

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 YourSay.Stratford.govt.nz



TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O
WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Are you recycling right?

We love seeing the commitment from some of our residents towards better waste minimisation. However, we still battle with the odd dumped rubbish, littering in our parks, and contaminated kerbside recycling bins. Here's a couple of initiatives we've introduced to help reduce these issues.



New rubbish and recycling bins at Victoria Park:

Two new bin-tainers have been installed at Victoria Park, giving people the option to recycle while they're out and about, and if they're well used we'll look at putting more in around the district. That means what goes in them matters just as much as how often they're used, because contamination like food scraps or the wrong plastics can send a whole bin to landfill instead of the recycling plant.

What goes in a bin-tainer?

- There's three separate bins as part of the bin-tainer, one for general rubbish, one for recycling and one for glass. These are treated the same as our kerbside collection bins.
- For the yellow recycling bin, only put in paper and clean cardboard, tins and cans and clean plastic containers and trays marked 1, 2 or 5. Remember lids go in the general rubbish bin.
- The blue glass bin is for your glass bottles with the lids removed. Please don't put broken glass in here - broken glass should be wrapped in newspaper safely and put in a general rubbish bin.
- For the red rubbish bin, that's for everything else!



Keep batteries out of the bin - recycle them for free:

You can drop household batteries, including car batteries and lithium-ion batteries, off at the Stratford Transfer Station, free of charge.

Stratford Transfer Station has always taken standard household batteries (AA, AAA, C, D), but now it also has a safe, dedicated drop-off point for the high risk ones too, including lithium-ion batteries and battery embedded devices like vapes, phones and power tools.

Batteries can be a serious fire risk once they're in the waste disposal process. They can get crushed in collection trucks and at the Transfer Station, and a damaged battery can ignite which puts our staff, our contractors and our equipment at risk.

Batteries left in landfill can also leach toxic material into the ground. Bringing them to the Transfer Station means they're stored and disposed of safely.

Not one young person left waiting for MTFJ support in Stratford

Council's partnership with the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ) and the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) delivers real jobs for young people in the Stratford District.

Seventy nine young people in the Stratford District were referred to Stratford District Council for job support this year and every one of them was assisted in some way.

Of those, 51 moved into paid work experience through the MTFJ Community Employment Programme, a nationwide partnership between MTFJ and MSD. Most of those roles were full time, which is the kind of work that breaks the 'on benefit-off benefit-on benefit' cycle the Mayor says has become a pattern in the district.

They went into a range of different industries including trade support, hospitality, healthcare, transport, farming, manufacturing, retail and IT.

Mayor Neil Volzke said the result comes down to knowing the district. "Many of the jobs are never advertised. In a place our size, a coordinator who knows both the local young people and the employer can open a door that no job listing ever will."

"The support is practical, offering CV writing, interview practice, work clothes and tools, upskill training, or a quiet word with an employer willing to take a chance on someone," he says.

New funding criteria this year focus on young people currently receiving a benefit. MTFJ remains committed to supporting all young people who are not in education, employment or training.

Nationally, MTFJ placed 1,084 young people into work or training in the year to 30 June, well past its target of 900. Government funding has been confirmed for the programme to continue.

About MTFJ

The Mayors Taskforce for Jobs is a nationwide movement of mayors championing locally led solutions to youth employment.

Through its partnership with the Ministry of Social Development Industry Partnerships, the Community Employment Programme (CEP) supports councils, businesses and communities to connect young people into meaningful jobs. Since 2020, CEP has placed thousands of young people into work across rural and provincial New Zealand.

More information: mtfj.co.nz



Pictured above: Recipient of MTFJ support, Trent Boyes and Mayor Neil Volzke.

Pictured below L to R: Trent and his Sandfords truck, Meesha Walsh making coffee at the Mountain Lodge, Brendon Simons and Wessley Alberts at Tech Smart.



UPDATE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM



On 6 August Stratford and South Taranaki District Councils submitted a joint proposal to Government for two unitary councils in Taranaki, through the Head Start pathway for simplifying local government.

The proposal would see South Taranaki and Stratford join together as one unitary council for southern and central Taranaki in Oct 2028, keeping local voice, local decision-making and local control at the heart of any future change.

Community feedback strongly supported this approach, with 94% of South Taranaki survey respondents and 83% of Stratford respondents interested in a two-council model for the region.

The proposal is now with Cabinet, for a decision expected in September. If approved, our Councils will move into a more detailed design phase.

To view the proposal and stay up to date on this process visit YourSay.Stratford.govt.nz

Library & Visitor Information Centre

Phone 06 765 5403

Monday – Friday: 8.30am – 5pm

Saturday: 9am – 1pm

Sunday & Public Holidays: Closed

Stratford Transfer Station

Phone 06 765 8500

Monday: 12pm – 5pm

Thursday: 10am – 1pm

Friday – Sunday: 12pm – 5pm

Wai o Rua - Stratford Aquatic Centre

Phone 06 765 6275

Monday – Friday: 6am – 6.30pm

Saturday: 7am – 5pm

Sunday & Public Holidays:
10am – 5pm

Glockenspiel

Performs daily at 10am, 1pm, 3pm, and 7pm

19 August 2026