

News from Marlborough District Council.

Marlborough Airport wins top sustainability award

Marlborough Airport has, alongside Wellington Airport, won the Sustainability Initiative of the Year award for their joint bid to host New Zealand's first all-electric aircraft with Air New Zealand.



Marlborough's Steve Holtum and Wellington Airport's Sustainability Manager Georgina Blane accepted the joint sustainability award at the Hobbiton-themed NZ Airports Hui in Hamilton.

The win came at the annual NZ Airports Hui in Hamilton, a conference recognising excellence in achievements for airports and supporting industries.

Bidding for this trial attracted strong interest from most airports across New Zealand. Both Wellington and Marlborough airports share Air New Zealand's ambition to accelerate the change needed to decarbonise aviation, while keeping New Zealanders connected.

This trial route is the first major step in lowering emissions for domestic aviation to help meet New Zealand's international targets.

"Decarbonising domestic aviation is going to take everyone working together," Dean Heiford, Chief Executive of Marlborough Airport said.

"We look forward to the learnings and opportunities for this trial route and have already started to share this knowledge with other airports."

Wellington Airport will be the home base of Air New Zealand's first next-generation aircraft, BETA's ALIA CTOL, while Marlborough Airport will also establish charging infrastructure to power the aircraft for the return journey.

From 2026, this route will initially operate as a cargo-only service between the North and South Islands for New Zealand Post.

At the conference Operations and Safety Manager Steve Holtum took part in a panel discussion about preparations underway to host the aircraft in Marlborough.

Steve is leading the health and safety aspects of the trial, including working with the fire service to identify risks with electric aircraft and charging stations and with Wellington to develop emergency responses involving electric aircraft.

This year, the airport is investing in infrastructure upgrades needed for the electric aircraft trial alongside local partners such as Marlborough Lines.

Other sustainability initiatives underway include waste reduction from terminal operations, an investigation of a solar farm and plans for expanding greenspace near the terminal.

Have your say on Council's annual plan

Got a great idea for the future of Marlborough? Marlborough District Council wants to hear your ideas and feedback as part of its annual plan public engagement starting this week.

Simply go online on your smart phone or a computer at: <https://links.marlborough.govt.nz/haveyoursay> and tell us about your big idea or worthwhile project. The engagement closes on 20 January 2025.

The engagement process uses user-friendly software to help people submit their idea. You can also vote on what you think about other people's ideas. Your ideas on how we achieve our community outcomes will be analysed and presented to the Council's budget meeting in April 2025.

Council has improved the way it undertakes annual planning in an effort to get early community input in a simple way, particularly feedback and ideas on the services and projects proposed in next year's Annual Plan, which covers the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.

The next full public consultation will be for the Long Term Plan 2027-37, with a public engagement process expected to begin in November 2026.

Council will continue to consult the community on other proposed projects and service changes, such as the Water Services Delivery Plan.

Anyone wanting help to provide their ideas online is welcome to call Council's Customer Service Centre; Ph: (03) 520 7400 or email: ftp@marlborough.govt.nz

Sign up for annual and long term plan updates at: www.marlborough.govt.nz/your-council/long-term-and-annual-plans-policies-and-reports/annual-long-term-plan-notifications

Turning trash into treasure

Marlborough's Re-use Shop is a treasure trove of previously loved goods saved from going to the landfill.

Eagle-eyed staff who are passionate about the environment make sure any usable items are given a new lease of life and any groups looking for items are welcome to put their hands up.

Take Outward Bound - the non-profit organisation goes through lots of crockery so take any white plates, bowls and cups that are free of chips and cracks.

Blenheim School was recently refurbishing their cooking unit so kitchen utensils were put aside for them.

Chloe Abernethy from JBL Environmental Ltd which runs the Re-use Shop is excited about future plans for the shop and working with people, groups and businesses to continue to reduce what goes to landfill.

"There are lots of different ways these materials can be used and there is so much of it - we love seeing the benefit it brings to people," she said.

JBL works closely with local businesses on projects including the Pallet Recovery Scheme which has diverted more than 200 tonnes of pallets going to landfill by offering them to the community for projects.

Another popular project is the repurposing of coco peat from a local tomato farm which is given away as garden mulch, keeping around 180 cubic metres of waste from the landfill every year.

In coordination with Council, JBL also carry out the Unwanted Goods Project which collects surplus household goods and furniture and delivers it to people in need throughout Marlborough and through organisations such as Kainga Ora, WINZ and migrant groups.

"It really is easy to keep stuff out of the landfill and we are blessed with amazing staff who support other organisations as we all work together," she said.

Chloe says they are currently setting up bins to make sorting reusable goods easier and developing their yard into a more user-friendly place.



