

MAYORAL COLUMN



Mayor Craig Little

TOP QRS RESULT

I was thrilled when QRS announced it has now returned to profitability.

As its sole owner, Council will receive a total dividend of \$110,000 which will lessen the ratepayer burden.

On top of that QRS poured \$6.2 million back into the community via wages and salaries to 95 employees and it also supported the community in many other ways.

QRS board chairman Guy Gaddum acknowledged the revitalised relationship between QRS and Council.

Council.

That has included Council undertaking a review to see how the Council and QRS could work better together and identifying opportunities for improvement from governance to operations across both organisations.

QRS is a Council Controlled Trading Organisation (CCTO) and as such it is important we regularly undertake performance monitoring to ensure we are achieving our shared goals.



Council and QRS have a healthy aligned relationship, and both organisations want what is best for Wairoa, it is important we maintain this connection.

Due to commercial and employment sensitivities around this review the details have not been released.

I acknowledge the hard work from the QRS board, management, particularly chief executive Nigel Pollock, and staff who have contributed to this turnaround.

QRS is an essential feature of our district. The recent weather event showed us how isolated we can be with all the main roads into the district closed by slips and flooding.

QRS was able to open up roads from the inside working out. If we didn't have that local capability we could have remained isolated for a lot longer and with all the work that needed doing I'm sure we wouldn't have been a priority.

2018 VALUATIONS

The Quotable Value rating revaluation figures are out and show our district's properties have a rateable value of \$2,430,125,000.

This compares to the 2015 rateable value of \$1,775,553,000.

The 2018 valuations have significantly improved as demand for property in our district increases.

RATEABLE PROPERTY VALUE

2018	2015
\$2.4	\$1.8
MILLION	MILLION

Rating valuations are carried out on all properties in New Zealand, usually every three years, to specifically help local councils apportion rates for the following three-year period.

Movement in valuations will affect all ratepayers differently with rating values just one of a number of factors councils uses to allocate rates.

Every year Council sets a budget based on its operating costs, we don't look for more money just because values have gone up.

Council's operating costs for 2018/19 are forecast to be \$24.5 million, with \$12.7 million paid for by rates.

When the rating valuations take place, some sectors increase, or decrease, by different proportions than others.

It is a relative measure and based on both land values and capital values.

The rates that are assessed by land value and capital value are calculated by dividing the corresponding rates total over the total land value and capital value in the district.

Then the differentials are applied.

Valuations don't affect the total rates, just the distribution.

The 2018 Wairoa District Council rates will not be affected by this year's valuation, and the new valuations will take effect from July 1st 2019.

GREAT COUNCIL COOK-OFF

It was fantastic to be involved in the Great Council cook-off at the Hawke's Bay Show.

I traded the searing iron for an apron, and while it was inconvenient from a docking perspective, it's important that Wairoa is represented at these events.

It was great to meet celebratory chef Ray McVinnie and presenters and My Kitchen Rules chefs Monique and Henry Heke who had a great connection with our district.

Wairoa got a lot of airtime, even though the organisers were disappointed I didn't bring any lambs' tails with me.

I was teamed up with our immediate neighbour, the district of Hastings, and while the Napier/Central Hawke's Bay combo beat us it was a fun time with lots of banter but mostly it showed me how far we have come as a region and what a great place Hawke's Bay is, particularly when we are all working together.

FOR YOUR DIARY

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

FINANCE, AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 30 October: 1.30pm

COUNCIL FORUM

Tuesday, 6 November: 1.30pm

MĀORI STANDING COMMITTEE

Thursday, 8 November: 12.30pm

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 13 November: 1.30pm

COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, 27 November: 1.30pm



CONTACT US

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GREAT THINGS GROW HERE™
HAWKE'S BAY NEW ZEALAND

RATES PAYMENT DATES

INSTALMENT NO	RATING PERIOD COVERED	RATES DUE DATES
1	1 July to 30 September	26 October 2018
2	1 October to 31 December	4 December 2018
3	1 January to 31 March	20 February 2019
4	1 April to 30 June	20 May 2019

PENALTIES FOR INSTALMENTS 1 AND 2 WILL NOT BE APPLIED



LANDFILL PRICE CHANGES

EFFECTIVE 1 NOVEMBER

GREEN WASTE
Per tonne: \$100.00
Min. Weight 25kg: \$2.50
(\$1 increase)



GENERAL WASTE
Per tonne: \$200.00
Min. Weight 25kg: \$5.00
(40 cents increase)



HARD FILL (RUBBLE, CONCRETE)
Per tonne: \$60.00

