

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

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### Holiday hours and services 2024/2025

We're on call these holidays. For urgent or emergency issues, you can contact us 24 hours a day on 03 543 8400.

#### Service centres

All service centres – Richmond, Motueka, Tākaka and Murchison – will close at 4.15 pm on Friday 20 December 2024 and reopen with normal hours on Monday 6 January 2025. This shutdown period also applies to all AA and NZTA services available at our service centres, and these services will not be available during this time.

#### Libraries

Richmond, Motueka and Tākaka libraries will close at 4.00 pm on Tuesday 24 December and will reopen again with normal hours on Monday 6 January. Murchison Library will be closed during the same time/dates as the Murchison Service Centre. Due dates for library items will be extended, so items will not be due back during the shutdown period. After hours returns chutes at Richmond, Motueka and Tākaka libraries will remain open. Our public Wi-Fi will still be accessible from outside library buildings.

#### eBuses

There is no eBus service on Christmas Day. On every other public holiday, the eBuses on Routes 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be running on a reduced timetable, and Routes 5 and 6 will not be running. When viewing the timetables at [ebus.nz](http://ebus.nz) select the holidays tab to see the schedules.

#### Rubbish and recycling

Rubbish and recycling collections scheduled for Christmas Day and New Year's Day will move from Wednesday to Thursday. Regular Thursday and Friday collections in these weeks will also be one day later. If you leave the area before collection day or have extra, you can drop your recycling and Council rubbish bags at any resource recovery centre free of charge. Our resource recovery centres

will be closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day, but otherwise open as normal. Opening hours vary for each centre and you can find details on our website.

### **Do you have more glass recycling than usual?**

Please don't overfill your glass recycling crate, if you do, it won't be emptied. The contents can't sit above the top lip of the crate, and it shouldn't weigh more than 12kg. When the crates are overfilled the bottles can fall and break, risking injuries to our collection team and others. You are welcome to put out more than one crate and you can buy additional crates from any of our service centres or resource recovery centres for \$31.35.

## **Tasman's 2023/2024 year summarised in Annual Report**

Our Annual Report has been adopted, on time to meet our statutory deadlines and with a clean audit opinion.

As well as reporting our financial position, the Annual Report shows how we've met community outcome objectives during the 12 months.

Despite a time of economic challenges and legislative change, we continued to deliver a diverse range of services and projects to the community, including:

- Adopted the 10-Year Plan 2024-2034
- Launched the eBus service
- Voted in favour of a Māori Ward
- Purchased a site for the Motueka Community Pool
- Waimea Community Dam became operational
- Signed relationship agreement with the eight iwi and three Councils of Te Taihū
- Upgraded the Motueka skatepark and constructed the Murchison pump track

Of the 109 non-financial targets that we set in Tasman's 10-Year Plan 2021 – 2031, we fully achieved 74 and a further five were within 5% of the target.

Total Council net assets are now valued at \$2.3 billion – an increase on the previous year's total of \$2.2 billion.

Our net external debt at 30 June 2024 was \$247.78 million. This is below the \$249.9 million forecast in the Annual Plan 2023/2024.

Total rates revenue for the year was \$100.05 million, and revenue from all other sources totalled \$128.35 million.

We also maintained a strong credit rating score from Standard and Poor's (S&P), reflecting robust financial management, which allows for favourable borrowing rates.

The report is now available at our service centres, libraries, and on our website: [tasman.govt.nz/annual-reports](https://tasman.govt.nz/annual-reports).

## Local water is taking Shape

Local Water Done Well is a phrase we'll be hearing a lot more about in the near future.

Under Local Water, all councils must submit a new water services delivery plan for drinking water and wastewater by next September. Stormwater management may be included in that plan or remain separately managed, though the details are still being worked out.

The Government is encouraging councils to collaborate for economies of scale, and we all must present our communities with at least two options for consideration in the second quarter of next year.

The three realistic options we have are:

- Status quo – where we manage our own three waters as a business unit;
- Single CCO – a council-controlled organisation manages our water services;
- Multi-council CCO – a body owned by multiple councils, in our case potentially Marlborough and Buller, manages water services for those councils.

Each choice has its pros and cons.

The reality is that delivering drinking water, wastewater disposal, and stormwater management will be more expensive, no matter which option is chosen.

We have significantly invested in providing and delivering safe drinking water to our people, including the construction of community treatment and storage facilities, but there is a great deal more to do.

We have put together a page on our Shape Tasman website to provide you with information about this process and how you can eventually have your say on its shape.

It also provides background about our current water and wastewater supplies right across Tasman District. Go to [shape.tasman.govt.nz/lwdw](https://shape.tasman.govt.nz/lwdw)

## Hi-tech ways to watch waters

Ensuring our waterways and streams are healthy and safe is part of the important work we do every day.

