



Runway reseal takes off at Marlborough Airport

Construction is set to begin on Marlborough Airport's largest maintenance project to date, which includes re-paving the runway and adjacent aviation surfaces, as well as improvements to the short-term car park.

Investments in maintaining and improving airport infrastructure are important to ensure the safety and efficiency of air travel in Marlborough, said Dean Heiford, chief executive of Marlborough Airport Ltd (MAL).

"Runways are the highest risk for any airport and safety is the top priority for aircraft and travellers visiting Marlborough. This investment in infrastructure is once every 15 years, so we are also taking this opportunity to improve aviation lighting, airside access for emergency vehicles and capabilities for electric aircraft arriving in 2026," Mr Heiford said.

"The project also includes improvements to the older car park near the terminal, where we're adding nearly 1,000 native plants and a new outdoor seating area, while we re-pave and improve its layout."

This \$10.7M investment in infrastructure is funded through airport operations, with most of the airside construction at night to minimise disruption to scheduled flights and the public. A brief disruption is planned in the short-term car park later this year.

"There are 35 nightshifts planned to lay 70,500 square metres of pavement across the airport's runway, taxiway and apron. There are no planned disruptions to flights, as this work will be done in sections and at night," Mr Heiford said. "The short-term car park will be closed for a brief period after the runway reseal, so that we can improve the layout and drainage, as well as reseal the car park surface."

TDZ Projects is leading the project delivery, alongside design engineers Beca and recently appointed contractor Fulton Hogan. In 2024, a rigorous closed tender process was carried out and



📷 The airport's largest maintenance project to date.

specialist contractors were invited to bid on this project, based on previous airport experience in high-risk projects.

"We received a strong response to the tender process, which was chosen due to the specialist nature and high risks involved with the project," Mr Heiford said. "It was highly competitive, not only in price but also risk management and the calibre of people with previous airport experience."

For the first time in the airport's procurement process, sustainability initiatives accounted for 10 per cent of the tender. This has resulted in the project millings, or crushed bits of old pavement, to be saved and re-used in future projects in Marlborough.

MAL is a Council-controlled organisation, 100 per cent owned by MDC Holdings, which is a Council-controlled trading organisation established to act as a holding company for its commercial entities, such as MAL, as well as Port Marlborough NZ Ltd and its subsidiaries.

In addition to commercial flights and delivering dividends to Council, the airport is a lifeline under the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002.

For updates on this project, visit the airport website at www.marlboroughairport.co.nz

Disc golf booming in Blenheim

New signs have been placed on the Taylor River Reserve, marking the Disc Golf Course.

Disc golf, also known as frisbee golf, involves players throwing a disc at a target using rules similar to golf.

The sport is played on a nine or 18-hole course. A nine-hole Taylor River disc golf course was established in 2020 and funded by the Blenheim Round Table. In 2022 Council agreed to fund another nine holes with the course itself built by passionate members of the Blenheim disc golf community.

After extensive consultation with participants, signs designed by Council's in-house design team were installed, completing the project.

The course is well used, and it is hoped the signs will encourage even more users to the area.



Council services on Waitangi Day

Council's Blenheim office, Marlborough Library (Blenheim) and Picton Library and Service Centre are closed on Waitangi Day, Thursday 6 February.

REFUSE, RECYCLING, AND KERBSIDE COLLECTIONS

Kerbside refuse and recycling will be collected as usual.

The Resource Recovery Centre, Re-use Centre and Waste Sorting Centre will be open from 8am until 4.30pm. The **landfill** will be open between 8am and midday only. The **E Waste** facility will be closed.

The Picton and Havelock transfer stations will be open as usual from 8am until 4pm. **Rai Valley Transfer Station** will be open from 9am until midday. **Transfer stations in Seddon and Wairau Valley** will be closed.

BUS SERVICES

Bus services will not run on Thursday 6 February.



Do you qualify for a rates rebate?

If you are a ratepayer on a low income, you may qualify for a rates rebate of up to \$790.

To qualify, you need to be paying the rates on the home you live in, your name must be on the rates invoice and your home cannot be used principally for farming or business purposes.

How much the rebate will be depends on the amount of your rates, your total household income and the number of dependants living with you. To see if you qualify go to: [www.govt.nz/browse/housing-and-property/getting-help-with-](http://www.govt.nz/browse/housing-and-property/getting-help-with-housing/getting-a-rates-rebate/rates-rebate-calculator/)

[housing/getting-a-rates-rebate/rates-rebate-calculator/](http://www.govt.nz/browse/housing/getting-a-rates-rebate/rates-rebate-calculator/)

Apply in person at Council's Customer Service Centre in Blenheim or at the Picton Library or go to Council's website and apply online at: www.marlborough.govt.nz/services/rates/rates-rebate/rates-rebate-application-form?ed-step=1

You'll need your income details for the year ended 31 March 2024 to apply.

Applications for this rating year close on

30 June 2025; no late applications will be accepted.

Please note, if visiting the Blenheim office, there are two car parks for mobility permit holders located at the rear of the building for your convenience.

For more information or to check if you have already applied for this rating year, call Council's Customer Services on Ph: 03 520 7400 or email mdc@marlborough.govt.nz