



## annual plan 19-20



Council's Annual Plan sets out our projects, activities and budgets for any given year July to June. Every three years we do a Long Term Plan (LTP), which looks out 10 years.

In the LTP 2018-28, we proposed a rate revenue increase of 8.9% for the 2019-20 year. We consulted with the community and then adopted the LTP in June last year.

Previously, Council had to consult every Annual Plan, but changes to legislation now mean that we don't have to – as long as we haven't changed the Plan much from what was adopted in the LTP.

And we haven't. In fact the rate increase decreased.

The rate revenue increase for the coming year (2019-20) is 7.7%. As a result, we won't be doing formal consultation on the Annual Plan 2019-20, but we still want to hear from our community and share information with you on our key projects for the 2019-20 year.

### Rate revenue increase for 2019-20

# 7.7%



## Remembrance



The tragic events of Friday 15 March 2019 will remain forever etched in our hearts and minds.

Over the coming months, let us remember the sense of unity and togetherness all New Zealanders gave and experienced in the aftermath of this tragedy.

The South Waikato, like many places in New Zealand, is home to a wonderfully diverse range of cultures.

We know, as do so many fellow New Zealanders, that our beautiful country is richer for our multi-culturalism.



*Kia kaha Christchurch*

## in side

- 2&3 Whakamaru Reserve | New reserve facilities | What's Hot | Tokoroa i-SITE
- 4&5 Growth Planning | Solid Waste | Wastewater
- 6&7 Shining Light on the Dark | Festival of Cultures | Waterfest | Tokoroa CBD
- 8&9 Your legal rights | Garden waste recycling | Phishing red flags
- 10&11 The Plaza | Pooch Party | ANZAC celebrations | Putāruru Reserve changes
- 12 Councillor Columns | Councillor Contacts

## in house

Produced in-house for the South Waikato community by the SWDC Communications Team.

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# South Waikato reserves receive new facilities



The installation of brand new facilities within our South Waikato reserves has reached its completion after they were officially blessed by iwi last month.

Raukawa Charitable Trust representative Nigel Te Hiko conducted the blessing of the facilities across the three reserves: Little Waipa Reserve, Jones Landing and Dunham's Point Reserve.

Along with Mayor Jenny Shattock, Councillors Bill Machen, Herman van Rooijen, Peter Schulte, Chief Executive Ben Smit and Parks and Reserves Manager Phil Parker, they were able to see the final

outcome after the successful application to obtain funding from the Responsible Camping Working Group. (RCWG)

The RCWG is a joint venture between the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) and Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ). The Group allocated \$428,000 to assist Council in fulfilling initiatives with a focus on encouraging responsible camping.

It meant the installation of new shower blocks, recycling and rubbish bins, BBQs and BBQ shelters are available in the three reserves in our district.



"Council recognised the popularity of our rural reserves and we are delighted to be able to install further facilities to meet the growing demand," said Phil.

"Additionally, these amenities will help encourage responsible camping including promoting the recycling of waste appropriately for the good of our environment."

Council would like to thank our contractor GHD Limited for its support through this project to improve infrastructure in our reserves. We are sure the

addition of these facilities will be of added benefit for casual campers and visitors.

We also encourage users to be responsible and respectful to ensure these facilities are kept in good condition for many years to come.

There is an opportunity to apply for further funding again this year which would assist with possible new facilities at Whakamaru Reserve once the tree felling operations have wrapped up.

## Whakamaru Reserve update

A big topic for South Waikato residents and some visitors over the past six months has been the temporary closure of our popular Whakamaru Reserve over the summer due to the tree felling operations.

Harvesting at Whakamaru Reserve is now well under way although the anticipated date of completion has been delayed until May as opposed to mid-April as earlier reported. With operations of this magnitude, it is sometimes difficult to pinpoint an accurate end date.

We understand that news of a further delay may upset some residents and regular visitors to the reserve, however this is beyond Council's control at this time.

We remind residents that the area is strictly off limits until we have been given the indication that the operations are complete; and the reserve formally opened again.

We thank you all for your patience. Not too much longer!



