



New senior housing complex completed

Council's largest investment in senior housing in decades is completed.

Council Project and Contracts Manager Maighan Watson said the new units represented Council's most significant housing project in more than 30 years. "This new complex increases our senior housing stock with fit-for-purpose, centralised housing for seniors," she said. The facility, at 85 George Street in Blenheim, consists of 12 one-bedroom units, six on each level. It was built from permanent materials and designed to 5-Star Lifemark accessibility standards. The build is the first in Council's senior housing portfolio to have two storeys.



📷 New 85 George Street tenant Sue Macdonald and Councillor David Croad enjoy the view from Council's first two storey units.

Deputy Mayor and Housing for Seniors Sub-Committee Chair Councillor David Croad, spoke at the dawn blessing led by Rangitāne, Ngāti Rārua and Ngāti Toa. "It's a special moment for our seniors who will make their new homes here. This complex reflects our commitment to maintaining and modernising our housing stock for more than 190 tenants and the wider Marlborough community.

It's an exceptional asset and one I hope will be enjoyed by its tenants long into the future," he said. Councillor Croad acknowledged Council's current Housing for Seniors committee members as well as previous council and committee leadership, noting that the project had spanned multiple terms. "The long-held vision was to develop the 800 square metre plot and in late 2020

after careful consideration and planning, Council agreed to progress this," Councillor Croad said. Construction started last year, based on designs by Palatchie Architecture + Design. Councillor Croad thanked some of those who had played a key role including T & D Construction along with the trade sub-contractors.

Remedial water main works underway in Picton

Critical works to reconnect a water main at the intersection of Dublin and Auckland streets in Picton are progressing.

Council's Operations and Maintenance Engineer Stephen Rooney said the pipeline Council needed to recommission ran from the Market Street corner, along Dublin Street to the Auckland Street intersection. "Unfortunately there was not sufficient time to do this work before opening Dublin Street for vehicle and pedestrian traffic at the end of August," he said. "This water main was originally going to be replaced as part of preparatory works for a new overbridge, planned as part of the inter-island ferries project. The cancellation of iReX and no overbridge means we now need to reinstate this watermain and check that it is still fit for service," Mr Rooney said.

The work will take place in two stages – the first involves pressure testing the main on Dublin Street near Market Street over three days, which will cause minor traffic disruptions with one lane closed. "If the water main is serviceable, we will move on to stage two. If the pipe fails a pressure test, we will have to plan for replacing it from Market Street to Auckland Street which may cause a delay," Mr Rooney said.

Stage two will involve exposing the pipework in Dublin Street and at the Auckland Street intersection to reconnect the main. This will require a full closure but detours will be in place and night works will be done where possible to minimise disruption. Access will be maintained for residents and businesses.

"This work needs to be done as this is a major pipeline. While it is not operating, capacity is reduced - that is not a situation we wish to leave for very long. We also want to be finished before the busy summer tourist season and high traffic flows," Mr Rooney said. The work programme has been set to avoid any clash with the upcoming cruise ship season and is expected to take between one and two weeks. It could take longer if the pipe from Market Street to Auckland Street needs to be replaced.

Shake things up on 24 October

New Zealand ShakeOut is our national earthquake drill and tsunami hiko tomorrow, Thursday 24 October.

Marlborough Emergency Management's Senior Advisor Community Resilience Dave Parsons said ShakeOut provided an opportunity to think about preparedness in our homes, workplaces, schools and the places in our community which were important to us. "We have had a spate of smaller earthquakes recently and these are a timely reminder that Marlborough sits on the

Wairau fault system which connects to the Alpine Fault. Consequently, we are always at risk of a major earthquake in our region. ShakeOut is the perfect opportunity to remind us of the right action to take in the event of an earthquake or tsunami," Mr Parsons said. "As an individual, business, school or community organisation, this is a great opportunity to shake things up. ShakeOut

is a self-run drill so you can do it in whatever way works for you. All you need to do is 'Drop, Cover and Hold' for 60 seconds and practice your evacuation if you are in a tsunami evacuation zone." For more information on how you can get prepared and take part in New Zealand ShakeOut go to: www.getready.govt.nz/involved/shakeout/how-to-shakeout

