

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

Have your say on Long Term Plan

Marlburians can now have their say on Council's planned expenditure.

The Long Term Plan (LTP) 2024-2034 submissions opened yesterday 11 April and close at 5pm on 13 May.

Information and copies of the consultation document will be available at a series of drop-in meetings and a webinar starting Monday 15 April.

Councillors and Council staff will be available to answer questions.

Those wanting to use the water taxi from Havelock to Waitaria Bay Hall, via Portage wharf must pre-book by contacting Rebecca Waldron at Council, either by email at rebecca.waldron@marlborough.govt.nz or Ph. 03 520 7400.

This service is free to Kenepuru community members.

The Marlborough Regional Land Transport Plan 2024-2027 is also out for public consultation over the same period.

For more information go to: <https://links.marlborough.govt.nz/haveyoursay> or visit Council's customer service centres.



Date	Time	Location	Meeting style
Monday 15 April	5.30pm - 7.30pm	Blenheim Lansdowne Hub 6B Lansdowne Street, Mayfield	Community drop-in
Tuesday 16 April	2pm - 4pm	Rai Valley The Millers Rest 6767 State Highway 6	Community drop-in
Wednesday 17 April	12.30pm - 2.30pm	Waitaria Bay Waitaria Bay Hall	Community drop-in
Thursday 18 April	5.30pm - 7.00pm	Online webinar	Via Zoom: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88384985861
Friday 19 April	12pm - 2pm	Seddon Awatere Memorial Hall 1C Foster Street	Community drop-in
Monday 22 April	2pm - 4pm	Linkwater Linkwater Settlers and Memorial Hall 1351 Queen Charlotte Drive	Community drop-in
Tuesday 23 April	5.30pm - 7.30pm	Picton Port Marlborough Pavilion, Endeavour Park Waikawa Road	Community drop-in

High country lakes tested

Council's Environmental Monitoring team is testing the quality of water in several Marlborough high country lakes.

Bowscale Tarn and Lake McCrae sit on DOC land in the upper Awatere Valley, and were tested in March.

Both lakes are on Molesworth Station - Bowscale Tarn sits between Rainbow Road and Molesworth Road while Lake McCrae sits at 897m altitude in the Inland Kaikōura Ranges.

Other significant lakes in Marlborough routinely monitored include Lake Elterwater at Ward and Grovetown Lagoon. Lake Chalice, on the north bank of the Wairau River, was included in the monitoring for the first time.

The testing is to comply with the 2020 National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.

Probes are dropped into the deepest part of the lake to measure temperature,

conductivity, dissolved oxygen, turbidity and chlorophyll, Council's Environmental Monitoring Officer Darren Rooney said.

"Samples were also collected to test for bacteria and other water quality parameters," he said.

Results from the lake monitoring will be analysed and summarised in a report to Council later this year.



Monitoring Officer Darren Rooney at Bowscale Tarn on Molesworth Station with the monitoring boat

Regional Land Transport Plan now open for consultation

Public consultation is now open on the Marlborough Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP) 2024-2027.

Major Marlborough Sounds road repairs, increased road maintenance and improving freight efficiencies are Council's key focus in the plan which was approved by full Council on 10 April.

The public can have their say on the RLTP at the same time as Council's Long Term Plan, which both close on 13 May at 5pm.

For more information go to: <https://links.marlborough.govt.nz/haveyoursay>



Book launch for 'extraordinarily ordinary' Edwin Fox

The release of a book about the Edwin Fox celebrates the ship and her role in connecting the world in the latter part of the 19th century.

The Edwin Fox: How an Ordinary Sailing Ship Connected the World in the Age of Globalization, 1850 - 1914, is co-written by Dr Boyd Cothran and Dr Adrian Shubert of York University in Toronto, Canada after a fortuitous visit by Dr Shubert to Picton in March 2017. It was published by the University of North Carolina Press last year and will be launched locally on 14 April at the Picton Library and Service Centre.

