# **Newsline Issue 592 – 18 April 2025**

# The future of Tasman water services – have your say

We’re currently asking for your feedback on how we should manage drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater services in the future. This consultation is part of our response to the Government’s Local Water Done Well programme.

Local Water Done Well is intended to ensure people pay cost-reflective prices for water services, that those services are delivered to an acceptable quality, and that water services providers are investing sufficiently in infrastructure.

We’re required to submit a Water Services Delivery Plan by 3 September this year, and your input will help us decide on the best governance model.

Our preferred option is an in-house business unit, which would be managed separately from other Council operations. While still part of the Council, it would be independently monitored to ensure high environmental and customer standards.

We’re also considering two options that involve setting up a Water Council Controlled Organisation (CCO), each governed by an independent board. These models may offer long-term cost savings and operational efficiencies.

In the short to medium term, all options deliver similar financial outcomes. We’ve also agreed to keep talking with Marlborough and Buller District Councils about a possible multi-Council CCO in the future.

Other governance options – such as trust models like those used in the electricity sector – have been considered by Council but are not being pursued.

This is an important decision for the future of our water services, and we value your input.

To read full details and make a submission visit shape.tasman.govt.nz/lwdw – submissions are open until 22 May.

# Operational costs reviewed

Changes are being made to some of our operations to rein in a forecast budget over expenditure in Community Infrastructure activities this financial year.

Elected Members voted eight to six in favour of recommendations to make changes in some service areas, which when implemented would help minimise some of the over expenditure in the final quarter of this financial year.

Costs cutting measures decided upon include the removal of some rubbish bins and doggy doo bag dispensers from reserves and reductions in the cleaning frequency of 14 public toilets from twice to once a day.

Three public toilets will be closed with temporary closures of others on a seasonal basis. The toilets to close are one of the old long drop facilities at Wai-iti Domain, and an ageing toilet at Wakefield Recreation Reserve, opposite the Faulkner Bush facilities. The old small block at Jubilee Park next to the football club rooms will also close.

The frequency of street sweeping will be reduced, for example fortnightly town centre sweeping will become monthly, and sweeping of other urban areas will generally be twice per year rather than three times.

Rural roadside mowing will be paused except for safety/critical sightlines, and urban landscape mowing will be reduced.

The cost savings will also include minimising routine monitoring of our water and wastewater activities as much as possible without compromising compliance with the respective regulations.

Longer-term changes in levels of service will be considered as part of the Annual Plan 2025/26 deliberations later this year.

# ANZAC Day commemorations in Tasman

Join us as we come together to honour and remember the brave men and women who served and sacrificed in wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping missions.

Across Tasman, ANZAC Day is marked with special services and events, providing an opportunity for our community to pay tribute and reflect on their legacy. We invite you to take part and share in this important day of remembrance.

* Brightwater: Service – 9.00 am at ANZAC Memorial Gates, Brightwater Domain.
* Collingwood: Dawn Service – 6.30 am at the Cenotaph. Civic Service – 11.30 am at the Collingwood Memorial Hall.
* Lake Rotoiti: Flag Ceremony – 10.30 am at Lake Rotoiti Community Hall, Main Road St Arnaud.
* Māpua: Parade – 10.45 am by the tennis courts. Service – 11.00 am at Māpua RSA Memorial Library.
* Motueka: Parade – 6.15 am from the Motueka Bowling Club Carpark, Pā Street, followed by breakfast at Motueka RSA.
* Murchison: Poppy Laying Ceremony – 6.30 am. Service – 11.00 am at the Murchison War Memorial.
* Ngātīmoti: Service and Laying of Wreath – 10.30 am at St James Church, Waiwhero Road.
* Richmond: Parade – 10.45 am from Sundial Square. Service – 11.00 am at War Memorial Gardens, Cambridge Street.
* Riwaka: Service – 9.00 am at the Memorial Gates, intersection of School Road and State Highway 60.
* Tākaka: Dawn Service – 6.30 am at the Tākaka Memorial Reserve, Commercial Street. Parade – 8.45 am, leaves from outside Golden Bay Pharmacy. Civic Service – 9.00 am at the Tākaka Memorial Reserve, Commercial Street.
* Tapawera: Service – 9.00 am at Tapawera Memorial Hall, Main Road.
* Tasman Village: Service – 10.00 am at the Memorial.
* Upper Moutere: Service – 10.00 am at the Memorial.
* Wakefield: Service – 10.00 am at the Wakefield Cenotaph, Whitby Way (Wakefield Village Hall if wet).

