

# 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

Not sure  
which bin to  
put out?

Download our FREE  
Antenna App to get  
weekly reminders for  
rubbish and recycling  
collection.

## Public Notices

### Meeting Schedule - June 2023

**Workshop**  
Tuesday 13 June at 2pm

**Public Forum**  
Tuesday 13 June at 3pm

For those wishing to speak, please submit an application form to the Chief Executive by 12 noon on Tuesday 6 June 2023.

**Ordinary Meeting**  
Tuesday 13 June at 3.30pm

**Farm and Aerodrome Committee**  
Tuesday 20 June at 2pm

**Workshop**  
Tuesday 27 June at 2pm

**Policy & Services Committee**  
Tuesday 27 June at 3pm

Meetings and Workshops will be held in the Council Chambers on Miranda Street. Any changes to meeting times will be published in the Public Notice section of [Stratford.govt.nz](http://Stratford.govt.nz)

**S Hanne**  
Chief Executive

### Temporary closure of Victoria Park and Page Street Rugby Grounds

Due to the poor state of the fields after recent rainfall, and with the expectation of further rain this week, we've temporarily closed Victoria Park and Page Street Rugby Grounds until further notice. Thank you for your patience.

**V Araba**  
Director - Assets

## Job-seekers empowered through Stratford's Workforce Programme

It's been another successful year for our Workforce Programme. Since August 2022, over 40 full-time work placements have been made, and 98 job-seekers have been helped with employment advice, CV services, and financial support for things like industry training, driver licences, and the tools, equipment and clothes needed for work.

Stratford's Workforce Programme is a Mayors Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ) initiative in partnership with the Ministry of Social Development (MSD).

The programme supports rangatahi who are not employed or enrolled in training or education, as well as those aged over 25 years who are disadvantaged in the workforce and need support to gain employment.

Samantha Vega, SDC Workforce Coordinator, says much of her mahi supports people at both ends of the traditional employment journey.

"We're helping rangatahi get started with their first jobs and find connections within an industry they'll enjoy. We're also working closely with a local driving instructor to provide driving lessons to help people become more employable and create safer drivers in our community," says Samantha.

"We have access to mental health support professionals for those who need help. We can also support mature job-seekers who are having trouble finding work and face many barriers. We work with people on a one-on-one basis to find the best fit for their needs."

Our Workforce Programme works closely with MSD to take advantage of their services where possible. There's also close collaboration with the local business community. The programme connects employers to job-seekers and can provide a wage subsidy, industry training, and business support through the Employers & Manufacturers Association. Samantha says the programme wouldn't be the success it is without the support of local businesses.



Blaze with new work gear funded by the Workforce Programme

"Our business community have been incredible. Local employers, like Quintin Oakes Builders, Allan McCullough Painters, Northern Dairy, and Dairymaster Milking Systems, just to name a few, have really supported our young people on their first steps towards a rewarding career."

"We work with a variety of trades in the community, and they're a popular avenue into employment for rangatahi in Stratford. Let's just say, we've funded a lot of tools, vehicle licences, and work boots," laughs Samantha.

"People in rural communities, like ours, can often face challenges when looking for work. MTFJ has allowed us to face those challenges head-on; giving people access to quality training, driver licencing, and a connection to local employers," explains Samantha.

"It's not too late to get support if you're looking for work. Come and see me at the Stratford Library and Visitor Information Centre on Wednesdays. No appointment needed. I'm here to help!"

For more information visit [Stratford.govt.nz/Work](http://Stratford.govt.nz/Work) or email [Workforce@stratford.govt.nz](mailto:Workforce@stratford.govt.nz).

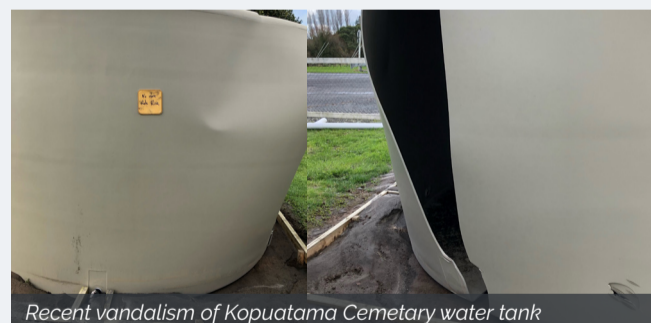
## 'No more rate rise' campaign costing Stratford community

District Mayor, Neil Volzke says Stratford District Council is extremely annoyed by the actions of a regular vandal (or vandals) who continue to contradict their own message.

"Damaging public property will not result in a reduction in rates – it has the opposite effect, causing unnecessary costs to our ratepayers while staff and contractors clean up and fix the destruction," he says.

"Whoever is responsible for the 'No more rate rise' vandalism has cost ratepayers around \$13,000, and this could rise still," says Mayor Volzke.

"There truly is no excuse to turn to destructive vandalism that creates an extra cost for our community," he says.



Recent vandalism of Kopuatama Cemetary water tank

We take these matters seriously and Police are involved. If you know who is responsible for this ongoing senseless vandalism, please contact Police on 105 or confidentially through Crimestoppers 0800 555 111.

## Annual Plan 2023/24: thank you for feedback

Thank you to everyone who had a say on our draft Annual Plan 2023/24. Council is reviewing the feedback received and any changes to the current draft will be discussed and decided on at the Ordinary Meeting of Council at 3.30pm on 13 June 2023.

You are most welcome to come to this and other council meetings. Attending a session can be a great way to see your local democracy in action and to learn more about what's behind the decisions that are made on your behalf.



A massive thank you to everyone who came to one of our Youth Week events.

We danced, swam, ate pizza, and made some great crafts (check out this pink-maned, equine cutie!)

**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  
31 May 2023