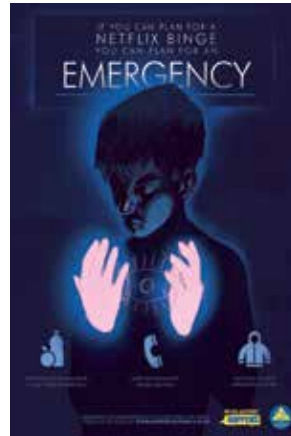
# WHAT'S HOT

→ *Doggie Pool Parties.*

Owners that are engaging with Council around improvements of derelict buildings to make them safe.

Seasonal pools have closed for the summer. They will reopen for the 2019-20 season on Saturday 16 November.

Workshops and symposiums with business and industry sectors including forestry and real estate; and community sector meeting with our Pacific communities.



↑ *Civil Defence training for staff. We've got the community's back in the event of an emergency! New promotional posters around planning for an emergency – check them out at our offices and libraries.*

↑ *Over 800 devices now have Antenno. Haven't got it yet? Download Antenno free from Google Play or the App Store. Log your specific address and we'll keep you posted on stuff relevant to your address.*



Swimming pool fencing improvements not being actioned by some people. For more information visit our website: [www.southwaikato.govt.nz](http://www.southwaikato.govt.nz) - Our Services - Building Consents and Information - Swimming Pool Fencing.

Non-complying signage in the District.

← *Overflowing recycling stations.*

## Tokoroa i-SITE service changing

The Tokoroa i-SITE service in its current form will be closing at the end of September. The information service will be moving to the Tokoroa Library.

"Council knows the team at the Tokoroa i-SITE has delivered outstanding service over the years," said Ben Smit, Council's Chief Executive. "The closure of the i-SITE is not related to the quality service Council, our community and visitors enjoy."

Council finds it hard to justify the significant capital and operational funding to maintain an i-SITE service in Tokoroa given the changing face of i-SITE services nationally and the nature of local vs tourist queries.

National and international visitors conduct much of the 'tourist information' service online. The current i-SITE service in Tokoroa handles around 20% of 'tourist queries'; the remaining 80% are local queries by locals. These queries can be handled out of the library hub.

By comparison, Tirau is the district's northern gateway and, is one of the few towns that tourists will still travel through, and is a comfortable two hours from the airport. With Tirau's proximity to Hobbiton and iconic building we feel a more modern i-SITE service in Tirau is justifiable and perfectly situated.

As a result, Council will be investigating increased level of capital and operational funding into the i-SITE service in Tirau as this facility is predominantly used as a 'tourist information hub'.

Council hopes to work closely with the operator of the Tirau i-SITE to continue and improve on the exceptional service we enjoy from the team.

Council will reinvest some of the savings into digital media assets to promote the District, providing a stronger return on investment and enabling Council to promote the District to a wider audience online.

With no Citizen's Advice Bureau in the district and 80% of the current Tokoroa i-SITE's custom being local service enquiries, transport bookings and general assistance to community members, it is prudent to identify there is an obvious need within the community for this service but that an i-SITE, with a tourist focus, is not the right solution.

Visitor information however, would still be available. This service may be able to be incorporated into the current roles of library staff but may require an increase in staffing levels if it becomes unmanageable. This requires further investigation.

## Growth planning

Our district is in a period of growth for the first time in well over 20 years. Responding to this growth presents both opportunities and challenges. We have kicked off our growth planning with the Putāruru Re-Zoning District Plan Review. A District wide growth strategy is also underway.

Several pockets of neighbouring farmland in Putāruru have been identified for possible development. Council is liaising directly with residents neighbouring these pockets of land to keep them informed of the development and identify any issues and concerns early in the process.

A significantly large body of work that is being undertaken is the assessment of our three waters. We need to understand the capability and capacity of our current water supply, wastewater and stormwater systems so that we can effectively plan for new town development in the newly zoned areas, all the while keeping current and new properties safe.

At the time of writing this work is nearing completion for Putāruru. High level results do indicate that all three of our waters are running at or near capacity so significant work will need to be achieved to make the systems capable of coping with further residential and industrial growth.

Council is also doing some work on how best to balance the costs associated with the development. We are looking at how the costs can best be spread between ratepayers and developers. We need to balance what ratepayers can afford and what is reasonable for developers to fund without making development undesirable.

It is possible that the cost for upgrades for property development within the current town boundaries could be funded by rates, and the new residential zoned land could be funded through charging developers for development costs. We're still working through this.

Significant funding has already been included in the Annual Plan for this project. Further funding will likely be needed once the implications of the three waters improvements are fully known.