# Wave buoy deployed in Tasman

Anyone with an interest in the motion of our ocean will be keen on this – a new buoy is bobbing in Tasman Bay, providing free and accessible information on how our waves are faring as well as helping with navigational safety.

Our Natural Hazards team has established a relationship with Canterbury University who have supplied us with the wave buoy – free of charge.

The only requirement is that we deploy and maintain it ourselves – a minor investment for having some great information at our disposal.

Our Harbourmaster is also looking forward to seeing how the data provided will assist recreation vessels and commercial operators, out for a fish, a cruise up the park, or business as usual. The data will aid good decision making and is available 24-7 to everyone.

We successfully deployed the buoy in late March. It is positioned around 6km off the coast of Bark Bay at the 30m contour line.

The spotter buoys measure wave motions using GPS positioning and transmit their data via satellite or cell network to the South Island Waves website, where live wave and weather data is updated at least every hour.

The buoy provides real-time wave height, period, and direction data, as well as wind speed, direction, and water temperature, enabling quick decision-making for safe navigation.

It can also send out real-time warnings when wave heights reach a threshold which enables effective real-time emergency management decisions.

Hazard identification and environmental monitoring are other key benefits of the buoy.

Comprehensive data collection enhances understanding of ocean conditions, supporting safer and more efficient marine operations.

You can view the latest data at southislandwaves.co.nz.

# The berth of mooring licences is upon us

As part of our Navigation Safety Bylaw 2024, our Harbourmaster team will soon begin issuing mooring licences across Tasman.

The new system streamlines the management of moorings within designated mooring areas, removing the need for Coastal Permits (Resource Consents).

Applications will open progressively across the District from 1 May 2025 to ensure efficient processing;

* Phase 1 (1 May 2025) – Motueka 1 (Wharf Road), Mangarakau, Stephens Bay
* Phase 2 (1 August 2025) – Kaiteriteri 2, Boundary Bay, Māpua
* Phase 3 (1 November 2025) – Kaiteriteri 1, Motueka 2 (Trewavas Street), Tapu Bay
* Phase 4 (1 February 2026) – Torrent Bay, Milnthorpe, Otuwhero

For moorings outside these areas, existing rules remain in effect, and a Coastal Permit will still be required.

Priority with the applications will apply to owners of existing consented moorings, followed by those moorings designated for public use. Other applicants will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Additional restrictions apply to applications for Kaiteriteri, Torrent, and Boundary Bays.

In some mooring areas, existing moorings with Coastal Permits issued under the Resource Management Act 1991 may remain in place until the permit expires.

After expiration (or earlier), the owner must apply for a Mooring Licence from the Tasman Harbourmaster to continue using the site.

Moorings that were not previously authorised under a Coastal Permit or as a permitted activity under the TRMP must be removed.

Alternatively, owners of unpermitted moorings must apply for a Mooring Licence or Resource Consent, and applications will be considered alongside other applicants based on the priority criteria outlined above.

For more information, visit tasman.govt.nz/moorings.

# Empty the right way

Now is the time of year many people are considering winterising their swimming pools, often they choose to empty them before Jack Frost makes an appearance.

It’s important to understand the regulations about discharging water from pools and spas. Swimming pool water contains contaminants that can be harmful to our environment.

You can only discharge clean water without contaminants into our freshwater environment. Discharges into our stormwater system, such as sumps and drains, flow directly into our natural aquatic environment – our rivers, streams and estuaries.

If you decide to empty your pool or spa, then there are a few things to consider.

Pools using Chlorine, Bromine or other chemicals need to have treatment stopped at least a week before being emptied. Chlorine or bromine will eventually evaporate. However, if you are using other chemicals, these may persist in the water.

We encourage people to use the water to irrigate lawns or let it soak into the ground where the water does not run off into a stream, stormwater drain, or neighbouring properties.

If you have a saltwater pool, you can’t empty it into the stormwater system nor is it suitable to be discharged onto ground, saltwater needs to go into the wastewater system.

Pool discharges are covered by our wastewater bylaws.

Pick up a copy of our swimming pools guidelines pamphlet from any of our service centres or download it from tasman.govt.nz/emptying-your-swimming-pool-or-spa.

# Recent rescue presents timely safety reminder

Safety on the water is at the forefront of the work our Harbourmaster team does around the District. Our *Sentinel* and *Pūkāea* vessels are a frequent sight for boaties from Nelson Lakes to Kahurangi Point.

Wherever you are, it is important to be mindful of the hazards and potential risks that can emerge and take the necessary precautions to ensure your time on the sea, lake or river is enjoyable.

