

News & Information from Mackenzie District Council



Mackenzie
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Long Term Plan - Public Consultation

Council's Long-term Plan (LTP) outlines to our community how Council intends to invest over the next 10 years. To ensure it is up to date and reflects the needs of the District, the LTP is revised every three years. Council wants to share the plans for the next ten years, and give you the opportunity to let Council know what you think. All the feedback received will be considered by Councillors who will then make any final amendments to the plan before it is adopted. Submissions close on Monday 8 November at 5pm so please take the opportunity to have your say.

The LTP is an important part of Council's planning process. It sets out the services and activities that Council will provide, the projects Council will carry out and the level of service the community can expect over the next decade. It also includes how much Council expects things to cost, how everything will be paid for and what it means for rates and debt.

The consultation document highlights some important challenges we are facing across the district. It outlines how Council plans on addressing them and how this will impact rates. The Mackenzie District has a passionate and proud community, and we want to know what you think about the LTP. You can:

- Read the document online and complete the survey online at www.letstalk.mackenzie.govt.nz
- Collect or request the consultation document and feedback from our offices in Fairlie and Twizel
- Email feedback to info@mackenzie.govt.nz

Submitters can opt to address councillors directly at a hearing. Full details of how to make a submission are available on our engagement website at www.letstalk.mackenzie.govt.nz

Pitching rural life to young city-dwellers



With a growing shortage of workers, the Mackenzie District is taking a fresh approach to powering the region - targeting young people in cities with a brand-new campaign that will sell the benefits of living in the country.

Think Rural is launching nationwide, with eighteen rural districts signed up to the campaign. Their goal is to contribute towards filling 1,150 jobs in rural areas with young people wanting to experience a new way of life. The campaign is driven by LGNZ's Mayors Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ), with support from the Ministry of Social Development (MSD).

Noa Woolloff, National Programme Manager of MTFJ, is 23 and passionate about getting young people into jobs that give them a new lease on life.

"Young people often think about going overseas to have new experiences, but with the borders closed, we're highlighting the incredible things New Zealand has to offer - right on their back doorstep. They say the grass is greener, but in this case it actually is. Think Rural will showcase what these towns have to offer - from welcoming communities to interesting jobs and outdoor adventures," he says.

The rural councils getting behind the Think Rural scheme in the hope of drawing a younger crowd are Ōpōtiki, Ōtorohanga, Central Hawke's Bay, Chatham Islands, Gore, Ruapehu, Waimate, Westland, Wairoa, Hurunui, Tararua, Grey, Rangitikei, Clutha, Hauraki, Mackenzie and Buller.

Each rural district has a chance to receive funding support of up to \$500,000 to aid their efforts to support youth and COVID displaced workers into sustainable long-term employment.

Wannabe rural-dwellers can find the right community for them at www.thinkrural.co.nz. The site provides information about each participating local district, and directs people to available jobs.

For further information, please contact Leaine Rush, Mackenzie District MTFJ coordinator - leaine.rush@mackenzie.govt.nz, or LGNZ Media/Public Affairs Manager Sean Gillespie on 021 914 464 or email sean.gillespie@lgnz.co.nz.

Mayor & Council Disappointed with 3 Waters Outcome



Mayor Graham Smith and Mackenzie District Council are very disappointed but not surprised by the announcement from Minister Nanaia Mahuta that water reforms will progress based on the flawed model of 4 large water supply entities. There has been a feeling of predetermination about the whole process and this recent announcement confirms this.

Councillors, staff and consultants invested significant time and resources in a thorough analysis of the model and figures produced by the Crown and, along with most other Councils, found significant gaps and differences to the assumptions used in the Crown's approach. When the minister says the case is overwhelming, she is relying on the accuracy of assumptions within the Scottish approach. It appears that the Minister and the DIA have unduly put their total trust in the Scottish Water model.

Council's work shows there are far better ways to deliver the outcomes required that maintained local input and ownership, and these were detailed in Council submission. The speed of the Minister's announcement suggests that she has not read or analysed the submission from Council or those of other Councils. The Minister recently attacked local government for not negotiating in good faith and this announcement clearly shows the lack of good faith on the Crown's behalf.

Significant investment is needed across New Zealand, including the Mackenzie District, but the public understand that it is ratepayers who will be paying no matter which model is adopted - either through rates and water charges as is the case now, or through an additional bill sent from another party. There is no free lunch. Council agrees that investment in water services needs to increase but has made the case that there are far better solutions than the solution mandated by the Crown.

Placing water reform into perspective, 100s more people die every year on our roads in tragic circumstances than have died in the last century from drinking water. We have the time to get it right.

Mayor Smith and Council hope the Minister and cabinet will reconsider, so the best decision for New Zealand is made as we move forward. Mackenzie District Council will continue to make strive to ensure the voice of our ratepayers, residents and visitors is heard as this reform progresses.

Grants & Scholarships

BRUCE SCOTT MEMORIAL PRIZE

Council recognises the contribution of the late Bruce Scott by way of an annual prize awarded to a senior secondary school student, resident within the Mackenzie District, who best exhibits sustained effort and application in all that they do and who always demonstrates good citizenship, practical skills and leadership potential. Closing date for applications is Wednesday November 10, sent through to sam.molyneux@mackenzie.govt.nz



MACKENZIE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

This is an annual award for secondary school students living in the Mackenzie District, intending to go onto their first year of tertiary education. Closing date for applications is Wednesday November 10, sent through to sam.molyneux@mackenzie.govt.nz

CREATIVE COMMUNITIES SCHEME

The Creative Communities Fund supports and encourages arts activities within the Mackenzie District, including creative participation in dance, performance, visual arts, music, arts education, toi Maori, literary workshops and digital storytelling. Closing date for applications is Wednesday November 17, sent through to arlene.goss@mackenzie.govt.nz

GENESIS TEKAPO TOWNSHIP FUND

Genesis Energy has an agreement with Mackenzie District Council in relation to water rights and provides funding to the council annually under this agreement for the promotion of the Tekapo township. Funding of up to \$13,000 per year is available via a process administered by the Mackenzie District Council and the Tekapo Community Board. Closing date for applications is Friday November 12, sent through to arlene.goss@mackenzie.govt.nz

Dates of Upcoming Meetings

10 November	Bylaw Hearing Mobile Shops and Traders	Council Chambers, Fairlie, 9.30am
16 November	Committee Meetings	Council Chambers, Fairlie, 9.30am
6 December	Twizel Community Board Meeting	Community Lounge, Twizel, 3pm
8 December	Tekapo Community Board Meeting	Community Hall, Tekapo, 3pm
9 December	Fairlie Community Board Meeting	Council Chambers, Fairlie, 4.30pm
14 December	Council Meeting	Council Chambers, Fairlie, 9.30am

COVID-19: Please note meetings may be re-scheduled or moved to zoom due to COVID-19 restrictions. Please check our website for the latest information.

Committee meetings follow the preceding meeting and so start times will vary. 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

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