

## He kōrero nā te Kaunihera o Wairau. News from Marlborough District Council.



Repairs to Queen Charlotte Drive, Cullen Point, near Havelock, October 2023.

### Council proposes Long Term Plan budget

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

This year's proposed baseline rates increase is 8.47 per cent, which includes inflation and the new wheelie bin service. The removal of the Covid rates relief subsidy, which has kept rates increases down for the last three years, leads to an additional 5.11 per cent increase for this coming financial year. After discussion by Mayor Nadine Taylor and councillors on Monday, including to levels of service increases and fees, a proposed rates increase of 12.65 per cent will go out for public consultation in April.

Mayor Nadine Taylor said many councils were facing double digit increases but Marlborough's increase was at the lower end of the scale.

"We're not alone in facing increased costs due to factors outside our control, such as inflation, contract price increases, the on-going impact

of damaging storms and the lasting effects of the Covid pandemic."

"However, we are not proposing to cut services and we're continuing to invest in core infrastructure - roads, footpaths, waste management, water supply and community services and facilities - because we don't want to see Marlborough going backwards."

"Over the next 10 years our investment in infrastructure will be \$790M, which is \$85M more than our previous ten year plan, from 2021 to 2031. This year's capital expenditure on infrastructure will be in the order of \$80M," she said.

"Over the last three years the Covid Rates Relief Fund reduced rates for everyone across Marlborough by the equivalent of \$12.8M. This fund now needs to be unwound including by selling up to \$4.5 million of Council-owned carbon credits."

A number of additional funding requests, including for new repairs and upgrades to stop banks, improvements to parks and reserves, increased road maintenance budgets and funding a new pavilion at A&P Park in Blenheim will be proposed.

One of the most significant items is the Marlborough Sounds Roading Funding Recovery. Council is proposing to fund \$106M of ratepayer contributions over the next 25 years split between Sounds property owners, who would contribute 29 per cent, and the rest of Marlborough at 71 per cent.

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

### Kaihautū joins Council

Johnny Joseph has joined Council as Kaihautū, responsible for facilitating partnerships with iwi and promoting collaborative and positive engagement with Māori within the Marlborough region.

Mayor Nadine Taylor warmly welcomed Johnny to Council at a mihi whakataua.

"Council's relationships with its iwi partners are extremely important and Johnny will support us to strengthen and grow them. Council works with iwi in many different ways and we need to build our capability and develop practical frameworks for how we work together," she said.

"Johnny will provide guidance within Council so that our interactions are positive, respectful and mutually beneficial."

Wairau born and bred and a father of six, Johnny has worked as a Biodiversity Ranger Supervisor at DOC and General Manager for Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangitira.

Johnny has a passion for te taiao (the environment) and is a keen freediver and spearfisher.



Mayor Nadine Taylor and Johnny Joseph

### Exhibition celebrates weaver's colourful life

A showcase honouring award-winning local weaver Peg Moorhouse (1917 to 2024) and her artworks has opened at the Marlborough Museum in Blenheim.

It runs from 27 February to 14 April.

The 'Peg Moorhouse: A Life in Colour' exhibition features 15 artworks displaying her unique style, using colour and texture to create eye-catching pieces. Moorhouse was the first recipient of Marlborough's Living Cultural Treasure Award in 2012.

"The works, each in different patterns, colours, materials and textures, highlight Peg's versatility and vision as an artist. The showcase includes some damask pieces and her award-winning cloak from the World of Wearable Arts," Marlborough Museum manager Liz Ward said.

Moorhouse won the wool section of the inaugural World of Wearable Art Show in 1987 with her piece 'Tribal Cloak'. She later modelled in the show to celebrate its tenth anniversary in 1998, at age 81.

From her home in Sunshine Bay near Picton, Moorhouse began her spinning and weaving journey some years after she and her husband relocated there in the 1960s following his retirement.

"In the 1990s, Peg set off to Sweden and learned about damask weaving, importing a special loom from Sweden to master the craft," Liz said.

Marlborough Museum's hours are Tuesday to Friday 10am - 3pm; Saturday and Sunday from 12pm to 3pm.



A Life in Colour exhibition at Marlborough Museum honours the life and works of local weaver Peg Moorhouse

### Marlborough Matariki Event Fund now open

Are you part of an organisation planning on holding an event to recognise Te Rā Aro ki a Matariki?

Council is seeking applications for the Mānawatia te Kahui o Matariki/ Marlborough Matariki Event Fund which celebrates and supports the regeneration and sustainability of mātauranga Māori associated with Te Kāhui o Matariki.

Project Lead, Arts, Culture and Heritage, Nicola Neilson says the contestable fund, which is now open for applications from Marlborough community groups, organisations and individuals, aims to support events that recognise not only Te Rā Aro ki a Matariki, the public holiday, but also the wider kaupapa and principles of Matariki.

"The event must take place within Marlborough and be free or low cost, family-friendly and accessible to all," Nicola said.