Our water safety message goes beyond anything that you’re floating on – the changing nature of our coastal areas and rivers means even simple activities like fishing off the beach or riverbank require some thought to avoid possible harm or danger.

We recently had an incident near the Motueka River mouth where two people were swept along the river and were left clinging to a tree. Fortunately, the pair were spotted by a plane and subsequently rescued. However, it’s provided a timely reminder of why you should be prepared in any water environment.

Knowing the conditions and the tide changes is crucial, especially given Tasman has one of the largest tidal ranges in the country.

If operating around swift-moving water, personal floatation devices are a great idea. It is also important that someone knows where you are going, and make sure you are carrying effective waterproof communication.

# Enrol to vote in local elections

Things are beginning to get into gear in the lead-up to this year’s Tasman District Council elections. Sometime during the next few weeks, you should receive your enrolment pack in the mail in preparation for October’s elections.

When you receive your pack, open it, and check your details are correct, including your address and email, if you have one. If they’re correct, you don’t need to do anything.

If you need to update your details or change the roll you’re on, do it straight away to make sure your voting papers are sent to you.

If you want to vote in the Māori Ward, you will need to ensure you’re on the Māori electoral roll.

You can update your details online using your New Zealand driver licence, New Zealand passport or RealMe verified identity, or by completing and returning the form in your enrolment pack.

If you don’t get an enrolment pack in the next few weeks, it means you’re not enrolled to vote, or your details are not up to date. Check and update your details to make sure you can vote – it’s easy online at vote.nz, just click the enrol or update online tab.

# Detours for Lower Queen Street closure

Preliminary site work prior to the Lower Queen Street bridge replacement is scheduled to begin on 12 May and this means the road will be closed temporarily.

Borck Creek runs under the Lower Queen Street bridge but it’s not wide enough to pass sufficient stormwater flow. A new larger bridge will ensure water can flow away better during heavy rain, reducing the risk of flooding.

The five-day road closure is needed to move numerous services including telecommunications and power connections, and water and wastewater pipes located under the bridge.

During the closure, vehicles travelling toward Richmond will detour via McShane Road to connect with State Highway 60, then into Richmond via Gladstone Road or Bateup and Wensley Roads.

Other routes available for traffic entering and exiting the industrial areas off Lower Queen Street will be Lansdowne and Swamp Roads. It’s expected that some vehicles will choose to take a route through Berryfield Drive, but this will be closed to heavy vehicles.

We are running a poll on Shape Tasman during this closure, asking you which traffic management option we should go with for the full construction period.

We have the option to spend about $1 million and build a slip road around the work site to keep Lower Queen Street open, or save about $1 million and close Lower Queen Street while detouring traffic for the duration of the project.

Data collected through monitoring and traffic counts during the one-week closure and input from the poll will help inform Elected Members in their decision-making process regarding which traffic management option to choose for the full construction period.

Visit shape.tasman.govt.nz/traffic-management to share your views.

# New bridge closes the loop

The final piece of work to complete the construction of paths and walkways at Richmond’s Borck Creek has been completed.

A new bridge over the creek completes the link between the Poutama Creek confluence and the Eastern Hills Creek confluence. Apart from some more planting and ongoing maintenance, that reach is now complete.

The bridge was supposed to have gone in last year, but we needed the creek to dry up first and that happened in March.

The new bridge enables a larger loop and another option for crossing the low-flow channel, making use of the area of the floodway that was developed a year ago.

# Positive ageing – positive success

There was a fantastic turnout for this year’s Positive Ageing Expo! With more than 1,000 people coming through the doors in just four hours, it was a buzzing, feel-good day full of connection, learning, and inspiration.

Hosted at the Headingly Centre in Richmond, the event brought together more than 80 stalls offering something for everyone – from practical advice on home heating and free flu and Covid vaccinations, to hearing checks and a taste of holistic pulsing and chiropractic treatments.

Local clubs, interest groups, health providers, and retirement villages came together to showcase their services, creating a real sense of community and support.

There was no shortage of entertainment either – Tai Chi and line dancing demonstrations got everyone moving, and the beautiful voices of the Tasmonics brought smiles all around.

Outside, the fun continued with e-bike workshops, CarFit safety checks, a vintage car display, composting tips, and even a chance to give pickleball a go!

Thanks to the free shuttle from the Richmond Interchange, getting there was easy and stress-free for many.

A big thank you to all the agencies who helped bring this event to life, including us here at Tasman District Council, Nelson City Council, Age Concern, Health Action Trust, the Ministry of Social Development, Nelson Bays Primary Health, and the team at Headingly Centre.

