

Long Term Plan proposal agreed

People will soon have the opportunity to have their say on Council's planned expenditure in its 10 year plan, which proposes an average rates increase of 12.65 per cent for the 2024/25 financial year.

Mayor Nadine Taylor said it costs about \$180 million a year to run Marlborough and consultation was critical. "We need everyone's input into shaping Marlborough's future and how we get there together," she said.

Councils around the country were facing double digit increases but Marlborough's was at the lower end of the scale.

"We're not alone in facing increased costs due to factors outside our control, such as damaging storms, inflation, contract price increases and the lasting effects of the Covid pandemic," Mayor Taylor said.

"However, we're not proposing to cut services and we're continuing to invest in core infrastructure because we don't want to see Marlborough going backwards."

The Long Term Plan 2024/2034 budget sees new investment in the region's infrastructure, repairs to Marlborough Sounds roads, provides increases in some levels of service and removes the Council's Covid rates subsidy.

At last week's budget meeting councillors approved a number of recommendations to go to public consultation.

Key infrastructure projects include continuing work on the water supply in Awatere, Seddon, Blenheim, Havelock, Picton, Renwick, Riverlands and Wairau Valley, including upgrading pipelines, pump stations and wells to ensure they meet current needs. Drinking water improvements will continue with chlorination to be introduced in Blenheim and a new water treatment plant in Havelock, to ensure water meets national standards.

A new reservoir is planned for Dashwood, new wells are proposed north of Blenheim to increase resilience and supply capacity, and work is ongoing with Picton's water supply, dams and reservoirs.



Mayor Nadine Taylor says Council needs everyone's input into shaping Marlborough's future through the upcoming Long Term Plan consultation

There will also be investment in sewage treatment plants and pump stations in Blenheim, Riverlands, Picton and Renwick, plus new a sewage treatment plant for Havelock and a major upgrade for Seddon's plant.

Roading is the biggest item of Council expenditure at around 20 per cent, including maintenance, renewals and improvements to roads, footpaths, bridges and drainage. The plan proposes increasing this funding by \$10m over the next three years.

For more detailed information on all the key projects included in Council's 10 year Long Term Plan proposal go to: <https://links.marlborough.govt.nz/LTP-Key-Projects>

You can have your say and make a submission from 4 April to 6 May. There will be public meetings and hearings - further information will be made available.



Repairs to Marlborough Sounds roads are a key part of Council's Long Term Plan 2024/2034

Wheelie bin rollout underway

Let's get it sorted – Marlborough's wheelie bin rollout is underway.

Wheelie bins are now being delivered, area by area, to households in Marlborough. Delivery will continue until all areas have been covered and in time for the 1 July launch of Council's new and expanded kerbside collection service.

Please keep using your rubbish bags until the end of June – wheelie bins will not be emptied until the new service launches on 1 July.

The first area to have wheelie bins delivered is Dry Hills and the area between Alabama Road and Wither Road and west to Howick Road.

Wheelie bins will be delivered to the kerbside where residents should place them for collection when the new service rolls out.

Council's Solid Waste Manager Mark Lucas said there are approximately 36,000 bins being delivered so people should not worry if they think they've been missed. If you have not received your bin by the beginning of June please contact Council.

Rubbish bags will not be collected after 1 July and while Council has a limited supply left, most supermarkets in the region have stopped selling them.

"People can use up their supply of rubbish bags but from 1 July

these will not be collected from the kerbside. Council will continue to accept them at transfer stations, the Waste Sorting Centre, or the Resource Recovery Centre, but that option will be removed as demand diminishes," Mark said.

You can redeem your rubbish bag voucher at Council's Blenheim or Picton Service Centres or get a rebate until 30 June this year. While stocks last, rubbish bags are available to buy from Council's Blenheim or Picton Service Centre either individually (\$1.85), in packs of 10 (\$18.50) or packs of 52 (\$96.00).

The kerbside collection service covers Blenheim, Grovetown, Havelock, Picton, Rarangi, Rai Valley, Renwick, Seddon, Spring Creek and Tua Marina with household waste collected one week and recycling the next. Two wheelie bins will be delivered to each household - one for household waste and one for recycling, except glass, which will go into the maroon crate currently used for recycling.

For more information on collection areas and days go to Council's Smart Maps page: <https://links.marlborough.govt.nz/kerbside>

If you have questions about the new system go to: links.marlborough.govt.nz/Kerbside-FAQs or phone Council on 03 520 7400 or email mdc@marlborough.govt.nz

Let's get it
sorted



- Rollout
- Get Ready
- Go 1 July

Last day to pay rates

This is a friendly reminder to rate payers that the final day for payment of instalment 3 is Monday, 11 March 2024. Late payments will incur a 10% penalty.

Always pay your rates on time!

Why not sign up for a direct debit. Ratepayers who pay their rates by direct debit never have to worry about missing a rates payment

and never incur penalties. It is the easiest and flexible way to pay. You choose how often you pay – you can even choose what day of the week the payment comes out of your account.

If you would like to know more about paying rates by direct debit, call our Customer Support Officers at Council on Ph: 03 520 7400.

Opening Hours

Mon to Fri: 8.30 am - 4.30 pm
Closed Wed 12.30 pm - 1.30 pm
03 520 7400 | mdc@marlborough.govt.nz

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