

# 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

Receive the Central Link by email. Register at [Stratford.govt.nz/EmailMe](http://Stratford.govt.nz/EmailMe)

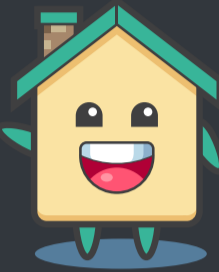


TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O  
**WHAKAAHURANGI**  
**STRATFORD**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

## Are you a ratepayer on a low income? Applications close soon for rates rebates!

If you're a residential ratepayer on a low income, you may be eligible to apply for a maximum \$750 partial rebate on the rates you've paid during this financial year (1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024).

If your application is successful, any credit on your rates account can either stay there and be used for future rates payments, or you can have it refunded to you.



Find out more and get an application form at:

[Stratford.govt.nz/RatesRebates](http://Stratford.govt.nz/RatesRebates)

Use the online rates rebate calculator to see if you're eligible and what you might be paid as a rebate.



If you fit the criteria, you must have your application in to us before 30 June 2024.

Don't forget, if you've been successful before, you still need to apply again this year.

## Puanga

- FREE movies
- A Starry Night all-ages celebration
- And more!

[Stratford.govt.nz/Puanga](http://Stratford.govt.nz/Puanga)



### Public Notices

#### Meeting Schedule - June 2024

- **Workshop:** Tuesday 11 June at 1pm
- **Policy & Services Committee:** Tuesday 11 June at 2pm. To hear and consider submissions on the draft Rates Remission and Rates Postponement Policies
- **Public Forum:** Tuesday 11 June at 3pm (by request).
- **Council Meeting:** Tuesday 11 June at 3.30pm
- **Farm & Aerodrome Committee:** Tuesday 18 June at 12 noon
- **Workshop:** Tuesday 25 June at 1pm
- **Policy & Services Committee:** Tuesday 25 June at 3pm
- **Meeting of the Percy Thomson Trust:** Thursday 20 June at 4pm, Stratford District Council Committee Room

Unless otherwise stated, 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](http://Stratford.govt.nz/PublicNotices)

S Hanne | Chief Executive

**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  
5 June 2024

## CBD pedestrian access across SH3 is about to double! Have your say on the design options...

The pedestrian experience in downtown Stratford is soon to get a makeover with 2 new pedestrian crossings due to replace the existing single crossing. Before the final reveal is set in tarmac, Stratford District Council (SDC) is seeking feedback on the location of the new crossings.

Two options are being considered by SDC when it makes a final decision by the end of June. These proposals are available to view online and in person at council facilities until **Sunday 16 June**. Feedback is invited at [YourSay.Stratford.govt.nz](http://YourSay.Stratford.govt.nz) or by emailing [feedback@stratford.govt.nz](mailto:feedback@stratford.govt.nz)

The construction of the new pedestrian crossings is being fully funded by Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency. A grant of \$460,000 was approved at the end of April this year with work required to begin by July.

Improvements to pedestrian access across SH3 in Stratford's CBD has been on SDC's wish list for some time and was identified as a key priority in the Connecting our Communities Strategy which was adopted last year. It coincides with plans to upgrade the town centre, Prospero Place, which is due to begin within the next 12 months.

District Mayor, Neil Volzke says "The support from Waka Kotahi to make these improvements to pedestrian safety in Broadway is a welcomed relief. Difficulties with crossing SH3 in our CBD have been highlighted to us for many years, both from a pedestrian point of view as well as from drivers."

## Aged 65-plus? Join us at our FREE Positive Ageing Forum with a focus on safety

Stratford District Council (SDC) invites the district's 65-plus community members to attend the free Positive Ageing Forum on Wednesday 26 June 2024 from 10.30am to 1pm.

This month's event, which includes free refreshments and a light lunch, will focus on staying fire safe in the home, crime prevention advice, and the use of medical alarms.

SDC Community Engagement and Development Lead Anna-Louise Crane, says that wellbeing and safety are especially important when you're over 65, and being armed with the right info can give people a little extra confidence when in their home and out and about.

"We want our awesome 65-plus community to enjoy themselves. So, while we'll make sure they leave at the end with some great safety tips, there'll be heaps of time to meet people, have a chat, and enjoy a great lunch on us with friends, old and new!"

### RSVP by Friday 21 June

To attend the forum, please register for catering purposes by Friday 21 June with your name and how many are attending if you're part of a group. RSVP by calling Anna-Louise at Stratford District Council on 06 765 6099 or emailing [ACrane@Stratford.govt.nz](mailto:ACrane@Stratford.govt.nz).



[YourSay.Stratford.govt.nz](http://YourSay.Stratford.govt.nz)

"We're excited to finally remedy this by providing 2 safe crossing points while removing the cause of confusion at the existing Glockenspiel crossing," says Neil. "It

hasn't been a case of 'to be or not to be' for road users in Stratford, but a case of 'to go or not to go' when figuring out if someone is crossing the road or simply watching the Glockenspiel."

"We want people to enjoy what Stratford has to offer, but we don't want to cause further issues for those at the wheel or risk people's safety. Both options proposed will fix that issue, but we need to understand from all travellers,

whether they're on foot, on a mobility scooter or in a truck and trailer, what option they think will provide the most benefit for improved pedestrian safety while catering to traffic flow through town."

Once a decision is made work will begin immediately. More details on the construction phase and traffic management requirements will be shared later in June.

### Guest speakers

**Chris Linders | Home Fire Safety and Hearing Assisted Technology**

Chris Linders, Senior Advisor Readiness and Recovery for Taranaki from Fire and Emergency New Zealand, will speak about home fire safety and the importance of having working smoke alarms, an escape plan, and a safe meeting place. There'll also be a demonstration of hearing assisted technology for people who cannot hear standard smoke alarms.

**Senior Sergeant Kyle Davie | Crime Prevention Advice**

With over 25 years in the New Zealand Police force, Senior Sergeant Kyle Davie, Prevention Manager for Taranaki, has a lot of experience in helping to keep people safe. Senior Sgt. Davie will talk about some things you should consider to help keep yourself safe while at home and out and about.

**Lisa Pitcher | Medical Alarms**

Medical alarms can help give older people confidence and support while they're living independently. Lisa Pitcher, from St John Medical Alarms, will give a short presentation on the St John alarm services, how it works, funding that may be available, and how easy it is to have a St John Medical Alarm installed in your home, or to use a mobile alarm when you're out.

**Mayor Neil Volzke | The Elizabeth Watson Fund**

Elizabeth Maree Watson generously left funds in her will to distribute to Stratford residents aged 65 years and over who need financial help. Mayor Volzke will explain the criteria to make an application to the fund, and what the fund can cover.