# Meet the planners: a new way to engage

District-wide combined community engagement sessions have proven successful with those attending commenting on the benefit of being able to consider the Natural Hazards Plan Change 85 Issues and Options Report, Draft Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement, and Urban Growth Draft Plan Change 81, as initiatives with individual and combined benefits.

The ‘meet the planners’ sessions offered direct access to council experts, providing immediate answers to questions about any part of the District.

Copies of the reports for all changes, videos about the drop-in presentations, and links to supporting podcasts can be found on Shape Tasman, where you can also have your say on these changes until Monday 5 May. Visit shape.tasman.govt.nz.

# Scientists find fault with roadshow

While we can’t predict earthquakes, scientific research indicates there is a 75% probability of an Alpine Fault earthquake occurring in the next 50 years, and there is a four out of five chance that it will be a magnitude 8 plus event.

This is likely to have major short and long-term impacts and now there’s an opportunity to hear about the likely impacts of a large Alpine Fault earthquake in our region.

The AF8 Roadshow: The Science Beneath Our Feet, brings Alpine Fault science and hazard impact information to South Island communities, in areas likely to be affected by an Alpine Fault earthquake.

The free roadshow is being hosted by the Nelson Tasman Emergency Management Group. Join them on Tuesday 29 April at 6.30 pm at Waimea College Hall, for a public talk by leading Alpine Fault scientists about the likely hazard impacts of an Alpine Fault earthquake.

The roadshow then moves on to Tapawera Area School on Thursday 1 May at 6.30 pm.

Find out more at af8.org.nz.

# Firefighters tested at aerodromes

As an aerodrome operator, we need to ensure safety procedures are up to scratch. Late last month, we conducted emergency simulation exercises at both Tākaka and Motueka aerodromes.

The exercises enable emergency services to familiarise themselves with the airfield for access, risks, and key emergency information should actual events occur in the future.

Led by Murray Hart from Nelson Airport Rescue Fire, the Tākaka event involved fire brigades from Tākaka, Upper Tākaka, and Collingwood. Police also turned out as did all three ambulances in Golden Bay. The emergency scenario was that a small aircraft crashed on the aerodrome. There were four passengers and unfortunately one was dead at the scene upon arrival of the emergency services.

The teams gained onsite exposure to the aerodrome, access and challenges. The fire team located three natural water supplies and documented that as well as access concerns.

The latest ecologically friendly firefighting foam was used to extinguish the Avgas and JetA1 fuel fires. The crews got hands-on experience with the foam with Murray’s expert guidance on how to best use it.

The Motueka event was a similar scenario with crews from Motueka, Tasman, and Kaiteriteri joining the exercise.

# Motueka Community Board

The Motueka Ward Special Projects process for 2025 is underway. Due to overwhelming responses last year, we have collated people’s ideas for voting on, with the option to add additional projects.

The list is available at the Motueka Library for paper voting or visit shape.tasman.govt.nz/motueka-projects.

The Board’s Special Projects recently contributed to flag poles at the Riwaka Memorial site and updated the Motueka i-Site map. Shade sails over gym equipment at Memorial Park, and installation of a nest swing at Ted Reed Reserve are in process. The Motueka Cemetery maintenance enhancement plan has also been completed.

Over the past 30 months, the Board has heard from a wide range of community members at our monthly Board meetings, via phone, email, and on the streets. Some of the topics of discussion have been around housing, enforcement, dogs and penguins, mowing, and aerodrome noise to   
name a few.

We see our role as representatives to listen to and advocate for our community. We do our best to learn about people’s concerns and ideas, even when topics are outside the Board’s delegations.

The Motueka Community Board’s values:

* Operate with integrity, honesty and respect for each other and our role as community representatives.
* Provide clear, positive communication to and for the community.
* Empower ourselves and others to support wellbeing.

Anyone considering standing at this year’s election is welcome to attend Board meetings or reach out to an elected member to learn what’s involved with being a representative.

# Have your say on Lakes-Murchison reserves and Baigent’s Bush

A revised draft Reserves Management Plan sets out how our parks and reserves in the Lakes-Murchison Ward will be cared for in the years ahead. In most cases, things will continue as they are, with regular maintenance keeping these beautiful spaces in great shape. However, we’d love your thoughts on a few key questions.

For Baigent’s Bush Scenic Reserve in Pigeon Valley, we’d like your views on the proposed concept plan and future management options.