Protecting the health of our freshwater protects the health and wellbeing of the wider environment and our communities.

We do this in many ways, but one way that very few people know about is our network of automated stream monitoring systems that alert us to changes in urban waterway conditions.

Often people will drain their pools into neighbourhood streams thinking it's harmless and won't cause any problems – but it does. The chlorine that keeps contaminants at bay in your swimming pool will kill bigger bugs and fish when discharged into streams and waterways.

We record water flow, temperature and conductivity so even something that seems invisible can be detected.

Conductivity is essentially how well the water can conduct electricity and if certain contaminants are present this increases, so we know when salt water or chlorine from swimming pools is discharged.

Unlike paint or other coloured contaminants, it will go unnoticed to the naked eye, but to the aquatic life in the stream, this is a shock to the system and may be deadly to them.

But the automated systems can only do some of the work to ensure our streams and waterways stay healthy.

If you notice any discharge of liquid or rubbish into waterways or any spillage on land where it may enter waterways phone us on 03 543 8400 24 hours a day.

## Tis the season for sealing

Warmer temperatures and longer days mark the beginning of the road sealing season across Tasman where residents will notice a lot more road work activity from our Tasman Alliance partners Downer.

The resealing programme, from now until around March, is vital to keeping our roads safe for everyone. It's typically needed when a road surface starts to lose its waterproofing and grip qualities.

This year, with changes to traffic management requirements, there should be fewer disruptions for road users. New rules allow our crews to get in and out faster, reducing disruption, and making the operation more efficient and cost-effective.

This sealing season, we are running longer work sites than previously to allow the crew more space to work in each traffic management establishment. This reduces the cost of moving sites and will allow maximum productivity from machinery.

... And the good news is there will be fewer road cones.

We will let residents and businesses know about any roadworks on their streets ahead of work starting. We also share important road works activity via the Antenno app – download it for free from the app store on your phone.

## Pet cat bylaw passes

Your family's favourite feline is now covered by new rules adopted by elected members at a meeting late last month. The bylaw aims to ensure that domestic cats are well-cared for, can be easily reunited with family if they get lost, and their population is managed humanely and effectively.

We received 154 submissions during the consultation of our Cat Management Bylaw, covering a wide range of issues. The proposed Bylaw was widely supported in the submissions, with 89% supporting microchipping, 86% agreeing with registration, and 88% backing desexing.

All submissions were carefully considered, and some of the feedback directly influenced the final bylaw and future review considerations. All domestic cats over the age of six months need to be microchipped, registered with the New Zealand Companion Animal Register (NZCAR), and de-sexed. Exemptions to de-sexing are enabled where a cat is registered with a nationally

registered breeders body, or if a vet considered the procedure would adversely affect the health or welfare of the cat.

The bylaw comes into effect from 1 January 2025. However, if you already have a cat, you have until June 2026 to comply with the bylaw. If your cat is already microchipped, registered with NZCAR, and de-sexed, you do not need to do anything further.

When the bylaw is reviewed in five years, other issues such as pet cat containment/curfews, limits to cat numbers per household, and the feeding of colony cats, will be considered then. You can see the new bylaw at [shape.tasman.govt.nz/cat-bylaw](https://shape.tasman.govt.nz/cat-bylaw) or at our service centres and libraries.

## Public places provisions passed

A bylaw aimed at keeping our public spaces safe and enjoyable for all residents was adopted late last month. Our Public Places Bylaw covers a wide area and is designed to enhance public health and safety, minimising nuisances, and regulating trading activities.

For some areas, we wanted to streamline processes by moving away from permits and licenses, instead setting out conditions for activities. We received 35 submissions, some of which influenced changes to the final Bylaw. These points summarise the provisions of the Bylaw:

- Trading in parks and reserves is generally prohibited, with written exemptions possible for special events.
- Mobile trading is permitted, if requirements are met. There is no longer a need for a licence or permit.
- Commercial services occupying public space permanently or semipermanently must enter a formal agreement, with appropriate charges for use of the land.
- Street fundraising is permitted, if requirements are met. Prior written permission is no longer required.
- Busking is permitted, if requirements are met. A permit is no longer required.
- Businesses may only have one sandwich board. It must be put on the roadside edge of the footpath, with 1.8 metres of clear footpath. Maximum size is 600mm wide and deep, 900mm high. Larger advertising signs or flags on public land are not permitted.
- Businesses occupying public space for outdoor dining must obtain a licence. We may offer 20% discount on this if the business keeps the area smoke and vape-free.
- Outdoor furniture must not create a hazard for pedestrians and must allow a 1.8-metre-wide clear pathway. You can see a copy at our service centres and libraries, or at [shape.tasman.govt.nz/public-places-bylaw](https://shape.tasman.govt.nz/public-places-bylaw). It comes into effect on 1 February 2025.