To keep up to date with the Putāruru Re-zoning District Plan Review, sign up for the newsletter on our website.

## HEALTHY RIVERS WAI ORA

The goal of the healthy rivers wai ora legislation is to make rivers safe for swimming and food gathering over the next 80 years.

While Council supports the aspirations of Healthy Rivers, we are seeking important changes to this plan to ensure positive outcomes for South Waikato.

We have worked closely with a multitude of stakeholders since 2016 including Oji, Fonterra, Hancock Forest Management, Raukawa Charitable Trust, Federated Farmers, Beef and Lamb NZ, University of Waikato, Waikato Regional Council, WARTA TLA collective and local industry leaders.

Council is actively engaged in the submission process and will remain a keen participant.

Our top concerns are:

- Our economic and community profile means significant land use change (away from dairy) will affect a large number of jobs, bringing adverse economic and social costs.
- The potential job losses and infrastructure affordability on our district under the current proposed Plan are significant.
- Given our ageing population and high levels of deprivation, the proposed plan is unrealistic, unachievable and unaffordable for the South Waikato to implement.
- There is lack of certainty for both land owners and land managers and the pathway is unclear around what happens after 10 years.



## We're being wise about wastewater

Discharge resource consent targets to improve the quality of our waterways are due to come into place that will require Council to improve discharge over time to cut contaminants getting into waterways from our four wastewater treatment plants at Tokoroa, Putāruru, Tirau and Arapuni.

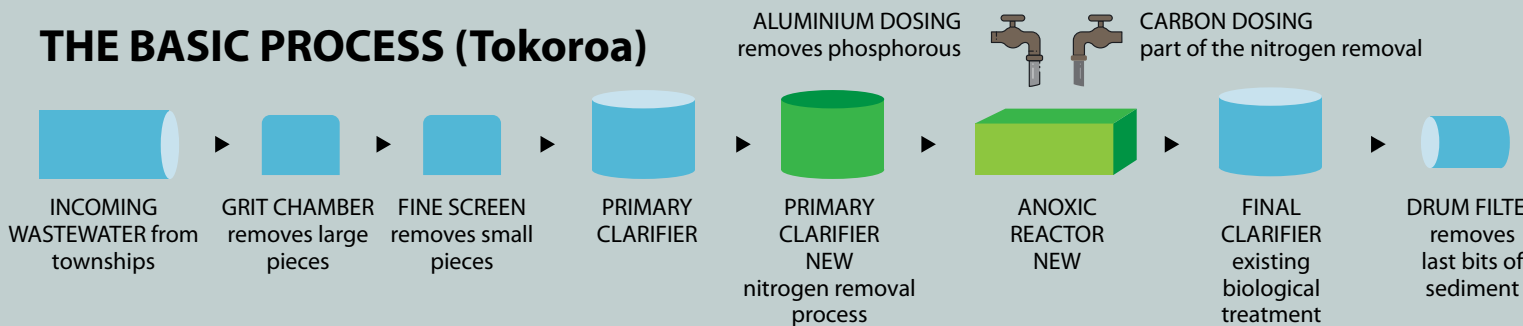
With two of our consents expired and the other two due to expire, we have applied for new consents for all four of our plants. These new consents outline how they will operate in a way that complies with both the existing rules and new rules. Given our district is in a period of growth, we also need to ensure our plants can handle expected population and industry growth.

Council has worked with stakeholders, ratepayers and the wider South Waikato community on achieving environmental

improvements while carefully managing the impact on the district's urban ratepayers.

To promote co-governance and co-management Council and the Raukawa Charitable Trust worked together to develop a preferred option. Following public consultation Council resolved to upgrade all the wastewater treatment plants and develop wetlands in Tokoroa, Putāruru and Tirau, so we can return *mana* (status) and *mauri* (life force) to the *awa* (rivers/waterways). This was seen as the

### THE BASIC PROCESS (Tokoroa)



# The future of Solid Waste

Waste management is an increasingly costly and complex area. Environmental concerns and regulations regarding landfill management are becoming more stringent and fraught with significant health and safety and environmental risks.

Over December and January, Council consulted on the future of our solid waste management options.

Council resolved to develop a transfer station at the Tokoroa landfill, close the current landfill in 2020, and then cap the landfill and start transporting our waste out of the district to a larger commercial site.

Council's decision was driven by:

- Best value to ratepayers, including the best option in terms of risk management.