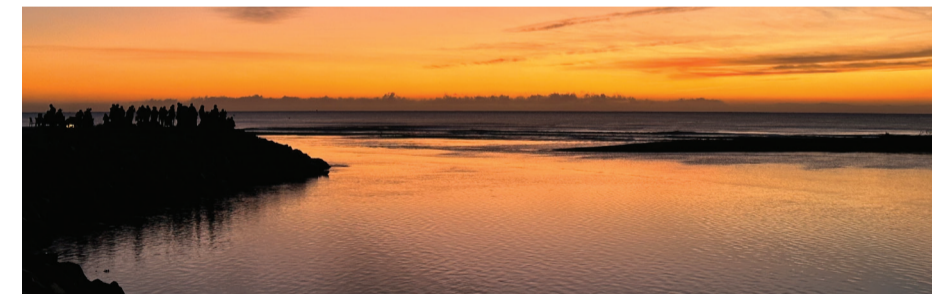
"The fund will support costs integral to

holding an event, which includes venue and equipment hire, marketing and promotion and other costs."

While there is no maximum for applications, it is likely between \$2,000 and \$3,000 will be awarded to support events. Mrs Neilson said priority will be given to events that can demonstrate documented support from iwi and must demonstrate how funding would advance and promote one or more of the three major principles of Matariki.

Applications for the 2024 funding round opened on Friday 1 March and close at 5pm Monday 15 April. To apply go to: [www.marlborough.govt.nz/recreation/events/manawatia-te-kahui-o-matariki-fund-marlborough-matariki-community-event-fund](http://www.marlborough.govt.nz/recreation/events/manawatia-te-kahui-o-matariki-fund-marlborough-matariki-community-event-fund)

For further information please contact Nicola Neilson on Ph: 03 520 7400 or email: [nicola.neilson@marlborough.govt.nz](mailto:nicola.neilson@marlborough.govt.nz)



Sunrise at the Wairau Bar - site of last year's fund recipient Rangitane o Wairau Matariki celebration

### Wither Hills Farm Park remains closed

The Wither Hills Farm Park remains closed due to the hot, dry conditions.

Council made the decision following discussion with Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) in the interest of public safety.

Due to the mixture of dry grass, steep slopes and warm and windy conditions, a fire would spread very quickly, placing people at extreme risk.

Council is also warning people to be very careful when walking or biking in the Taylor River Reserve, especially between the Burleigh Bridge and Taylor Dam.

The vegetation is super dry and a spark could cause a quick-spreading fire.

Reserve users should think carefully about their route and ensure they have a plan to exit the reserve quickly in case of fire.

Early morning and late evening walks are recommended when the danger level is lower.



### Get your Marlborough Autumn Events Guide

The latest guide highlighting events around the region is out now!

The Marlborough Autumn Events Guide covers events from 1 March to 31 May, from small community get togethers to some of Marlborough's major events such as the Havelock Mussel and Seafood Festival and Saint Clair Vineyard Half Marathon.

Regional Events Advisor Samantha Young says the guide also includes listings for regular weekly and weekend events, and highlights exhibitions taking place at several of Marlborough's galleries.

"If people have an event they would like included in future guides they are welcome to get in touch - it's a great way to spread the word about your event and it's free to be listed," Samantha said. Please contact [events@marlborough.govt.nz](mailto:events@marlborough.govt.nz) to find out how.

Grab your guide from Council's Blenheim and Picton Service Centres, i-SITES, ASB Theatre and local cafés and restaurants. You can also visit the official online regional events calendar at [www.follow-me.co.nz](http://www.follow-me.co.nz)



The Marlborough Multicultural Festival is one of many popular events to look forward to this autumn in Marlborough

### Welcoming new citizens

Twenty-five candidates from fourteen countries are now Marlborough citizens.

The new citizens are from the UK, France, Brazil, Australia, Fiji, Tonga, India, Philippines, Slovakia, Netherlands, Colombia, South Africa, Zimbabwe and China, were welcomed at a special ceremony in Council Chambers earlier this month.

Mayor Taylor told the group they would all now enjoy the rights and freedoms of native-born New Zealanders.

"Your decision to apply for citizenship was no doubt made after very careful consideration and is a commitment to your future," she said. "It is not a rejection of your past but in future your first loyalty will be to New Zealand."



Mayor Taylor with Marlborough's new citizens

### SH1 summer maintenance works underway

Drivers travelling on SH1 in south Marlborough can expect to see road crews carrying out maintenance over the coming weeks, with work underway in Seddon until 15 March.

Over the next four weeks, crews will do drainage, kerb and channel works, road resurfacing and line marking during the day between 7am and 6pm, under stop/go traffic management. Road users can expect delays of up to 10 minutes and should factor this into their travel plans.

No works are planned to be carried out in the evenings or at weekends, but reduced temporary speed limits through the site will remain in place.

Drivers must obey the speed limits at all times.

NZ Transport Agency/Waka Kotahi thanks local residents and road users for their patience and understanding while the work is completed.

### Every drop counts

Picton and Waikawa residents can now use sprinklers on alternate days.

Hand held hoses, flushing of boat motors and light boat washing are allowed too.

- A property with an even numbered street address may use a sprinkler on even numbered calendar days
- A property with an odd numbered street address can use a sprinkler on odd numbered calendar days

The water play area on Picton Foreshore will be open on weekends and public holidays.



