

News & Information from Mackenzie District Council



Mackenzie
DISTRICT COUNCIL



Mackenzie Water

OUR WATER. OUR FUTURE.

Big changes are coming for three waters in the Mackenzie District

Government mandated water reform means big changes are coming to the way our water is delivered and paid for.

One of the MOST IMPORTANT issues for Mackenzie District Council (MDC) to decide upon this year is our response to the Government's Local Waters Done Well legislation.

Along with the other councils in New Zealand, MDC has to create a Water Services Delivery Plan, approved by the Department of Internal Affairs. This will detail how we will meet higher standards, future investment, and regulations.

Historically Councils across the country have tended to put off expensive infrastructure projects to keep rates bills down. Those days are gone. The government is holding our feet to the fire and we must respond.

As part of this reform, local councils have to look at alternative ways to deliver water services and develop a Water Service Delivery Plan.

While we are still crunching the numbers, what we do know, is that regardless of the service delivery model, it is highly likely that the rates paid for water will need to increase significantly to meet the requirements set down by Government.

There are a number of reasons why this needs to occur in our District. These include increasing regulatory standards (particularly for wastewater treatment and disposal) which will cost more to meet, historic underfunding of the water network to keep rates low, and the effects of rapid and ongoing population growth. These are issues that are being seen across the country, as all councils grapple with Government driven water reforms.

We are currently looking at the numbers on how we can best deliver three waters services across the district into the future. At present we are analysing two options – a standalone internal business unit, or a Council Controlled Organisation (CCO).

When we have defined the possible models for the future delivery of three waters across the district, we will undertake a phase of public consultation – this is likely to happen in March or April this year.

We are currently working through the financial and non-financial implications of these options in the context of the wider reforms. The first thing MDC must demonstrate is the financial sustainability of any future delivery model.

You can find out more about our water network, the Government's reforms, and MDC's response online at letstalk.mackenzie.govt.nz > [Water reform](#)



New toilet block and shelter for Tekapo Alps 2 Ocean starting point

Work will start in Mid-February on the new shelter and toilet block in Tekapo, at the corner of Hamilton Drive and SH8 (Fairlie-Tekapo Road).

This location is now an alternate starting point for the Alps 2 Ocean cycle trail and is a popular parking area for looking over the lake.

This project has been discussed for some time and was included in the current Long Term Plan.

The work is scheduled to be completed in late April/early May. We ask everyone to take care around this construction site and obey all signage.



Report an issue or problem?

Contact us on 0800 685 8514 or email info@mackenzie.govt.nz



Mackenzie District Plan Review

Proposed Plan Changes 28, 29 & 30, Variations, & Designations

Council is reviewing the Mackenzie District Plan to ensure the district can grow in a sustainable way, while protecting the things that make the area so special.

Have your say on:

- Plan Change 28 – Hazards and Risks, Historic Heritage and Notable Trees, Variation 1 to Plan Change 26, and Variation 1 to Plan Change 27
- Plan Change 29 – Open Space and Recreation Zones, Noise, Signs and Temporary Activities, Variation 1 Plan Change 23, Variation 2 to Plan Change 26, and Variation 2 to Plan Change 27
- Plan Change 30 – Special Purpose Zones, Variation 2 Plan Change 23, Variation 3 to Plan Change 26, and Variation 3 to Plan Change 27
- The Designations Chapter

Have your say at letstalk.mackenzie.govt.nz > [District Plan Review - Stage Four](#)

Further submissions close on Monday 24 February 2025 at 5.00pm.



GET READY

How prepared are you and your family for a Civil Defence emergency?

Civil Defence Emergency Management Canterbury are running a 5-minute Emergency Preparedness survey.

Complete the survey and go into the draw to win one in five "Outdoor Readiness" prize packs at cdemcanterbury.govt.nz/survey.



Dates of upcoming meetings

Date	Meeting	Time	Location
Tuesday 25 February	Council Meeting Twizel Events Centre Meeting Room	9:00am – 2:00pm	Twizel
Tuesday 4 March	Extraordinary Council Meeting Council Chambers, Fairlie	1:00pm – 2:00pm	Fairlie
Tuesday 4 March	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Council Chambers, Fairlie	2:00pm – 3:00pm	Fairlie
Friday 21 March	Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee Meeting Mount Cook Alpine Salmon office, 4 Benmore Place, Twizel	10:00am – 1:00pm	Twizel

The public are welcome to attend meetings. Occasionally times and venues change so please call and check beforehand. There is a public forum at the beginning of each Council and Community Board meeting and members of the public are invited to address Elected Members on relevant matters. Agendas are available on the Council website at least two working days before each meeting.

0800 685 8514

mackenzie.govt.nz

Mid-February 2025