- No long term liability or environmental issues.
- Reduced safety concerns and legislative constraints.

Council will manage fuel costs and landfill charges through securing long term contracts.

## COSTS

We will be constructing a Transfer Station at the Tokoroa landfill site this year. This is costing \$1.9 million. This is already in the rates!

We have estimated operating costs over five years of \$2.2 million. Again this is already in the rates.

## WHEELIE BINS

Council is investigating introducing wheelie bins for urban residents to replace the green plastic rubbish bags. Health and safety is driving

this change, moving away from manual labour (lifting) to wheelie bins and automated lift collection trucks.

Other benefits include improved hygiene and weather and vermin proofing. In addition, world concern is making the use of single use plastic bags non-viable in the long term.

Did you know? One wheelie bin can replace 750 plastic rubbish bags!

Council has more work to do; and given the costs involved we will be consulting with our community. Please keep an eye out for this later in the year.

## CARBON CREDITS

Our landfill is too small to capture greenhouse gasses so we need to purchase carbon credits, on the open market. Costs have rapidly increased

from \$8.40 per unit in 2016 to \$25 per unit. This unit price continues to rise; and is an ongoing risk that we have no control over.

As a result of the rapid increases, Council under budgeted for this in the 2018-19 year. We had a shortfall of \$120,000 to recover. This is one of the reasons for the recent mid-year fee adjustment.

## OTHER FACILITIES

Council is proposing no changes to the Putāruru Transfer Station and recycling stations at Tirau, Te Waotu and Kuranui, nor at Croad Place in Tokoroa.

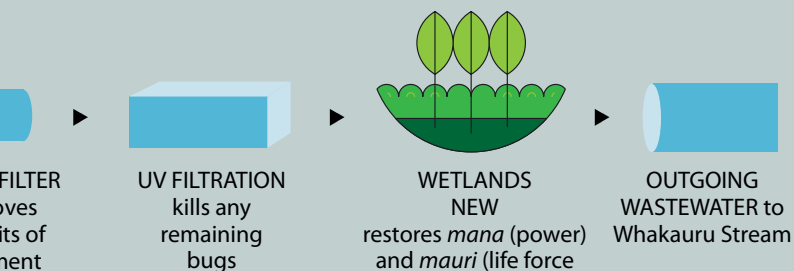
## RE-USE

Council is investigating options alongside the South Waikato Achievement Trust (SWAT) in the re-use and recovery of materials space, to continue to reduce waste to landfill and create jobs.



most effective way of managing our responsibilities, taking cultural considerations into account and proceeding in a way that doesn't overburden ratepayers.

A range of criteria was used in the development of the options including helping make water bodies safe to swim in and gather food from, acknowledgment and protection of cultural values, nutrient removal, providing for growth, iwi involvement, staggered implementation and cost.



It is important to note that funding for the wastewater upgrades has already been included in our budgets for the next 10 years. Further work will be required beyond 10 years, so we will need to continue to rate for this upgrade work.

Council will begin with plant upgrades to reduce nutrient loss and improve handling of solids, and the installation of three new wetlands at Tokoroa, Putāruru and Tirau. At Arapuni we would reduce the risk of wastewater getting directly into the river and keep discharging wastewater to land.

The plant upgrades will enable us to meet nutrient reduction targets over time while the addition of wetlands as a land based component to the treatment plants will include natural processes and help return *mana* and *mauri* to the *awa*.

These upgrades will cost over \$21million over the next ten years. Wastewater is only funded by urban ratepayers. The wastewater increase in 10 years time (compared to today) will be \$406 per year. This is a percentage increase over 10 years for an average valued property of 22%. We know these costs are large and can cause concern, however the alternative - to not upgrade the wastewater treatment plants - is not an option. We won't get consent going forward and without consent we won't be able to operate our treatment plants.

## Shining Light Walk

Raising awareness for mental health as part of the Shining Light on the Dark event was enthusiastically supported by no fewer than 400 people from the South Waikato community.

The six hour exercise relay returned in March and brought together roughly 40 teams at Putāruru's Nola Block.

Teams marched around the field in an effort to acknowledge and talk about mental health, suicide, and depression in a way to combat the illness that hinders so many.

This was the first time South Waikato District Council entered teams and we're mighty proud that 30 Council staff joined forces with other community services, sporting teams and families to show solidarity against this cruel mental disease.