Nic Fairbrother and Jabian Takarua from JBL Environmental admiring the well-stocked shelves at the Re-use Shop

Armistice Day marked

Armistice Day was marked in Blenheim with a ceremony at Seymour Square, beginning with a flypast.

Mayor Nadine Taylor welcomed those gathered before short addresses from Wing Commander Michele Mitchell, Base Commander at RNZAF Base Woodbourne and Lieutenant Stu Edwards RN from the British High Commission.

Kyla Thorstensen from Marlborough Girls' College sang the national anthem and wreaths were laid, poppies placed, prayers said and the Last Post played.

The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month (11am on 11 November) is when hostilities ceased on the Western Front in 1918 following the signing of the armistice.



The flypast at Seymour Square on Armistice Day

Exercising for emergencies

Council staff and support agencies have participated in two emergency exercises including a major earthquake scenario and an oil spill in Picton.

Exercise Pandora 2024 was a South Island-wide event centred on a major rupture of the Alpine Fault.

It operated out of the Emergency Coordination Centre in Wither Road.

Marlborough Emergency Services Officer Gary Spence said the exercise's aim was to measure Marlborough's response to the complexities of an Alpine Fault (AF8) earthquake.

It was an opportunity for Marlborough CDEM to be lead agency along with support agencies including Fire and Emergency New Zealand, Hato Hone St John, NZ Police, Health New Zealand Te Whatu Ora, Ministry of Social Development and infrastructure

entities such as Marlborough Roads and Marlborough Lines.

"The day went well and it was great to see all the functions and agencies coming together to trial this response.

The lessons learned will be valuable for all involved when we face this in real time one day," Gary said.

Around 20 people from Council - including most of the Nautical and Coastal Team, Maritime NZ, Marlborough Emergency Management and Port Marlborough - dealt with a mock diesel spill at Waikawa's northwest marina.

The area covered a total of 10 hectares with booms and skimmers deployed to contain and scoop up the diesel.

"This was an opportunity for response teams to evaluate plans, equipment and systems. All went well," Regional On-scene Commander Pete Hamill said.



Council Chief Executive John Boswell (centre) with Gary Spence (left) and Brian Paton from Marlborough CDEM during Exercise Pandora



Booms in place as part of the oil spill practice at the Waikawa northwest marina

Damaged water main to be replaced

A failed water main on the Sinclair Street bridge will be replaced.

November's Assets and Services Committee heard that the water main in the deck/footpath of the bridge had failed. A leak was identified in July and further investigation found a split in the pipe at the deck and road interface.

Operations and Maintenance Service Engineer Stephen Rooney said the pipeline had been isolated to stop water loss and potential damage to roading infrastructure but that meant reduced water flow to the Mayfield and Riversdale areas.

"This is an area where there is movement between the bridge deck and the flexible roading pavement - the underside of the pipe has split at this point," his report to the committee said.

"If it is not replaced there may be lower than desired water pressure in these areas during summer and it may also impact on firefighting capacity," he said.

An estimate for the replacement is \$350,000 given the repair was likely to be complex, requiring replacement of the pipe the full length of the bridge.

Traffic management costs were also considerable given the bridge is part of SH1.

The committee approved replacing the pipe with money from existing budgets.



The damaged water main on the Sinclair Street bridge

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.

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.



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

Protect our paradise - keep your boats clean

If you're planning to explore our coastal waters this summer, now is the time to prepare your vessel and gear to protect our paradise from biosecurity risks.

Unwanted marine pests and weeds, such as Mediterranean fanworm and Caulerpa, can wreak havoc on our natural ecosystems and pose a threat to Marlborough's local aquaculture industry.

Keep your hull, gear and anchor clean to help stop invasive marine pests and weeds from spreading - and ruining the places you love. Any boat could spread an invasive marine pest when it moves, so remember:

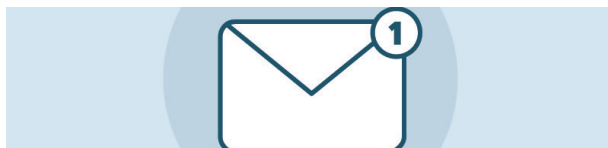
- For all boats - check and clean the gear and anchor and manage on-board water as you go during a trip
- For a trailer boat - clean when you get home
- For a moored boat - maintain antifouling



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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 8.30am - 5pm

Wed 9am - 5pm

Thurs - Fri 8.30am - 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 7201.

Economic, Finance & Community Committee

Tuesday 26 November 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 prior to the meeting.

Please note topics are restricted to the agenda items or those within the Committee's delegation.

Council

Thursday 12 December at 9am

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

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

