

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



One of more than 100 submitters opting to speak, Mistletoe Bay Trust's Cathie Bell addresses the council at the hearings last week

Council considers Long Term Plan (LTP) submissions

More than 100 submitters presented to Council during four days of hearings for the draft 2024 - 2034 Long Term Plan last week.

Council received 365 submissions on the LTP with 167 focused on Marlborough Sounds roads.

Councillors completed three days of general LTP hearings and one day for the Sounds roading recovery.

Mayor Nadine Taylor said, like most councils across New Zealand, Marlborough had faced challenges in preparing its LTP including inflation, rising contract prices and insurance premiums, plus the need to achieve full depreciation on the region's water assets.

"To add to the challenges, this Council also needs to unwind the Covid Rates Relief Fund. This was a subsidy set up in 2020 to keep rates below the cost of inflation whilst we dealt with the immediate impacts of Covid," Mayor Taylor said.

"The biggest question before us is how to fund the hundreds of millions of dollars of damage to our roading network in the Sounds as a result of the 2021 and 2022 storms. We know we need to give certainty to the affected Sounds communities, and we want to get on and get those roads fixed. It is regrettable these challenges have all landed on Council, and on our community now, and at a time when people are already facing cost of living pressures," she said.

Currently a rates increase of 12.58 per cent is proposed, not including Sounds road repairs. "If those road repairs go ahead as proposed an additional 0.37 per cent will apply, bringing this year's average increase to 12.95 per cent. This rate increase sits below the average rates rise across the rest of New Zealand

of 15 per cent but it is still a significant and challenging increase for our communities." Mayor Taylor told the hearings that Council could not choose which challenges were put before it, it could only choose how it dealt with those challenges in collaboration with the Marlborough community.

"It is now our responsibility to assess and weigh up the 365 submissions we have received on our proposed LTP as well as the many additional funding requests we have received from submitters, and to make the necessary decisions for Marlborough," she said.

Council will deliberate on the submissions at a public meeting on Monday 24 June, with decisions ratified by full Council on Thursday 27 June.

Wheelie bins - the countdown is on

All eligible households within Marlborough's new kerbside collection zone should have their wheelie bins, ready for the new service starting on 1 July.

If you haven't received yours, please contact Council's customer service team on ph 03 520 7400. You should also contact them if you are within the kerbside collection area but do not have a maroon crate.

The new collection service covers Blenheim, Picton, Grovetown, Havelock, Rarangi, Rai Valley, Renwick, Seddon, Spring Creek, Fairhall, parts of Rapuara (Hammerichs Road) and Tua Marina.

Waste and recycling will be collected on alternate weeks, and collection days will differ depending on the area you live in. Check the white label on your wheelie bin for your collection day and collection group.

Or go to the calendar on our website: <https://www.marlborough.govt.nz/services/recycling-and-waste/kerbside-collections>

Black bags will no longer be collected from the kerbside from 1 July; however they will still be accepted at transfer stations, the Waste Sorting Centre and the Resource Recovery Centre.

Wheelie bins should be placed on the kerb by 7am, facing the road and away from obstacles and overhanging trees.

They need to be half a metre apart to allow trucks to lift them. On your waste collection day, place only your red top bin on the kerb.

On your recycling collection day, place your yellow top bin and maroon crate on the kerb. Your yellow top bin can be used for plastic displaying recycling symbols 1, 2 and 5, metal cans and tins, paper including glossies, and cardboard. Your maroon crate is for bottles and jars only with lids removed.

To keep up to date with collection days and other specific information, download the Antenna app. If you have the app you will receive a reminder of what bin is to be put out the day before.

Any households still holding Council bag vouchers can redeem them at Council offices or get a rebate up until 30 June.



Watch what you burn

Cooler winter weather sees more outdoor fires around Marlborough which can harm people's health and affect the environment.

Burning in the open is not allowed in the Blenheim Airshed area, so check Council's map and factsheet (link right) before you light.

Any smoke from fires must not be objectionable or offensive over the boundary of the property. Only material from the same property can be burned and in some zones the total volume must not exceed two cubic metres.