Council staff thoroughly enjoyed the day out and will no doubt be participating in future Shining Light on the Dark events.

Council would also like to acknowledge the organisers and everyone involved in setting up this event. The hard work and planning made the day a special event for all.



## Putāruru Waterfest

The bi-annual Putāruru Waterfest was a huge success. Council staff were out in force promoting our wide range of services and activities, including water supply, animal control, civil defence, human resources, Antenno, communications, warm homes clean air and leisure services - libraries, pools and events centre. We had the Plaza at our stand too, and the Sport Waikato team. The Animal Control team adopted out all of the dogs they had brought, so awesome to see some happy pooches find their 'fur'ever homes. Huge thanks to the team at Pride in Putāruru and Putāruru Moving Forward for their tremendous effort in putting this event together for our community.

## Festival of Cultures

The 2019 Festival of Cultures, was a culmination of events that supports and celebrates the cultural diversity in the South Waikato community and Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

To start the celebrations, Raukawa held a morning karakia on Colsons Hill on Waitangi Day, followed by a community breakfast. The following evening an action packed trivial pursuit night was held, with all participants donating cans of food for the local Tokoroa food bank.

The grand finale of the week was the much anticipated Festival of Cultures which was held on Saturday 9 February, at the South Waikato Sport & Events Centre. A range of local and cultural entertainment, a yummy range of ethnic food, along with lots of local arts and crafts stalls featured. The week-long celebration proved to be a huge success with an estimated 3,000 people attending across all three events.

This year the celebrations were co-hosted by the South Waikato District Council, South Waikato Pacific Islands Community Services Trust, Toi Ohomai, Te Wānanga o Aotearoa and Raukawa Settlement Trust.



# Tokoroa CBD development has started

Months of planning, many many meetings, heaps of community feedback... and a few hiccups along the way... But now the Tokoroa CBD development has finally started. Project goals include improved civil works, new toilets, talking pole forest development, a 'Wow' factor to draw visitors and a plaza area for visitors and locals to use.

Council resolved last year to not proceed with the construction of the iconic building due to the significant increase in construction costs meaning the full project would have gone over budget by close to a \$1M.

## CRITICAL ELEMENTS

Council went back to the drawing board to determine what would deliver on the essential elements. Critical elements include the civil works\*, new toilets, Talking Pole forest development, creating a 'Wow' factor to draw visitors and a plaza area for visitors and locals to use.

## TALKING POLE REMOVAL

Since the project kicked off in mid-March, and at the time of writing, the area has been fenced off and the necessary Talking Poles have been removed. These poles will be stored safely at the Council depot until the civil works are complete when they will be reinstated as part of the Talking Pole forest towards the southern end of Leith Place (near the existing Chainsaw Man). The Chainsaw Man himself will not be moving.

## CONSTRUCTION SITE

Between March and later in the year civil works will be done in two parts. Initially the southern 'half' of the current parking area will be cordoned off. The old i-SITE building and toilets will be demolished. Once civils in the southern 'half' are complete, the construction fence will shift to the other 'half' for the civils there to be completed.

Once stage 1 of the project (the civil work) is complete, stage 2 will follow (new toilets and return of the Talking Poles). Parts of Stage 1 and 2 may occur simultaneously.

## INTERCITY BUS SERVICE AND PUBLIC TOILETS

During the construction period the Intercity bus stop will operate from outside the Raukawa office block (between the building and the Gull Service Station). Public toilets will be available at the temporary i-SITE in Leith Place, from 9am to 5pm weekdays; and from 9am to 1pm, and again from 4pm to 5pm at weekends.

## PARKING

Obviously parking will be limited during the construction period. People are encouraged to use the Dreghorn carpark which can be accessed off Dreghorn Place, off Mannering Street and off Swanston Street. This carpark has been resurfaced, trees removed and CCTV and lighting installed for safety and security reasons.

## STORMWATER UPGRADES

The stormwater upgrades associated with the State Highway project continue into Swanston Street and will impact on access into the Leith Place carpark and have some impact on businesses along Swanston Street.

Council also continues to liaise with the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) on dovetailing the adjoining State Highway works as much as possible.

## WHERE TO FROM HERE

By the time people read this document, Council will have discussed two new toilet designs and the new design will

have been made available to the public at our offices, libraries and website. The total project will be retained within the budget set of \$3.9million.

