

He kōrero nā te Kaunihera o Wairau. News from Marlborough District Council.



Marlborough's new Puna Wai Hockey Stadium on Nelson Street on opening day with the water guns going

Puna Wai springs from Te Tātoru o Wairau

The aspirations of hockey in Marlborough rose like water from the ground with the recent dawn blessing and opening of a new water turf and pavilion - Puna Wai Hockey Stadium - on Nelson Street at Marlborough Girls' College.

The opening of the new facility follows Council surrendering the lease of College Park, Hockey Marlborough's current home, in 2021, to the Ministry of Education. At the time it was planned that Bohally Intermediate would be reconstructed on College Park as part of the Combined Schools Project - Te Tātoru o Wairau - and a new hockey turf and pavilion would be built near the Marlborough Girls' College. In January 2024 the Combined Schools Project was cancelled by the Government but the hockey turf development was already underway.

Rangitāne o Wairau, Ngāti Kuia, Ngāti Toa Rangatira and Ngāti Rārua representatives led the blessing attended by Mayor Taylor,

Marlborough Girls' College acting principal Emily Stenhouse and Board Member Brian Roughan, Hockey Marlborough chair Jodie Lawson, many of those involved in the new facility's design and construction, community members and students of both the girls' and boys' colleges.

Iwi gifted the name Puna Wai (spring of water), described by Mayor Taylor as a "true taonga", to the new building. Waipuna is the area of town in which the turf is located.

The turf was designed by Hugh Barnes Consultants and built by Findlater Construction. Cuddons, Callahan Martella, TC Nicholls and Tiger Turf were also involved.

The 590m2 two-storey hockey pavilion was designed by Arthouse Architects and built by Robinsons Construction with a number of local sub-contractors. It comprises changing rooms and showers, irrigation pump room, a meeting room, kitchen, large community area and an external deck.

The project also included a new car park, player dug outs, eight light towers, a new water gun system and high-ball fencing. The international regulation artificial turf has been constructed using an innovative product called Ecocept, a porous layer found under the synthetic turf. Ecocept, supplied and installed by Tiger Turf, is made from recycled rubber and end of life plastic.



Dignitaries gather at the dawn blessing from left Peter Meihana (Rangitāne O Wairau Iwi Representative Te Tātoru O Wairau), Hockey Marlborough's Jodie Lawson (chair) and Andy Rowe, Marlborough Girls' College Board Member Brian Roughan, Mayor Nadine Taylor, Marlborough Girls' College acting principal Emily Stenhouse, Marlborough Boys' College principal John Kendall, Michelle Lavender (Ngāti Rārua Iwi Representative Te Tātoru O Wairau), Johnny Joseph (Ngāti Tōa Rangatira Iwi Representative Te Tātoru O Wairau), Elaine Wilson (Ngāti Kuia Trustee); Tania Alesana (Ngāti Kuia Co-chair) and Carol Tipene (Ngāti Kuia Trustee)

358 submissions received on Long Term Plan

Public submissions to Council's Long Term Plan 2024-2034 closed on 13 May. Three hundred and fifty eight were received in total.

Of the submissions, 166 were related to the Marlborough Sounds roading funding options for repair and reinstatement, the largest category of submission.

The rest cover a variety of items including community facilities, general roading, flood protection and infrastructure planning.

Hearings will be held from 10 to 21 June with 103 submitters requesting to speak. The mayor and councillors will consider all submissions on Monday 24 June.

The Marlborough Regional Land Transport Plan 2024-2027 also closed for public submissions on 13 May. Eleven submissions were received.

Mayor Nadine Taylor warmly thanked all submitters.

"It's great to see such strong interest in the future of Marlborough - thank you to everyone who has taken the time to have their say. It's now over to councillors and myself to consider everyone's feedback, suggestions and ideas. I look forward to the public hearings and also some robust discussions with councillors before we decide on our final recommendations."

Rabbit control on Taylor River Reserve starts in July

Increasing numbers of rabbits on the Taylor River Reserve area are to be controlled.

Two areas are being targeted, both on the western side of the Taylor River.

The first 49-hectare block runs from Doctors Creek through to the boundary of the lifestyle block area on Waters Avenue and the second 21-hectare block runs from the Wither Road extension through to Richardson Avenue.

The targeted pest control operation is planned to start in July and reserve users are advised to avoid walking dogs in the area. Those who still want to exercise their dog are asked to ensure they are on a leash.

Council will use pindone laid in fenced bait stations followed by night shooting to reduce numbers. This will help get rabbit numbers below the required level set in Marlborough's Regional Pest Management Plan.

