3rd April 2024

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District Long Term Plan (LTP) consultation drawing to a close

Our feedback on the projects and facilities TCDC is proposing to deliver to our communities over the next 10 vears and beyond is still being sought. We only have until Monday 8 April to have our say on the proposed Long Term Plan (LTP). Your feedback helps to inform Councillors as they make decisions for the final LTP, which will be adopted in June.

TCDC has explained that the proposed LTP is an "essentials" one designed to attend to the basics: repairing and improving the roading network, dealing with the effects of climate change, and supporting and growing resilient communities. Council needs to know what we think about the likes of managing rates increase so as to lessen the impact on ratepayers, investment in future planning so that growth and development is strategic, and how to connect communities so they can better respond to challenges such as severe weather events.

On top of all this, Council has to carry out several mandatory projects, such as upgrading the District's water infrastructure to meet national standards. Such projects require huge funding leaving little "spare" for other areas.



To cope, Council is proposing an average district-wide rates increase of 12.9% for the 2024/25 financial year. A national report, commissioned by Local Government NZ and conducted by Infometrics and based on 48 councils, reveals that Kiwi homeowners are facing average rates rises this year of 15 per cent.

The constraints on Council income and expenditure are serious. The proposed LTP and its attendant budgets mean that many of the projects

previously earmarked for our ward have been removed from the plan including the Tairua Heritage Centre. It is important that these things are not forgotten altogether, making your input on the LTP that much more important.

Go to tcdc.govt.nz/LTP-2024-2034 and read the consultation and supporting documents. Then make sure you make any submissions before the consultation process closes next Monday, 8 April!

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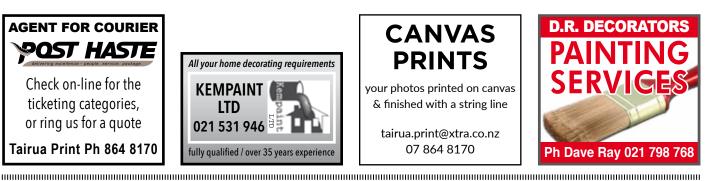
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HEALTH





PUBLIC NOTICES



'Ello, 'ello, 'ello A word from our local constabulary

Tena Koutou Katoa

The wind-down from summer has provided some relief to our stretched resourcing across the area. The golden triangle, as llike to call it, Whangamata, Tairua and Whitianga, have all had frontline vacancies over our busy period. Thankfully, we have been able to meet demand and continue to provide a good level of Policing to our communities. However, I acknowledge that it can be frustrating when the public want to come and see an officer, and one is not readily available 24/7 at your nearest Police Station.

Tairua Police station does not have set open times, and when we are working, we aim to be out and about 'on the beat' as much as possible. Gone are the days of volunteers manning front counters. Although this was extremely useful and provided a great service, these positions were axed some time ago for health and safety reasons. Calling the station direct is also no longer an option with our phones being directed to the central crime reporting line which can then be transferred through to us.

So how do I get in touch with an officer you ask? There are three main ways. Phone 111 for an emergency which is happening at the time, or phone 105 for non-urgent matters or something that has already occurred. If you don't have time to wait on the phone, go online to www.police. org.nz and submit a quick report. This creates a file which gets triaged and subsequently sent to your local officer, such as myself, for follow up. Reporting is essential for us to effectively do our job, and without our communities giving us information, a lot of crime can go unsolved or undetected. Even the smallest reports can help us link some of the largest of crimes occurring. And did you know you can also report crime anonymously at Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111?

Some of the incidents we have dealt with recently included a digger which was stolen from SH25, Pumpkin Hill, and two days later recovered at a rural address on the Tapu-Coroglen Road.

Alarge boat winch was stolen from the Tairua Marina area. CCTV footage of a suspicious van and a nominated suspect were forwarded to Police from around the same time and enquiries are ongoing at this stage.

A search warrant was executed at a Tairua address after Police received CCTV footage of a late-night prowler up to no good at the Campground. The stolen item was not located, and the suspect had left town after seeing his mugshot posted on Facebook.

Akeen Beach Hop-goer watched his 1969 Holden Monaro go up in flames on Tairua Road on their journey back to Thames from the event. Despite having a fire extinguisher on board, it wasn't enough to put out the quickly spreading fire. Thankfully everyone was able to exit the vehicle unharmed. It was great to see the swift response from Pauanui, Tairua and Whangamata FENZ who quickly arrived on scene to put out the fire and prevent it spreading up the hill where some bushes had also caught fire.

Do you have any photos, knowledge, or history of Tairua Police Station? If so, I would love to hear from you as I am collating pieces for a memorial board to showcase some history at our small station. Email: dylan.curtin@police.govt.nz

Stay Safe, Nga mihi Dylan Tairua Police

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