"We want to retain as many of the factors initially identified as critical to the success of the CBD development," said Mayor Jenny Shattock. "This includes a plaza area that our community and locals can enjoy and that can be used for small events, gatherings and markets. It should also include a 'Wow' factor that will attract passing travellers."

Other factors include new toilets and improved parking area surface; along with a focus area for our Talking Poles.

The civil work will impact power service to the clock in Bridge street. This clock will become solar powered from funding outside of the CBD project funding.

*\* civil works includes: demolition of the old building including foundations, tree root removal, earthworks, underground services like water, wastewater and stormwater pipelines, paving and sealing of carpark and roads.*



# Your Legal Rights Series: Trees, fences & neighbours



Disputes over trees and fences are a common cause of hard feelings between neighbours; trees that block your sun, roots that choke your drains, fences that your neighbours want built or replaced - often at considerable expense. Your differences can usually be settled through open communication, compromise and tact, but if you are forced into a stand-off, legal action may be your only way forward. This could cost you hundreds of thousands of dollars and will most likely destroy neighbourly goodwill. In this series of articles we explain where you stand if a neighbour's tree(s) or fence(s) are causing trouble.

## LEAVES

Example: A neighbour's Oak tree continually drops leaves in the guttering of your house, forcing you to climb a ladder every few weeks to get the leaves out. Do you have to suffer this inconvenience?

If the branches causing the problem are growing over your side of the fence you are allowed to prune them back to the fence. If not, you can ask your neighbour to cut back the trees or remove them. If the neighbour disagrees, you could get a court order to solve the problem.

## BRANCHES

Example: You buy a section. There is a large Chestnut tree growing on the next door property, with branches growing over on to your side of the boundary fence. The law allows you to cut off the branches on your side, but they are long and thick, making it a major operation. Is your neighbour obliged to do the work or pay for it to be done?

No. Provided the branches are causing no real nuisance, they are your responsibility if they are growing on your side of the fence.

## SUNLIGHT

Example: Trees on your neighbour's property are blocking sunlight from your house and garden. Is this a good enough reason to insist they be cut back?

Yes. If neighbourly sweet reason fails, then you can take legal action. You will have to convince a court that the trees are having an adverse effect on your property and your enjoyment of it. If the court agrees, the neighbour will have to cut the trees back.

## FRUIT

Example: Fruit trees growing on your property branch out over your neighbours. The neighbour picks all the fruit growing on her side of the fence. Can you do anything about it?

Yes. A neighbour must not take your property. Even if the branches are hanging well over your neighbour's section, the fruit on them still belongs to you. But the neighbour could exercise her right to cut off the branches that are intruding on her property. So it's perhaps better - and more neighbourly - to offer your neighbours the fruit on their side of the fence.

## Don't Waste Your Garden Waste

It's reported that 2.12 billion tons of waste are dumped globally every year, and 18% of the waste dumped in landfills is garden waste. Even though there are now many recycling initiatives and facilities, you can also be effective with your waste at home to ensure that you are depositing it safely and helping the environment.

### RECYCLING THE LAWN

Although it's easy to bag up grass cuttings for recycling, it's actually very easy and effective

to recycle your own grass cuttings. You can leave them on the lawn by using a practice called Grasscycling.

As grass cuttings are rich in nutrients, keeping them on the lawn allows nutrients to soak back into the lawn and could save you as much as 25 percent on fertiliser. This practice will also save you time on bagging up the cuttings. You can even buy mulching mowers that will scatter the grass cuttings back onto the lawn for grasscycling.





# Phishing education for our community

Phishing is a type of online scam where criminals send an email that appears to be from a legitimate company, asking you to provide sensitive information. This is usually done by including a link that will appear to take you to the company's website to fill in your information – but the website is a clever fake and the information you provide goes straight to the crooks behind the scam.

But you can spot phishing from the real thing!

Below are some red flags to look out for.

## FROM

The sender's email address is not someone I ordinarily communicate with.

I recognise the email address, but it is unusual or out of character.

Read the sender's email address carefully – is it from a suspicious domain?

I don't know the sender personally and they were not vouched for by someone I trust.

There is an unexpected or unusual email with an embedded hyperlink or an attachment.

## TO

I was cc'd on an email sent to one or more people who I don't know and can't logically make a connection to.

I received an email that was sent to an unusual mix of people. For instance, it might be sent to a random group of people whose last names start with the same letter.