Council's Park and Open Spaces team advised Council that the rabbit population in two areas of the Taylor River Reserve was high and needed to be brought under control as rabbits damaged the reserve and its vegetation.

In 2021, Council undertook a rabbit control operation using calicivirus, but current counts show numbers are high again.

Pindone is an anti-coagulant poison, commonly used for rabbit control since the 1940s in New Zealand. It is considered relatively safe to both dogs and cats as a large volume would need to be consumed over a number of days to affect them. As a precaution, Council advises people with dogs to avoid the area where signs are in place.

Anyone with any concerns their dog has eaten Pindone should contact their vet as there is an antidote available.

All precautions will be taken to ensure only rabbits eat the bait. Bait stations will be fenced where necessary to prevent interactions with stock, dogs and children and will only be opened at night.

If a bait station appears to have been interfered with, please contact the Parks and Open Spaces team at Council; Ph: 03 520 7400

Warning signs will be placed in the two areas.

Taylor River works

Improvement works are continuing on the Taylor River either side of the Hutcheson Street bridge.

Council's Rivers and Drainage Engineering Manager Andy White said the work began at the beginning of May to recover channel capacity in the Taylor River.

The Rivers and Drainage Engineering team had been planning this precursory edging work ahead of a larger

programme due to start later this year, subject to Long Term Plan approval.

"The work involves the removal of sediment and gravels that have gradually aggraded in recent years resulting in higher water levels," he said.

"With the sediment removed, the team is finishing the works over the next fortnight by placing rock as an edge protection to prevent future bank erosion."



A digger works on removing sediment from the Taylor River in front of the ASB Theatre

Nationwide test of alert system this Sunday

The nationwide test of the Emergency Mobile Alert system is this Sunday 26 May between 6pm and 7pm.

Sunday's test alert will be sent to all areas in New Zealand with mobile coverage. You don't need to sign up or download an app to receive the alert - just make sure your phone is on and your operating system is up to date.

Emergency Mobile Alerts are messages about emergencies sent by authorised emergency agencies to capable mobile phones. The alerts are designed to keep people safe and are broadcast to cell phones from targeted cell towers.

The Emergency Mobile Alert is an additional channel to help keep people in New Zealand safe and does not replace other alerting channels such as radio, television, websites and social media, or the need to act after natural warnings.

If you feel your life may be in danger, do not wait for an official warning. Take immediate action. Remember - long or strong, get gone.

For more information on Emergency Mobile Alerts go to: <https://getready.govt.nz/prepared/stay-informed/emergency-mobile-alert>



Get on board the Picton bus

Marlburians are encouraged to get on board a new, extended Picton bus service including Saturdays.

Council has approved the trial of a Saturday bus service for 12 months, funded from existing budgets. There have been a number of enquiries about a Saturday service from the Picton community, particularly to visit the new Marlborough Library and Art Gallery at Te Kahu o Waipuna in Blenheim. The trial will also enable Picton residents to make use of the facilities at Marlborough Lines Stadium 2000 and allow Blenheim residents to visit Picton for the day.

Bike-Walk and Public Transport portfolio holder Councillor Jonathan Rosene said there was existing budget to conduct the trial.

"We encourage people to get on board and make use of the opportunities it will provide for travel in both directions. This is good for both road safety and the environment."

The trial is budgeted at \$27,500 and will start on Saturday 25 May. It will be assessed after 12 months to consider the volumes compared to the weekday

service and the information will be presented to Council to consider.

The Picton bus service officially started in June 2023. Currently there is an average of 390 passengers per week using the service, operated by contractor Ritchies. Cost is \$4 each way.

For further information go to: www.marlborough.govt.nz/services/bus-services



Fancy a day trip to Blenheim or Picton on Saturdays? Support Council's trial of an extended service starting Saturday 25 May

Drinking? Don't drive

It's time to get our heads around it.

New Zealanders continue to get behind the wheel after drinking, with alcohol being a major factor contributing to deaths and serious injuries crashes in Marlborough.

According to the Police and NZTA, between 2014 and 2023, alcohol contributed to at least 13 per cent of road deaths and serious injuries in Marlborough. This is higher than Nelson Bays and the West Coast.

In response, Police, NZTA and Council are working together in June to collectively target people in Marlborough who continue to think it's ok to drink and drive. This is part of a wider campaign targeting Canterbury, Tasman and Greater Wellington.

Council's Road Safety Action Plan Group Chair Councillor Jonathan Rosene said people would be reminded of the consequences through education and advertising, backed up on the ground by Police vehicle checks, enforcement and driver education.

