



Picton's London Quay development gets green light

An upgrade to Picton's much loved waterfront strip, London Quay, will go ahead this winter. Work is planned to start at the end of May and is expected to take around six months.



📍 Picton's waterfront strip is much loved by locals and visitors

Mayor Nadine Taylor, a proponent of the project since 2019, said the upgrade of London Quay was an "investment of confidence" in Picton.

"This waterfront space is such an important part of Picton's identity with its linkages to the foreshore and CBD. It is a high use area with a view loved by everyone who lives in or visits Picton," she said.

"Council's commitment to revitalise Picton is being rolled out in stages with upper High Street and the Picton library precinct already completed. London Quay is an important next step and once that's done, Council will continue planning for improvements to other parts of the CBD."

Council has worked closely with the businesses along London Quay to time the work for the winter months to minimise disruption.

The concept, designed by Rough Milne Mitchell Landscape Architects, includes an invigorated streetscape with new landscaping and plantings, expanded and levelled pedestrian and dining areas and a new public seating area to the east. Council's Project and Contracts Manager Maighan Watson said the upgrade would provide a more seamless and safer connection with better pedestrian crossings.

"We have talked with affected businesses and residents with positive feedback received. The initial trial to expand

the pedestrian area took place in 2014/15 and was positive with the Picton community and businesses, which led to it being retained as a public, licenced area since then," Ms Watson said.

Street lighting will be upgraded and there will be improved water main and stormwater systems. While current road layout and pedestrian areas will remain the same, the development will have a traffic calming effect.

The upgrade is expected to cost about \$2M. Funding for it comes from Council's forestry, land and port income and has no impact on rates.

Marlborough Vineyard Trail officially opened

A bike trail taking in some of Marlborough's most popular wineries, cellar doors and spectacular scenery, has been officially opened by Mayor Nadine Taylor.



📍 Mayor Nadine Taylor and Steve Hill, chair of the Renwick Walk Bike group, at the opening of the new Marlborough Vineyard Trail

"This is a wonderful addition to the recreational biking network in Marlborough and gives fantastic access to wineries around Renwick," she said.

The 20km Marlborough Vineyard Trail boosted the existing cycle infrastructure and improved safety by taking cyclists off busy roads.

Mayor Taylor acknowledged those who had worked hard to see the project to fruition, particularly Steve Hill, chairman of the Renwick Walk Bike group, who had championed the cause to ensure the trail became a reality.

Steve Hill said there were 20 cellar doors within an eight-kilometre radius of Renwick and 10,000 bike visitors each year.

"Visiting the cellar doors by bike – either self-guided or on an organised trip – is incredibly popular in the area and having this trail fully operational will hopefully boost those numbers," he said.

While some of the trail is near roads, much is on the edge of vineyards and on river stopbanks and its development has only been possible with the help of landowners and wineries who allowed access.

One of the final sections was a 6.5km trail linking Allan Scott Winery in Jacksons Road to Renwick using off-road routes.

Council has invested significantly in the trail which was only possible due to the backing of landowners.

Mayor welcomes Havelock loan funding



📍 Minister Jones with Mayor Taylor (right) and Anouk Euzéby, General Manager Marinas and Property, Port Marlborough

Oceans and Fisheries Minister Shane Jones attended the Havelock Mussel and Seafood Festival last weekend to announce a \$9.9M loan to support the dredging of Havelock marina and the construction of three jetties.

Mayor Nadine Taylor warmly thanked Mr Jones for his support and said marine farming is an important industry for the region.

"With nearly 600 marine farms in Marlborough, the industry supports 1,000 local jobs and delivers \$300 million in revenue."

Minister Jones also released an Aquaculture Development Plan which aims to quadruple production to \$3 billion in annual revenue by 2035.

Take time to prepare

The start of the year is a good time to check whether your house is prepared for an emergency. To help you with this, Council has updated the emergency management pages on its website.

Here you'll find useful information including how to make a household and work emergency plan, preparing your home to reduce the effects of a quake or other disaster, and tips on making community connections. Council's Welfare and Planning Advisor Kaja Mazzotti-Vetter says the page contains other useful links.

"You can find information on particular hazards that can occur in Marlborough and what the likely effects will be. It's also good to familiarise yourself with our Emergency Management Public Information Map.

This is regularly updated with road closure information and other alerts. Another useful map on the website is the Tsunami Inundation Map. Here you'll see areas that may be affected if a tsunami were to hit the region."

Kaja says the website also has information on becoming an emergency management volunteer.

"At Marlborough Emergency Management, we have limited resources and rely on trained volunteers to help in an emergency. We currently have opportunities for everyone,

including in our Incident Management Team (IMT) and our Light Rescue Response Team (NZ-RT20). We provide full training for everyone. I encourage anyone interested to visit our website."

To find out how to be better prepared and volunteer go to www.marlborough.govt.nz/civil-defence-emergency-management. During an emergency, Council will share alerts and notifications through its free mobile app Antenno. To find out more and download the app, go to: www.marlborough.govt.nz/services/apps/antenno