Good burning practice is to wait until the material is dry so it burns as hot as possible generating less smoke for a shorter amount of time. Burning produces particulate matter and other contaminants, the greater the smoke the greater the particulate matter, which is known to be bad for human health.

Any burn site should also be away from buildings, trees and roads. Only burn material that can't be composted, recycled or used as firewood.

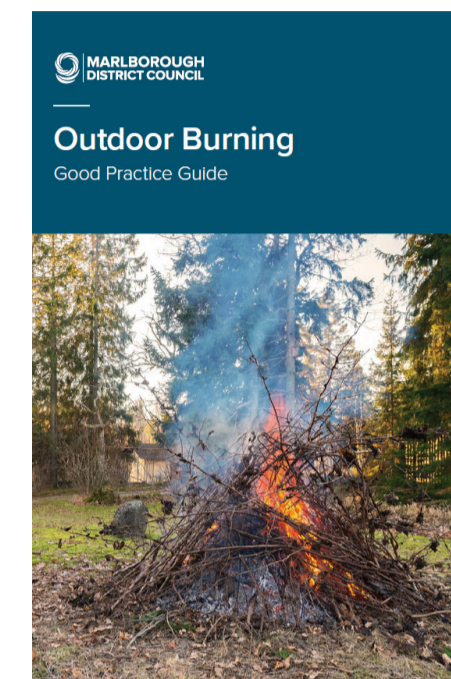
Painted and treated wood and composite board should not be burned, along with metals, rubber, synthetic materials including plastics and any animal or chemical waste.

All are prohibited from being burnt under the Proposed Marlborough Environment Plan.

Have water on hand and be prepared to put out the fire if weather conditions change.

For more helpful tips you can pick up an Outdoor Burning Good Practice Guide from Council or go to: <https://outdoorburningguide.govt.nz/>

Anyone bothered by smoke can ring Council on ph 03 520 7400 to complain, which enables a formal record to be kept.



Minister of Finance visits Picton

Mayor Nadine Taylor recently joined Port Marlborough CEO Rhys Welbourn and Council CEO Mark Wheeler to welcome Minister of Finance Nicola Willis and MP Stuart Smith for a tour of Port Marlborough's facilities and discuss the future of the ferries project.

Minister Willis was given an overview of the Port's role in the redevelopment and the status of the wind-up works in progress.

Mayor Taylor said the meeting was positive and highlighted both the importance of Marlborough in the national supply chain

for tourism and freight, and Port Marlborough's role and potential to support future development.

"Council and the Port now await the outcome of feedback from the Ministerial Advisory Group, which in February was tasked with undertaking a review of the service, and providing independent advice and assurance on the future of KiwiRail's inter-island ferry service. This is scheduled for July, when clarity on the next steps for Port Marlborough and Marlborough are expected."



Minister of Finance Nicola Willis and Mayor Taylor, overlooking the ferry facilities in Picton

Early childhood educators form native wildlife connections

Fifteen early childhood teachers got up close to learn about the yellow crowned kākārīki, giant wētā/wētāpunga and Marlborough green gecko at the Koru Wildlife Centre in Grovetown.

The teachers attended as part of an environmental education support programme for Early Childhood Centres (ECE) in Marlborough.

Ramona Millen, who works on the environmental education team supported by Council, said the team is exploring ways to support ECEs with environmental education.

"The programme evolved from a growing interest from ECE teachers wanting to do more within their centres for environmental change," she said. The visit to Koru Native Wildlife Centre allowed teachers to meet co-owner Ellen Plaisier and learn about the resources she could offer to support kaiako (teachers) and tamariki (children) on their environmental education journey.

"Ellen has since visited a couple of the centres and taken the giant wētā and gecko with her," Ramona says.

"It's about facilitating relationships to give our young tamariki the opportunity to learn."



Early childhood educators got up close and personal with the giant wētā at Koru Wildlife Centre in Grovetown

Solving the signature quilt mystery

Marlborough Museum staff are researching the history of more than 140 names stitched into a war time quilt currently on display at the museum.

The signature quilt, on show as part of the Homefront Heroes - Marlborough Women during the Second World War exhibition, was made by the Clarence Bridge Branch of the Women's Division of the Farmers Union during World War Two, probably in the early 1940s.

