

Waitaki

NEWS FROM WAITAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL
MARCH 2021



MARCH-ING ALONG

Well the year is certainly March-ing along!

In your *Waitaki Link* this month we're getting ready for another fabulous family fun day at Friendly Bay and we'd love to hear your thoughts on the St John proposal to lease a part of Awamoa Park and build a new base there. Are you all for it? Strongly disagree? Make a submission and be a part of the decision making.

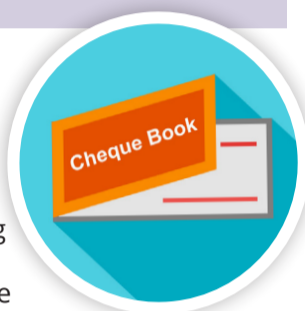
CHEQUES TO BECOME A THING OF THE PAST

A reality check

By July 2021 most New Zealand banks will have stopped accepting cheques. With the phasing out of cheques and the reduction of bank's opening hours, those of our customers who might not have access to the internet or a device to make electronic payments may be unsure about what to do, so we're taking this opportunity to remind you about the other ways to make payment to us.

- You can set up a Direct Debit for rates payments.
- You can pay by Eftpos, Credit Card and Cash in person at Council Offices (please note, paying by credit card attracts a fee).
- You can make a bank Transfer by internet or phone banking
- You can pay using E-Services - via Council's website

Please come and talk to us if you have any questions or call us on 03 433 0300



DORA TO THE DISTRICT

There has never been a better time to **EXPLORE** the world of online banking with **DORA**

Waitaki District Libraries are running digital banking classes from the 1st to the 12th of March throughout the district on a bus called DORA (Digital On Road Access).

There are 2 classes a day: 10am-12pm and 1-3pm, and library staff will also be available for one-on-one enquiries. Need help understanding online banking and how to protect yourself from scams? Know someone who does? Ring the library to make a booking: 03 433 0850 or email: dpriceewen@waitaki.govt.nz

Please check the Waitaki Libraries' website and Facebook page for any changes to event details due to COVID alert levels.

GET FUNDED WAITAKI

Funding Available! Waitaki Community Groups Invited to Apply.

We're inviting local charitable groups, sports clubs and community organisations to apply for a share of community grant funding to go towards special projects and programmes to help enhance their local community.

- Community Group Grant opens 15 Feb - 12 March
- Creative Communities Scheme opens 22 Feb - 19 March
- Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund opens 15 March - 16 April

Need help with your application?

Get in touch with our fabulous Carole Hansen at chansen@waitaki.govt.nz.



HARBOUR PLAN FINALISED AND LETTERS SENT TO SUBMITTERS

The 'Ōamaru Harbour Plan 2020 and Beyond' has been finalised - find it on our website and have a read..

Last year, 114 submissions were received from all over the district providing feedback around how the Harbour Plan document could be amended so it better aligns with the community's aspirations for the Ōamaru Harbour. Everyone who made a submission to Council on the Harbour Plan should have now received a letter (mainly via email) outlining key changes incorporated into the Plan as a result of community feedback. If you made a submission as part of last year's consultation process on the Harbour Plan and haven't heard back from us yet - give us a call on 03 433 0300 and let us know.

ST JOHN AND AWAMOA PARK LEASE

Should Waitaki District Council grant St John Oamaru a lease to build a new ambulance facility on part of Awamoa Park?

The full proposal and the online submission form can be found on the 'Consultation' page of our website www.waitaki.govt.nz and printed copies are available at Council offices. Submissions are now open and close Friday 26 March. If you'd like to speak to your submission, you can on 13 April 2021.

EMIRATES TEAM NEW ZEALAND FAN ZONE - OAMARU

Auckland, Queenstown...Oamaru! That's right, Oamaru will have its very own Fan Zone during the America's Cup racing. Sailing enthusiasts will be over the moon to hear that with support from Council, the North Otago Yacht and Power Boat Club will be open every day of racing between 3.30-6.30pm. Cheer on Emirates Team New Zealand and watch all the action from the 2021 America's Cup. Food and drink available. All ages are welcome. Please check the Emirates Team New Zealand's website for any changes to event details due to COVID alert levels.

FRIENDLY BAY FAMILY FUN DAY

11AM - 3PM Saturday 13 March

A free day of fun for the whole family!

Pack a picnic, wear your togs, bring a deck chair, buckets and spades and join us at Friendly Bay boat harbour in Oamaru. There'll be free kids activities, live music and food stalls. Win prizes at the Beach Dig, Sandcastle Competition and Beach Flag Races. Please check the Waitaki District Council's Facebook page for any changes to event details due to COVID alert levels.



