

MAYORAL COLUMN



Mayor Craig Little

Firstly, I would like to encourage our community to apply for the Eastland Group Wairoa Contestable Community Grant if they think they've got a project idea that focuses on the Wairoa River.

You still have time to apply for this community development fund. Council will be extending the closing date for this fund from May 25 to a future date.

We heard feedback from the Wairoa community about how this fund should be applied, and it's awesome that Eastland Group

have supported the approach too.

This grant is targeted at the establishment or development of community services and projects focused on protecting, restoring, the health and well-being of the Wairoa River.

Application forms can be downloaded from the Wairoa District Council website www.wairoadc.govt.nz and hard copies are available from Council's office.

Council is still sifting through the 2018-28 Long Term Plan. We want to make sure we have got everything right before we adopt the plan and engage with our community.

If you missed last week's In Focus about what the LTP entails, Council has identified key projects that this community sees as priorities, based on the feedback from our ratepayers and commitments in our previous long-term and annual plans.

Maintaining our levels of services and infrastructure is core business for us so these projects are infrastructure-based and provide a foundation for building a strong and resilient community.

Council will be seeking to invest in infrastructure over the life of this plan.

These projects will keep our district working and are necessary to continue or improve levels of service and regulatory compliance.

Council and I are encouraging you our ratepayers to help us in setting these priorities and programmes, to help build a brighter tomorrow and invest in the future.

We will keep you updated as to when the consultation period starts. This will be in the coming weeks.

To submit your feedback on this LTP, you can use Wairoa District Council's online submission portal on www.wairoadc.govt.nz.

Council staff will also be distributing LTP consultation document to a number of locations around the Wairoa district, including Council's office.

There will also be a number of community consultation meetings around the district. We will keep you updated on these locations.

FOR YOUR DIARY

COUNCIL FORUM

Tuesday, 22 May: 1.30pm

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 29 May: 1.30pm

COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, 12 June: 1.30pm



CONTACT US

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COUNCIL PROFILES

Council recently celebrated milestones for two staff members who have been Council employees for 15 years and 11 years respectively.

Part-time office assistant Jackie Te Rangi has been with Council for 15 years and records-archives officer Jenna Phillips has been in this position for more than 10 years.

Jackie – Office Assistant:

"My Journey at the Wairoa District Council started February 2003. This was a split position of two work periods during the day, morning and afternoon.

"When I started here there was a variety of personalities working here from different ethnic groups which was great.

"District Council had only one records officer, Nicky Bradley, who also did the archives side of the organisation. Nicky taught me the records side and then I moved in to fill in when she was away. "The most fulfilling thing in this organisation is the comradeship when the chips are down and the motivation that the whole team pulls together to finalise anything.

"My job description encompasses most of the administration area: records officer, archives assistant, receptionist, and my own office assistant.

"The pride I feel when I complete something beyond my capabilities and hearing the Council spoken of in a positive way from non-council workers is GREAT!

"We have great staff here, which makes Council a great place to work."

Jenna – Records and Archives:

"I started in April 2007 helping out for the Building Department and then May 19 2008 I started my job as the records-archives officer... but, I have been with Council for 11 years.

"I was nervous being in a new role. Knowing Jackie made it easier for me to slot into my new role. Now it's just being like part of the furniture.

"The most that has changed is the new staff. A lot have gone and a lot of new ones have come along; as well as new managers and CEOs.

"There are 10 of us still here as the originals, since I have been in this job.

Jenna's job involves multitasking: not only does it involve records-Archives it also involves information technology, cover for reception and stationery orders.

"Every day is different."

Are you entitled to a rates rebate in 2017/2018?



There is a change for the rating year beginning on 1 July 2017

1. The maximum rates rebate increases to \$620.
2. The income threshold has increased to \$24,790. (If you earned more than this, you might still be eligible).
3. The additional income amount for each dependant remains at \$500

Where can you get a rates rebate application form?

- from your local council or
- www.dia.govt.nz/ratesrebate

What supporting information might you need?

- proof of your pre-tax income for the tax year ended 31 March 2017
- your rates notice, or notices, for local and regional rates
- proof of income of your partner and/or joint homeowner living with you.

Applications close on 30 June 2018 and cannot be accepted after this date

LONG TERM PLAN
2018-2028

CONSULTATION
OPENING
SOON

