

Central Link

He karere tā te Kaunihera ā Rohe o Whakaahurangi
News from the Stratford District Council

24 Hour Phone 06 765 6099 | stratforddc@stratford.govt.nz | stratford.govt.nz



TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O
WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD
DISTRICT COUNCIL



Our phone line is staffed 24/7, 365 days of the year

Council's Service Centre may be closed from 12pm Friday 22 December until 8.30am Wednesday 3 January, but you're still able to get a hold of us at any time.



If you have an urgent enquiry, please call 06 765 6099. Our phone line is staffed 24/7, even on statutory holidays.

Antenno app reports, emails, and social media messages to Stratford District Council may not be checked until after 3 January. So, please give us a call, or if it can wait, get in touch when we're back.

Visit Stratford.govt.nz for a full list of our facility opening hours over the holiday period.

Public Notices

Council meetings - January 2024

- **Workshop:** Tuesday 23 January at 9am
- **Policy and Services Committee:** Tuesday 23 January at 3pm

Meetings and Workshops will be held in the Council Chambers on Miranda Street.

Changes to meeting times will be published in the meeting schedule at Stratford.govt.nz/PublicNotices

S Hanne | Chief Executive

Can I swim here? Check first!



People heading to Taranaki lakes, rivers and beaches this summer are encouraged to first check whether the water is safe to swim in.

Until March 2024, Taranaki Regional Council will monitor water quality at 41 sites across the region's popular recreational hot spots. Weekly results and warnings are available on www.trc.govt.nz/can-i-swim-here.

As a rule of thumb you should always avoid swimming for three days after heavy or prolonged rainfall. If the water doesn't look or smell right, it's safest to not enter.

Merry Christmas from Mayor Volzke...

Kia ora, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

It's hard to believe but here we are at the end of 2023.

The year seems to have just flown by and what a year it has been. On reflection, the general election was the single biggest issue of the year and it dominated the media before, during and after the event. For Council that means more change and reform in 2024 as the new government goes about setting its direction. There will be plenty of issues to deal with and the coming year will be busy and challenging.

During 2023 Council has been working our way through a number of topics and projects, but we have done so with a positive mindset and made decisions that I think will satisfy the majority of people. The latter half of 2023 has been dominated by the overwhelming amount of work involved in preparing our draft Long Term Plan that is due for release in the first half of 2024. Countless hours have been spent trying to achieve the right balance between service levels, improvements and affordability, it is not easy. I think a break over Christmas has been well earned and we can look forward to 2024



with renewed energy and enthusiasm.

Often Christmas is a particularly challenging time for those less well off in our community and at the moment, the cost of living crisis is a burden they could do without. Through the annual Mayoral Gift

Appeal we have received some great gifts that we can hand on to these deserving families. My sincere thanks to the those who have donated and generously supported this year's appeal. The gifts are being distributed this week.

Over the festive period, I encourage you all to take some time out to relax and enjoy quality time with friends and whānau. If you are hosting visitors to our region, make an effort to get out and about and show off what our district has to offer. There is plenty to be proud of.

On behalf of Stratford District Council staff and councillors, I wish you a safe and happy holiday and a prosperous New Year.

New waste contract approved for Taranaki district councils

Taranaki's three district councils have signed a new waste contract for the region from October next year.

Stratford, South Taranaki, and New Plymouth district councils have signed a 10-year contract with Waste Management NZ which includes new trucks and the ability to better identify recycling contamination.

Stratford District Council Director Assets, Victoria Araba, says the improvement in recycling auditing at the kerbside is an exciting move forward.

"This will support our ongoing waste education initiatives to minimise contamination in our recycling, thereby reducing the 'contaminated recycling' waste going to landfill."

The existing kerbside collection service and transfer stations will continue to be operated by Enviro NZ until the new contract starts on 1 October 2024.

Stratford residents receiving the kerbside collection service won't need to do anything differently once



the new contract is in place. At a Council meeting last week, elected members adopted a status quo kerbside collection service, which means weekly general rubbish and fortnightly recycling and glass collections will continue. A food waste collection will be included when the government's mandate comes into effect in 2027.

This decision follows community consultation on the district's draft Waste Minimisation and Management Plan and proposed changes to kerbside waste collection earlier this year.

Stratford Christmas recycling tips. What you can and can't recycle

Christmas inevitably results in an explosion of boxes and wrapping paper, but here are some little tips and tricks to keep your recycling bin free of contamination and reduce the amount you're putting in your red-lid bin.

Wrapping paper

- **Foil wrapping:** You can't recycle that shiny foil wrapping paper, so avoid using it if you can. If you've received a foil wrapped present, keep the wrapping and use it for crafts or for wrapping presents next year, or put it in your red-lid bin.

- **Paper wrapping:** This goes in your recycling bin if you don't want to re-use it. **Don't worry about tape on the wrapping.** The paper will be soaked during the recycling process and the tape is separated after it floats to the surface!



- **Waste free tip:** Look up Furoshiki, the art of fabric wrapping, for an eco-friendly and reusable way of presenting your gifts.

Love supermarket pavlova?

- Those plastic clear pavlova boxes are now **recyclable**. Just check that it has the symbol for type 1 plastic, then straight into your recycling bin it goes.

Polystyrene is our #1 recycling contaminant over Christmas

- **Polystyrene can't be recycled** and, over the festive period, we see heaps of it in recycling bins. Put it in your red-lid bin and keep your recycling free of contamination.

Library and Visitor Information

Phone 06 765 5403

Monday – Friday 8.30am – 5.00pm

Saturday 9.00am – 1.00pm

Sunday & Public Holidays Closed

Transfer Station

Phone 06 765 8500

Monday – Friday 2.00pm – 5.00pm

Wednesday 10.00am – 1.00pm

Saturday & Sunday 1.00pm – 5.00pm

Wai O Rua - Stratford Aquatic Centre

Phone 06 765 6275

Monday – Friday 6.00am – 6.30pm

Saturday 7.00am – 5.00pm

Sunday and Public Holidays

10.00am – 5.00pm

Glockenspiel

Performs Daily at 10.00am, 1.00pm, 3.00pm and 7.00pm

20 December 2023