www.waitaki.govt.nz



Waitaki

DISTRICT COUNCIL

TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WAITAKI

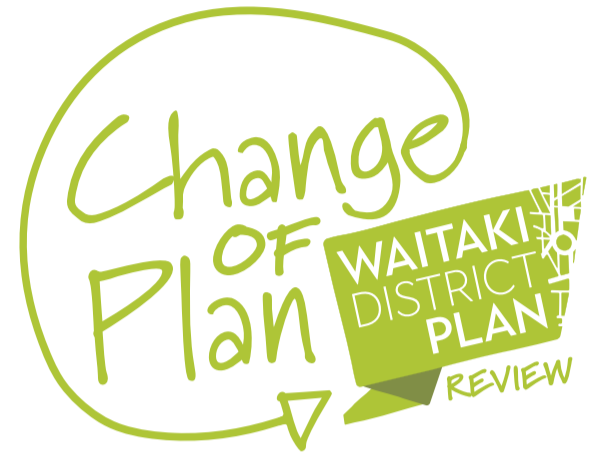
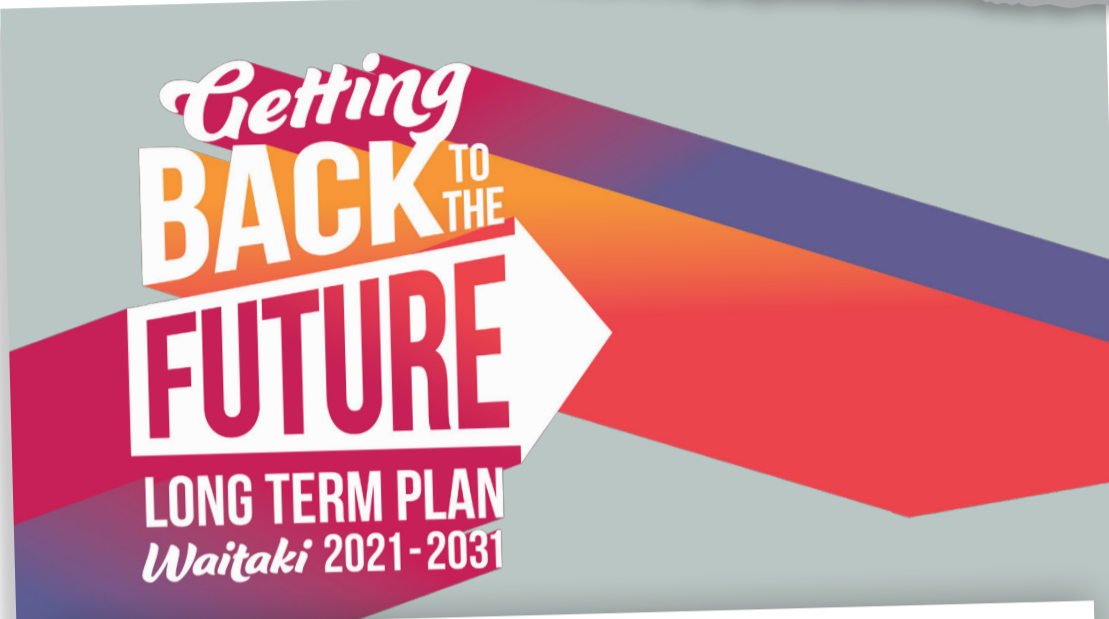
The PLANS! The PLANS!

We've got two very important public consultations this year, unfortunately they both have the word 'plan' in the title, which can make things a little confusing.

Here's the easiest way to tell them apart: The Long Term Plan, (or LTP) is essentially our 10 year budget, while the District Plan, which is in review, is all about how land can be used in Waitaki. It's super important we get both of these right, and that you are happy with the final versions too.

LONG TERM PLAN (LTP) = Our Budget for projects for the next 10 years

DISTRICT PLAN REVIEW (DPR) = Updating the Rulebook for land use in Waitaki



DISTRICT PLAN A B C

A guide for acronyms associated with the District Plan review.

Fair to say there are quite a few acronyms associated with the District Plan review. Even here at Council, where there's an acronym for EVERYTHING, we're finding it hard to tell our SNAs from our ONFs - so we've come up with a simple guide to help you find your way.

SNA's or Significant Natural Areas - this term refers to natural habitat with important indigenous value. Waitaki has some unique geology and a range of environments from high country to coastline. Much of our indigenous vegetation has been lost already and what remains is deemed of high value and will be protected under the new District Plan as SNAs.

ONFs Outstanding Natural Features - An ONF is a feature of natural landscape that has been deemed to be of national importance and requires protection under our District Plan, such as Elephant Rocks.

SNF or Significant Natural Feature is a feature of the landscape that, while not outstanding, warrants formal recognition in the District Plan. Still protected, but to a lesser degree.

ONL Outstanding Natural Landscapes: these are distinctive landscapes we should recognise and protect. Waitaki covers vast expanses of the Mackenzie and Omarama Basins through to our lakes and down the mighty Waitaki River and out to the coast. Our district also includes features of significant value to local iwi. In recognition of our iconic landscapes, parts of our district are classified as ONL and their protection is a matter of national importance.

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT ...?

We'll be consulting on our draft 2021-31 Long Term Plan (LTP) in April and we'd like to hear your views on some specific issues, including:

COVID Recovery

Council is committed to supporting the District's COVID-19 recovery in a fair and sustainable way. We have already undertaken a number of initiatives in response to the COVID-19 outbreak including an average zero percent rates change for 2020/21, and a support and stimulus funding package (up to \$2 million). What else you think we should be doing to support our community recover from the impacts of COVID-19?

Climate Change

The issue of climate change is a global one in nature but one that will be addressed through small changes to our individual daily routines through the decisions we make. We want to play our part. We do plan for and adapt to the impacts of climate change by considering it in our work on strategies and plans, including this LTP, and our Infrastructure Strategy. What would you like Council to focus on in our response to climate change?

Waste

Last year we carried out a survey with residents to find out how many residents are using private contractors for kerbside waste (rubbish, recycling and green waste) collection, how much they are spending, and whether the services are meeting their needs. The waste management survey found that nearly three quarters (74%) of respondents would like to see Council do more waste minimisation and education activities. What waste minimisation and education activities would you like to see Council doing?

An indoor sports and events centre

Over the last several years the community and Council have debated the merits of an indoor sports and events centre being located in Oamaru. We'll be asking for your feedback on whether we should proceed with developing a 6 court indoor sports and events centre and if so, how much Council's contribution should be.

We will be encouraging your feedback on any aspect of the LTP and would welcome your ideas for how we can make *Waitaki the best place to be* when consultation starts in April.

Have YOUR say!