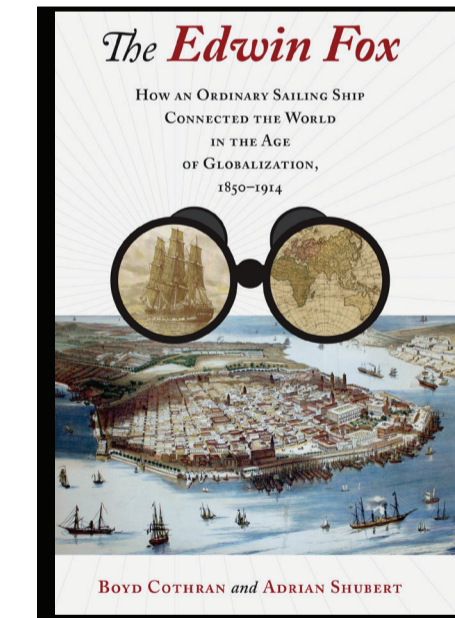
"Dr Shubert happened upon the Edwin Fox while on holiday in New Zealand. He was so taken with the ship's story that he decided if a book had not already been written, he would write one," Edwin Fox manager Karen McLeod said.

The book reveals how an 'everyday' merchant ship drew together a changing world and its people in an extraordinary age of rising empires, sweeping economic transformation and social change. The authors say the Edwin Fox, built in Calcutta in 1853, is 'exceptional for being unexceptional' and the ship has been a fantastic vehicle for telling the story of globalisation as it unfolded between 1850 and 1914.

"The authors were inspired to write a book on the globalisation era with the Edwin Fox as the central focus as she had such a varied career as a sailing ship and represents that era so well," Karen said.

"It was a privilege to work with the authors Adrian and Boyd over the past few years to revisit the Edwin Fox story and add valuable new research including the discovery of who Edwin Fox was. I am hoping with the release of the book around the globe, it will take the amazing story of the ship to the world," Karen said.

The public are invited to attend the book launch at the Picton Library and Service Centre, 2 Dublin St, Picton on Sunday 14 April 2024 from 2pm to 4pm. Copies of the book will be available to buy. To register go to: www.eventfinda.co.nz/2024/the-edwin-fox-new-zealands-vessel-of-globalisation/picton



Wairau River toxic algae warning

Council is warning the public to watch out for toxic algae in the Wairau River.

Environmental Scientist Steffi Henkel said Council had noted a significant spread of toxic algae in some parts of the river upstream from the SH1 bridge.

"The spread of toxic algae is caused by prolonged dry weather which results in consistently low river flows. With so many access points, it is impossible to put signs up everywhere, but it is important for the public to be vigilant when walking their dogs along rivers and streams," Ms Henkel said.

Council is asking people to avoid water with toxic algae as it can pose a significant risk for dogs and small children.

The absence of a warning sign does not necessarily mean that toxic algae is not present.

Toxic algae in the Rai and Omaka rivers has now almost disappeared, so warning signs will be removed.

You can find out more at: www.marlborough.govt.nz/recreation/swimming-and-boating/toxic-algae

Former library new home for tech hub

Marlborough's new technology and innovation hub will be up and running in the former Blenheim library building later this year.

Economic, Finance and Community Committee Chair David Croad said today the tech hub would go upstairs in the former library building, on the corner of Seymour and Arthur Streets.

The tech hub aimed to foster start-ups, boost the agritech sector, increase productivity and enhance local investment opportunities for entrepreneurs.

Mr Croad said it was exciting an existing Council building would be utilised for the tech hub, which would add vibrancy to the town as an incubator for start-ups.

"Council took the former library building to the market and it didn't sell, but with a number of enquiries from the rental market a decision has been made to put the tech hub upstairs and seek co-tenants for the downstairs area," he said.

The tech hub had been in the planning stage for some time and Mr Croad said it was fantastic to move into the implementation stage of this economic development project.

"The region's business ecosystem needs a place where innovative companies can meet with aspiring entrepreneurs, scientists, technologists, investors and business support providers," he said.

The former library site was an ideal location, and it was hoped other tenants would be confirmed shortly.