"As a community we must not tolerate drink driving. Together we need to shift the attitudes and behaviours of our 'drink drivers' so they see themselves the same as 'drunk drivers'," said Councillor Rosene.

"For a long time there has been plenty of information available on how to arrange a safer ride home. There's just no excuse. This June, Council is joining forces with road safety partners to target people who continue to drink and drive and put us all at risk."

Drink driving has a significant impact not only on the driver themselves, but on passengers and people using the road around them. Around 40 per cent of people injured in crashes involving alcohol were not the driver.

"Find out more about how to keep yourself and others safe, because there's more to lose than your licence," Councillor Rosene said.

For more information go to: www.nzta.govt.nz/drinking-dont-drive



Marlborough District Councillor Jonathan Rosene (left) with Blenheim Police Sergeant Josh Clauson discuss the campaign to target people in Marlborough who drink and drive



Public Notices

Meet your Council



Mayor Nadine Taylor leads a team of 14 elected councillors. They are responsible for making decisions and developing policies that will help shape our province into the future.

Council's vision is that Marlborough is a globally-connected district of smart, progressive, high-value enterprises, known for its economic efficiency, quality lifestyle and wellbeing, caring community, desirable location and healthy natural environment.

For more information or to contact one of your elected representatives, go to: www.marlborough.govt.nz/your-council/councillors or Ph: 03 520 7400.

Dog registration starts soon

The dog registration year runs from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 and all dogs over three months old must be registered. Forms for the 2024/25 dog registration year will be sent to owners' last known address at the beginning of June.

Changes to the fees this year are outlined in the table below.

Category	Annual fee
Category One (non-working dog must be desexed and microchipped and have no infringement notice for the last 2 years i.e. since 1 July 2022)	\$65
Category Two (non-working dog which does not meet Category One criteria and includes menacing dogs)	\$96
Old dog (new category for dogs over 12 years old as of 1 July 2024)	\$48
Dangerous dog	\$144
Working dog	\$23
10+ working dogs (for each extra dog)	\$12

Please let Animal Control know if:

- Ownership of your dog changes
- Your dog leaves the district
- You have a change of address
- Your dog dies

If you have any questions please Contact Animal Control on Ph: 03 520 9033 or email animalcontrol@xtra.co.nz

This is a public notice in accordance with section 37(6) of the Dog Control Act 1996.

Proposed road closures, navigation warnings and alcohol licensing

For the latest public notices, please go to: www.marlborough.govt.nz/your-council/latest-news-notice-and-media-releases/all-news-notice-and-media-releases

Awatere and Dashwood rural boil water notice

Water from Council's reticulation network to the Awatere and Dashwood rural areas should be boiled.

It does not currently meet the NZ Drinking Water Standards and may contain bacteria or protozoa that are harmful to human health.

All water used for drinking, food preparation or cleaning teeth should be boiled before use.

Treated water is available at the public taps on Marama Road, outside Seddon School. For further information contact Council on Ph: 03 520 7400.



Council's Harbours team - working to ensure our waterways are safe for everyone to enjoy.

Contact the Harbourmaster's Office if you need advice or information about Marlborough's harbours.

03 520 7400 | HARBOURS@MARLBOROUGH.GOV.T.NZ



Blenheim Customer Service Centre

15 Seymour Street, Blenheim 7201

Ph: 03 520 7400

mdc@marlborough.govt.nz

Mon - Tues 8.30am - 4.30pm

Wed 8.30am - 12.30pm

1.30pm - 4.30pm

Thurs - Fri 8.30am - 4.30pm

Picton Library & Service Centre

2 Dublin Street, Picton 7220

Ph: 03 520 7493

pictonlibrary@marlborough.govt.nz

Mon - Tues 8am - 5pm

Wed 9am - 5pm

Thurs - Fri 8am - 5pm

Sat 10am - 4pm

Sun 1pm - 4pm

Council & Committee Meetings

The following meetings are open to the public and anyone is welcome to attend. Copies of the agendas will be available online and at Council's Office, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim.

Special Hearing Committee (Long Term Plan)

Monday 10 June to Friday 21 June 2024

Council

Monday 24 June at 9am

Economic, Finance & Community Committee

Tuesday 25 June at 9am

Public Forum

A public forum will be held prior to the Economic, Finance & Community Committee meeting, starting at 8.30am. If you wish to address the Committee you will need to confirm your attendance and speaking time with the Committee Secretary at least 24 hours prior. Please note topics are restricted to those agenda items for the meeting or within the Committee's delegation.

The times and dates may be subject to change, please contact the Committee Secretary, Ph: 03 520 7400 for confirmation.