres. Submissions are open until 27 August 2024.

## Planning for public places

We want to ensure Tasman District’s public spaces are safe and enjoyable for all residents with our Public Places Bylaw. Key issues include enhancing public health and safety, minimising nuisances, and regulating trading activities.

For some areas, we are aiming to streamline processes by moving away from permits and licenses and instead setting out conditions for each activity.

The Draft Bylaw outlines specific regulations:

- Mobile trading: Conditional permissions for mobile traders, ensuring compliance with safety standards, location restrictions, and waste management protocols.
- Commercial services: Requirements for formal agreements with the Council for permanent or semi-permanent commercial operations in public areas.
- Street fundraising: Guidelines for legally recognised non-profit and professional fundraisers to conduct activities without obstructing pedestrian flow or causing hazards.
- Busking: Conditional permission for busking while keeping pedestrian access and noise levels, with mandatory relocation every two hours or as directed.
- Sandwich boards: Regulations on the size and placement of free-standing advertising signs to prevent obstruction and hazards.
- Outdoor dining: Licensing requirements for businesses offering outdoor dining on public pavements, ensuring pedestrian safety and access.

Get the full rundown and tell us what you'd prefer at [shape.tasman.govt.nz/public-places-bylaw](https://shape.tasman.govt.nz/public-places-bylaw), via email to [haveyoursay@tasman.govt.nz](mailto:haveyoursay@tasman.govt.nz) or drop it at one of our service centres. Submissions are open until 27 August 2024.

## The future shape of Tasman District Council

Every six years, we must review the way our community is represented by the Council, and we want your feedback.

On 17 July 2024, Tasman District Council reviewed its representation arrangements and resolved that the following proposal applies for the Council and its Community Boards for the elections to be held on 11 October 2025.

Tasman District Council will comprise a Mayor, who is elected at large, and 14 Councillors elected by wards.

Tasman District will be divided into five general wards and one Māori ward with Councillors being elected as follows:

- Richmond General Ward – four Councillors
- Motueka General Ward – three Councillors
- Moutere/Waimea General Ward – three Councillors
- Golden Bay General Ward – two Councillors
- Lakes/Murchison General Ward – one Councillor
- Te Tai o Aorere Māori Ward – one Councillor.

The Council resolved to continue with the existing two Community Board structures for Golden Bay and Motueka.

Copies of the Council's full resolution and maps setting out the areas of the proposed wards and communities are available at our service centres and libraries.

You can view the proposal and make a submission at [shape.tasman.govt.nz/representation-review](https://shape.tasman.govt.nz/representation-review). You can also make a submission in writing to Tasman District Council, 189 Queen Street, Private Bag 4, Richmond 7050, or email [haveyoursay@tasman.govt.nz](mailto:haveyoursay@tasman.govt.nz). Submissions open 29 July until 29 August.