The tech hub received a \$578,000 boost from the Government's Kānoa fund last

year which will help with fit-out costs with programme and operational costs coming from existing budgets. Fit-out will include a co-working space, a prototyping room for product development and shared meeting rooms.

Council's Economic Development team researched similar models around New Zealand before embarking on the project.

Economic Development Portfolio Manager Dorien Vermaas said the hub aimed to help businesses create more value in Marlborough's agritech sectors, support startups working on wellbeing and sustainability and create investment opportunities and highly paid jobs in the region.

She looked forward to future events taking place in the space.



Economic Development Portfolio Manager Dorien Vermaas and Programmes manager Mark Unwin

WinePRO shaping up as sellout

Momentum is building for Marlborough's inaugural wine industry expo, WinePRO, Council's Economic, Finance and Community committee heard recently.

Hundreds of wine industry people are expected for the event which runs from 25 to 27 June at the Marlborough Lines Stadium 2000 in Blenheim.

Economic Development Officer Mark Unwin said the event is a long-held vision for Innovate Marlborough (Council's economic development unit) and Wine Marlborough.

"Stands are selling fast with 80 per cent already spoken for. If you're interested

in the wine sector, it promises to be an event not to be missed with a vast range of equipment, vineyard management tools and industry suppliers from around New Zealand and overseas on show," Mr Unwin said.

Business Trust Marlborough has been helping Innovate Marlborough spread the word to the local hospitality and retail sector with a 'town activation' workshop to get businesses ready for the influx of people. Organisers Expertise Events also held a workshop with more than 45 attendees.

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



Wine industry innovation will be front and centre at WinePRO... Marlborough is full of great examples like Matt White (pictured) from GreenVine Ltd, with their alternative to burning green organic material

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 or Ph: 03 520 7400.

Control of aquatic weeds

Council's rivers injection programme for controlling aquatic weeds is being applied from 19 April 2024. Injection will take place in Council-maintained rivers and watercourses on the Lower Wairau Plain and include portions of Spring Creek, Ōpaoa River, Taylor River, Tuamarina River and Murphys Creek.

The spray operation is in accordance with the Marlborough Environment Plan Vol 2 (section 2.16.11).

If you use water from drains or watercourses in the area for irrigation, stock or harvesting watercress, please check in with Council's contractor, Downer on Ph: 03 577 5807.

Any enquiries should be directed to Gregor Punzel on Ph: 03 520 7400.

Proposed road closures, navigation warnings and alcohol licensing

For the latest public notices, please go to: www.marlborough.govt.nz/your-council/latest-news-notice-and-media-releases/all-news-notice-and-media-releases

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 Council on Ph: 03 520 7400.



Antenno keeps you in the loop

Council's mobile app Antenno is a great way to keep up to date with important Council alerts.

Free to install, Antenno is available on Apple and Android smartphones and no personal information or login details are required.

You simply save the locations you want to be informed about, such as your home address, workplace or school.

When Council posts an update relevant to your chosen locations, you receive a notification.

While most posts are specific to your location, some notifications like sports ground closures are published district-wide. This means no matter where a team is playing, they'll have the relevant information.

During rainfall and flooding events, road closure information changes quickly. In these instances, Antenno updates link to information on Council's website. These notifications are sent out district-wide to ensure they reach as many people as quickly as possible.

To learn more about Antenno including how to download the app visit: www.marlborough.govt.nz/services/apps

Blenheim Customer Service Centre

15 Seymour Street, Blenheim 7201

Ph: 03 520 7400

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

Mon - Fri 8am - 5pm

Sat - Sun 10am - 4pm

Council & Committee Meetings

The following 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 & Services Committee

Tuesday 16 April at 9am

Environment & Planning Committee

Thursday 18 April at 9am

The times and dates may be subject to change, please contact the Committee Secretary, Ph: 03 520 7400 for confirmation.

Subscribe to Council's eNewsletter

Direct to your inbox every Friday, Council's eNewsletter, Marlborough Matters, covers the latest news and information on Council services and projects. Stay in the know and sign up today.

Visit: <https://bit.ly/MarlCouncilENewsletter> to subscribe.



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