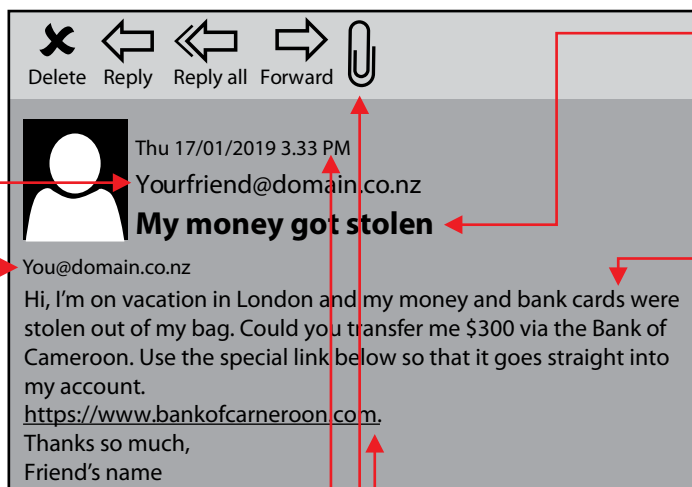
## DATE

Did I receive the email that I normally would get during regular hours, at an unusual time like 3am?

## ATTACHMENTS

The sender is known to me but the email attachment is not what I was expecting and makes no sense in relation to the email message. The sender doesn't normally send me this type of attachment.

The only file type that is always safe to open is a .txt file. All other file types can be phishing.



## SUBJECT

Is the subject line irrelevant to the message content?

Does the email message appear to be a reply to something I never sent or requested?

## CONTENT

Does the email ask me to click on a link or open an attachment to avoid a negative consequence or to gain something of value?

Does the content have bad grammar or spelling errors?

Listen to your gut – do you feel uncomfortable about the request to open an attachment or click a link?

Does the email ask me to look at a compromising or embarrassing picture of myself or someone I know?

## HYPERLINKS

I hover my mouse over a hyperlink that's displayed in the email message, but the link-to address is for a different website. This is a BIG red flag.

I received an email that only has long hyperlinks and no further information, and the rest of the email is completely blank. Another BIG red flag.

I received an email with a hyperlink that is a misspelling of a known website. For instance [www.bankofcameroon.com](https://www.bankofcameroon.com) – take a closer look- the 'm' is really two characters – an 'r' and an 'n'.

## Useful links

These links are NOT dodgy, we promise!

- Consumer NZ: <https://www.consumer.org.nz/articles/scams>
- DIA (postal scams) : <https://www.dia.govt.nz/Services-Anti-Spam-Postal-Scams>
- Netsafe NZ: <https://www.netsafe.org.nz/phishing/>
- Netsafe NZ: <https://www.netsafe.org.nz/common-online-scams/>

## Why is it called phishing?

The term 'phishing' is a spin on the word fishing, because criminals are dangling a fake 'lure' hoping users will 'bite' by providing the information the criminals have requested – such as credit card numbers, account numbers, passwords, usernames, and more.

## If in any doubt!

Remember 1 2 3!

1. Don't open the email – just delete it.
2. Never click on links in an email from someone you do not know.
3. Never click on links in an unexpected email from someone you do know.





**Adam McGrath Rugged Ramble Tour** - Wednesday 8 May, 7:30pm

Adam McGrath, lead singer and songwriter from Christchurch country band The Eastern, returns as part of his Autumn 'Rugged Ramble' Tour. [www.facebook.com/forteaster](http://www.facebook.com/forteaster). Tickets \$18 (+BF) from [UndertheRadar.co.nz](http://UndertheRadar.co.nz).

**Aroha String Quartet** – South Waikato Music Society - Sunday 12 May, 2pm

The Aroha String Quartet is firmly established as one of New Zealand's finest chamber music ensembles. \$25 Non Members, \$20 for Members, Students FREE.

**My Name is MOANA** – Arts on Tour NZ - Friday 31 May, 7:30pm

An intimate 90-minute tribute to the Ocean led by singer and songwriter Moana Maniapoto. Tickets \$20. Buy four, get the fifth free on our 2019 Arts on Tour Season. Available from [Eventfinda](http://Eventfinda) or [The Plaza](http://ThePlaza).