One important topic is the future of Crown-owned recreation reserves that we currently manage in the Lakes-Murchison Ward. Some of these once had community halls that are no longer there, while others – like a low-cost campground – serve the community but don’t bring in revenue. A reserve in Tadmor with tennis courts has also been under our management since the Domain Board was dissolved.

Should we keep looking after these spaces, or should responsibility return to the Crown?

Another big question is where to locate the new Tapawera Community Hub. Plus, should we sell the land at 5 Hampden Street in Murchison, considering the town already has community rooms available?

This plan has been shaped by input from iwi, DOC, and local reserve committees. Now it’s your turn! Submissions are open until Monday 16 June, with hearings and deliberations set for Thursday 3 July.

Help us shape the future of our treasured reserves by having your say at shape.tasman.govt.nz/rmp-reviews.

# What’s On In Tasman

### TUKU25 – Bring your past into focus

Sunday 23 March – Sunday 4 May, Motueka and Richmond Libraries.

Preserve your memories by digitising your cherished slides and photos at your local library. In your first session, our friendly staff will guide you through the process step by step. Once you’re confident, you can book the space to complete your project at your own pace. It’s an easy and rewarding way to save, share, and enjoy your photos and slides in a digital format. Don’t let your memories fade – bring them into the digital age. Please contact the Motueka or Richmond Libraries to book your session.

### Motueka Repair Café

Saturday 26 April, 10.00 am – 1.00 pm, Motueka Library.

Offering free repairs to reduce waste and help the environment. Bring your broken items to be assessed and hopefully repaired by a friendly team of volunteers.

### *The Snow*, a play by Finegan Kruckemeyer

Sunday 27 April, 2.00 pm – 3.20 pm, Wakefield Village Hall.

*The Snow* is a dark and whimsical Grimm’s fairytale-style play. A little boy leads a mission to save his snowed-in village. They also have created a colouring-in competition with some cool prizes to be won. Event by Wintergreen Creative, supported by a Tasman Creative Communities Grant. Visit wintergreencreative.co.nz to find out more and buy a ticket.

### TUKU25 – Virtual reality time travel

Friday 2 May, 9.30 am – 3.30 pm (45-minute sessions), Motueka Library.

Step into history like never before and discover a new perspective on history with virtual reality. Technology meets storytelling to transport you to moments from the past. Bookings essential. Ask library staff or phone 03 528 1047 for more information and to register.

### It’s on in Nelson Tasman

To keep up with events happening across the region, visit nelsontasman.nz/events.

# Newsline Notices

### Public holiday hours and services

All service centres and libraries will be closed for the public holidays on Good Friday 18 April, Easter Monday 21 April, and ANZAC Day Friday 25 April. Richmond Library will also be closed on Easter Sunday.

Usual opening hours apply otherwise. We are always here to help when needed though, call 03 543 8400 for assistance, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

On Good Friday, rubbish and recycling collections will be one day later – Saturday 19 April. There will be no change to collections on other days.

All our Resource Recovery Centres will be closed on Good Friday, but otherwise open as normal.

The eBuses on Routes 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be running, but on a reduced timetable. Routes 5 and 6 will not run on a public holiday. When viewing the timetables at ebus.nz select the holidays tab to see the schedules.

### Rural sports funding closing soon

Live rural and need a little help participating in sports? The Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund offers help with travel costs for rural sports clubs and rural school teams. The fund helps young people aged 5 - 19 participate in local sports competitions. This round of funding closes Wednesday 30 April, so get in quick. For more information and to apply, head to tasman.govt.nz/grants.

### Alcohol applications

Visit tasman.govt.nz/alcohol-notices to see the latest alcohol licence applications.

### Consultation corner

We have a number of topics currently open for feedback. Visit shape.tasman.govt.nz to have your say on:

* Natural hazards
* Urban growth
* Lower Queen Street
* Development Contributions Policy
* Schedule of Fees and Charges
* Local Water Done Well
* Reserves Management Plan

### Council hui

Meetings will take place in person and via Zoom. For details, the Zoom link and recordings of previous meetings visit tasman.govt.nz/meetings-calendar. Unless otherwise stated, all meetings will be held at the Council Chamber, 189 Queen Street, Richmond.

Submissions Hearing (Māpua Masterplan Deliberations)  
Monday 28 April, 9.30 am.

Animal Control Subcommittee  
Wednesday 30 April, 9.30 am. No public forum.

Creative Communities Subcommittee  
Wednesday 30 April, 10.00 am. Motueka Library, Wallace Street. No public forum.

Tasman District Council  
Wednesday 30 April, 1.00 pm.

Environment and Regulatory Committee  
Thursday 1 May, 9.30 am.