It features family names from Clarence Bridge, Kēkerengu and Kaikōura.

The quilt was donated to the museum by Fizz Trolove whose mother and grandmother were involved in making it and who has several relations' names featured.

Marlborough Museum Manager Dr Liz Ward said a signature quilt is a quilt with multiple names signed, stamped or embroidered on it, often created as a means of fundraising.

"This idea was common in World War One but not so much during World War Two. This Marlborough signature quilt is designed as a wall hanging which is also unusual - we know of only two others in New Zealand - so it may be rather rare," Liz said.

The quilt, likely made from flour bags due to the scarcity of materials available at the time, features 150 squares sewed together with 142 names or signatures embroidered on it.

"Usually, these squares were sold for a shilling each so it would have raised the equivalent of \$1,000 with the money going to an aid agency like the New Zealand Red Cross to provide comforts for soldiers," Liz said.

Marlborough Museum textile volunteer Pam Saunders discovered she had a close family connection with the quilt with both her father and grandfather

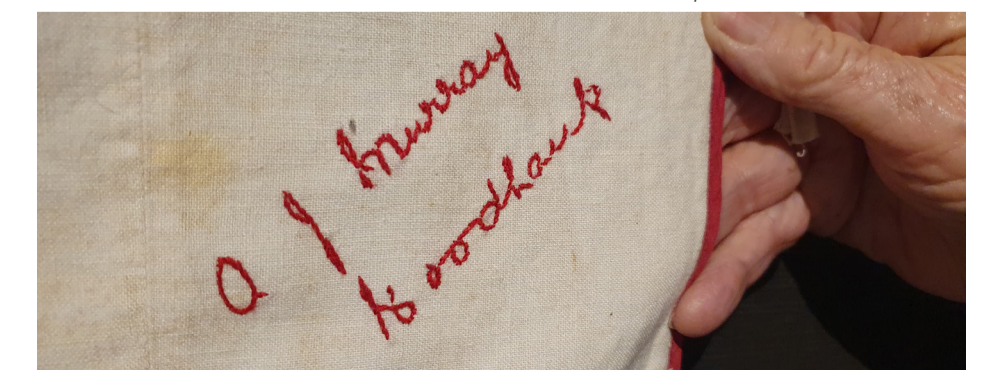
featured on it. Her grandfather Stan Bennett was also a great friend of Fizz Trolove's grandfather Arthur Murray, whose name is also on the quilt.

"We would just love to learn more about the names and families featured on the quilt or that branch of WDFU and would encourage people with a connection to the Clarence Bridge area during the war years to come and have a look and help us piece together its history," Pam said.

Homefront Heroes - Marlborough Women during the Second World War explores topics like rationing, spinning and knitting for soldiers, and voluntary work in the Women's War Service Auxiliary. It runs until 4 August.



Long-serving Marlborough Museum volunteer Pam Saunders (left) and Marlborough signature quilt owner Fizz Trolove whose grandfathers' names are on the quilt



Each square is embroidered with a name like Fizz Trolove's grandfather A J (Arthur) Murray

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.

Antenno keeps you in the loop

Council's mobile app Antenno is a great way to keep up to date with important Council alerts.

Free to install, Antenno is available on Apple and Android smartphones and no personal information or login details are required. You simply save the locations you want to be informed about, such as your home address, work place or school.

When Council posts an update relevant to your chosen locations, you receive a notification.

While most posts are specific to your location, some notifications like sports ground closures are published district wide. This means no matter where a team is playing, they'll have the relevant information.

During rainfall and flooding events, road closure information can change quickly. In these instances,

Antenno updates link to the information on Council's website. These notifications are sent out district wide to ensure they reach as many people as quickly as possible.

To learn more about Antenno including how to download the app visit: www.marlborough.govt.nz/services/apps

If you are unsure how to do this, get a family member to help or contact Council on 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

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.

Council

Monday 24 June at 9am (consider LTP submissions)

Economic, Finance and Community Committee

Tuesday 25 June at 11am

Assets & Services Committee

Tuesday 9 July at 9am

Environment & Planning Committee

Thursday 11 July at 9am

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

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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

