

Dublin Street now closed

Picton's Dublin Street has been closed to traffic and pedestrians.

The closure was planned for 1 August but was brought forward to remove the risk of traffic not following the one-way detour system.

The road will be closed for about 20 months.

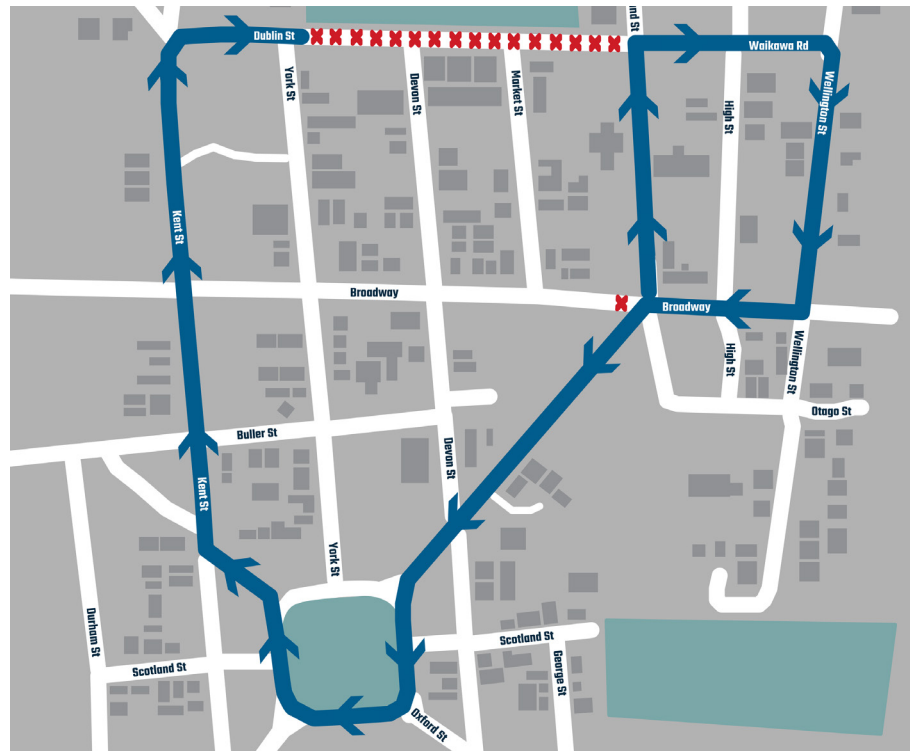
The closure is necessary to enable work on the Dublin Street overbridge which, once complete, will create a key connection for vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists between Picton town and the port area.

It has been carefully designed to feature a dedicated lane for pedestrians and cyclists, with urban design and greenery reflecting the cultural story and landscape of Waitohi Picton.

Broadway will also close to through traffic between Market and Auckland streets but stay open for pedestrians and cyclists.

This is all part of the redevelopment of the new terminal to accommodate Interislander's two new purpose-built ferries and create a welcoming gateway for Waitohi Picton.

For more information go to: www.irex.co.nz



A map showing the road closure affecting Dublin Street

Assessing Marlborough's landslide risk

Weather events in 2021 and 2022 caused major environmental and property damage as well as significant trauma to residents.

A detailed report prepared by GNS Science presented to Council's Environment and Planning Committee illustrated the number of landslides and looked at ways of improving landslide hazard management in future.

Environmental Scientist Matt Oliver said the report had significant implications for how Council managed things going forward.

Mr Oliver said work in the Marlborough Sounds following the storms had been challenging.

"The level of damage to property as well as the human trauma sits heavily with me," he said. "The rainfall from both storms caused significant property damage and disruption to people's lives."

Following the storm events and landslide related reports received in past years, it seemed such phenomena were a common hazard in the Marlborough Sounds landscape, he said.

With increased intensity and frequency of storms forecast under climate change, the GNS report recommended Council investigate landslides further as part of a natural hazards programme.

GNS Science was engaged by Council to map the distribution of landslides and carry out field investigations. That survey found that the greatest number and density of landslides did not occur in areas of highest rainfall.

Sizes of landslides varied with the largest moving approximately 16,500 tonnes of soil and rock, travelling a distance of 465 metres at around 70km/h.

Both the July 2021 and August 2022 storms triggered landslides in different areas - in the 2021 storm nearly half were on sandstone/mudstone soils. The land use was mainly exotic forest (35 per cent) and harvested exotic forest (29 per cent).

Meanwhile, in the 2022 storm 38 per cent of landslides were on semischist bedrock soils. High producing exotic grasslands (farm pasture) generated the most landslides in this event (38 per cent) with eight per cent in exotic forest and six per cent in harvested forest.

The difference between the impacts illustrated how difficult it was to attribute slope failure to single causal factors, especially as storms occurred across different locations and at differing intensities, said Mr Oliver.

"Multiple factors are involved including geology, depth of weathered material, rainfall amount and intensity, land use and how wet the soil was before the storm," he said.

What was clear overall was that landslide density could not be solely attributed to rainfall alone.

The committee adopted the report's recommendations to improve landslide hazard risk and develop a hazard management programme incorporating landslip hazards into the Council's Long Term Plan.



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.

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