# Public Notices

## Meet your Council



Mayor Nadine Taylor leads a team of 14 elected councillors. They are responsible for making decisions and developing policies that will help shape our province into the future.

Council's vision is that Marlborough is a globally-connected district of smart, progressive, high-value enterprises, known for its economic efficiency, quality lifestyle and wellbeing, caring community, desirable location and healthy natural environment.

For more information or to contact one of your elected representatives, go to: [www.marlborough.govt.nz/your-council/councillors](http://www.marlborough.govt.nz/your-council/councillors) or Ph: 03 520 7400.

## Control of aquatic weeds in watercourses

Council's drain spraying programme to control weeds in open drains will begin on Monday 4 March 2024.

Spraying will take place in Council-maintained drains and watercourses on the Lower Wairau Plain east of Jacksons Road and Grahams Road.

If you use water from watercourses in the area for irrigation or stock or for harvesting watercress,

please check with Council's contractor, Downer on Ph: 577 5807.

The spray operation is in accordance with the Marlborough Environment Plan Vol 2 (section 2.12.11).

For any enquiries, please contact James Mills-Kelly on Ph: 03 520 7400 or 027 388 9303.

## Proposed temporary road closure - Kaituna - Tuamarina Road

On Sunday 14 April 2024, Kaituna - Tuamarina Road will be closed to ordinary vehicle traffic from Kaituna - Tuamarina Road/Bush Road intersection (1.5km) to the Waikakaho Valley intersection, between 7.30am and 5pm for the Marlborough Car Club Annual Sealed Bent Sprint.

During the proposed period of closure, ordinary vehicle traffic may use the road being closed between events under the supervision and authority of an Officer of the New Zealand Police (Traffic Safety Branch).

It will be an offence under the above regulations for any

person other than under the authority of an authorised permit to use the road for ordinary vehicle traffic during the period of closure.

This notice is given under the Transport (Vehicular Traffic Road Closure) Regulations 1965.

Anyone wishing to object must lodge their objection in writing before Friday 29 March, at Marlborough Roads' office, The Forum, Market Street, Blenheim, PO Box 1031, Blenheim, 7240.

Any enquiries to Dean Hawkey, Marlborough Roads, Ph: 021 923 536.

## Temporary road closure - Seaview Road

On Sunday 3 March 2024 the following road is proposed to be closed to ordinary vehicle traffic for the purposes of Marlborough Car Club Sprint Races:

- Seaview Road (Seddon) - 400m from the intersection of Reserve Road to 400m prior to Flemings Road intersection, from 7.30am to 5pm

During the proposed period of closure, ordinary vehicular traffic may use the road being closed between events under the supervision and authority of an Officer of the New Zealand Police (Traffic Safety Branch).

It will be an offence under the above regulations for any person other than under the authority of an authorised permit to use the road for ordinary vehicular traffic during the period of closure.

This notice is given under the Transport (Vehicular Traffic Road Closure) Regulations 1965.

Any enquiries to Dean Hawkey, Marlborough Roads; Ph: 021 923 536.

## Awatere and Dashwood rural boil water notice

Water from Council's reticulation network to the Awatere and Dashwood rural areas should be boiled.

It does not currently meet the NZ Drinking Water Standards and may contain bacteria or protozoa that are harmful to human health.

All water used for drinking, food preparation or cleaning teeth should be boiled before use.

Treated water is available at the public taps on Marama Road, outside Seddon School. For further information contact the Council on Ph: 03 520 7400.

## Blenheim Customer Service Centre

15 Seymour Street, Blenheim 7201

Ph: 03 520 7400

[mdc@marlborough.govt.nz](mailto:mdc@marlborough.govt.nz)

Mon - Tues 8.30am - 4.30pm

Wed 8.30am - 12.30pm  
1.30pm - 4.30pm

Thurs - Fri 8.30am - 4.30pm

## Picton Library & Service Centre

2 Dublin Street, Picton 7220

Ph: 03 520 7493

[pictonlibrary@marlborough.govt.nz](mailto:pictonlibrary@marlborough.govt.nz)

Mon - Fri 8am - 5pm

Sat - Sun 10am - 4pm

## Council & Committee Meetings

The following committee meetings are open to the public and anyone is welcome to attend. Copies of the agendas will be available online and at Council's Office, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim.

### Assets and Services

Tuesday 12 March at 9am

### Environment and Planning

Thursday 14 March at 9am

### Economic, Finance and Community

Tuesday 19 March at 9am

### Public Forum

A public forum will be held prior to the Economic, Finance and Community Committee at 8.30am. If you wish to address the Committee you need to confirm your attendance and speaking time with the Committee Secretary at least 24 hours prior. Please note topics are restricted to those agenda items for the meeting or within the Committee's delegation.

All times and dates are subject to change. Please contact the Committee Secretary, Ph: 03 520 7400 for confirmation.

**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.

03 520 7400 | [HARBOURS@MARLBOROUGH.GOV.T.NZ](mailto:HARBOURS@MARLBOROUGH.GOV.T.NZ)