**Dr Seuss' The Cat in the Hat Live on Stage** – Saturday 8 June, 10:30am

Two bored kids. One rainy day. And one crazy cat wearing a red-striped hat. \$27.50 individual ticket. \$25 each for a family pass. \$20 each for a group of 10 or more. Tickets available from [The Plaza](http://ThePlaza) or [nz.patronbase.com](http://nz.patronbase.com).

**It's Showtime – Magic and Illusions** – Friday 21 June, 7pm

New Zealand's freshest Magic and Illusion Spectacular is back with new illusions, more magic, more comedy, more antics and much more fun for 2019. Tickets available from [Eventfinda](http://Eventfinda). \$14 children, \$20 adults.



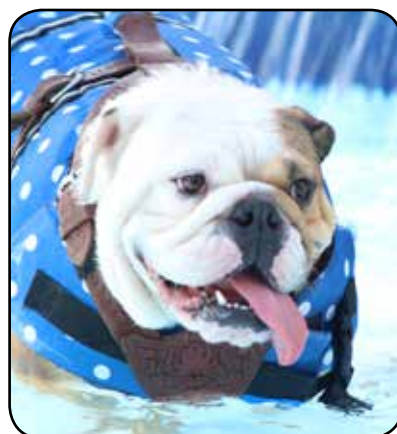
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[www.plaza.org.nz](http://www.plaza.org.nz)  
 Email: [theplaza@plaza.org.nz](mailto:theplaza@plaza.org.nz)  
 Facebook: [theplazaputaruru](https://www.facebook.com/theplazaputaruru)

## Pooches pool party

The Doggie Pool Parties in Putāruru and Tīrau were a resounding, lively and noisy success. Dogs of all shapes and sizes, colours and breeds spent three hours racing around the pool grounds, leaping into the pool, playing with toys and generally having a ball.

Sam the German Shepherd was a hoot, not all that interested in swimming, but wanted all the balls; often spotted trying to cram three into his mouth, with difficulty. Doug the pug was adorable, happy to play a while and then hurry under the bench for a bit of a break from the larger dogs. Max the enormous Liebenberg stepped into the kiddie pool as soon as he got there and cruised around all afternoon.

Owners were particularly patient with their dogs encouraging them to jump into the big pool. It was hilarious watching a group of about seven dogs chasing each other round and round, often coming precariously close to the edge of the pool. Generally, an afternoon of noisy, chaotic and enjoyable fun!



## 2019 ANZAC PARADES

**TOKOROA**  
 6.00 am Dawn Parade,  
 Tokoroa Club

Everyone to meet at 5.45am outside St John Office (Logan St), along Campbell Street towards Tokoroa Club.

**9.00 am Civic Parade,**  
 South Waikato District Council

Everyone to meet at 8.45am Roseberry St, down to Swanston St, O'Sullivan Dr and Torphin Crescent.

**PUTĀRURU**  
 6.00 am Dawn Parade,  
 Putāruru Garden of Memories

Everyone to meet at 5.45am outside Van Dyks store, along to the Garden of Memories.

**9.00 am Putāruru Civic Parade,**  
 Putāruru Plaza

Everyone to meet at 8.45am outside Van Dyks store, along the left-hand side of the road into the Plaza.

**TĪRAU**  
 10.30 am Tīrau Civic Service, Tīrau Memorial Hall

Everyone to meet at 10.15am outside Hall, then enter Hall.



# Changes to reserves in Putāruru

Council is making some changes to the reserves in the Putāruru area. Here we highlight the changes, the reasons why we're making the changes and a formal re-classification process that is underway.

## Grey Street Reserve

Council has been working with the Putāruru Community Gardens to relocate the gardens from its current site in Scotia Glen to a new site, due to the land owner needing the site for its own purpose.

In addition, the Scotia Glen site is not an ideal site because of the terraced terrain; and there is limited space for the Gardens to grow (as in increase in size).

The Grey Street Reserve is an ideal reserve for a specific purpose like Community Gardens. It is flat and has ample room to sustain growth for more garden beds.

You will soon be seeing some changes to this reserve. The

Community Gardens will be moving steadily over several months, timing the moves to ensure the least impact on supply of vegetables.

Council has already removed the old swing set and we will soon be removing the climbing module.

At that point the Community Garden group can get stuck into making the necessary planter beds and other changes to turn the Grey Street Reserve into an awesome community garden.

## Barnett Street Reserve

The playground module from the Grey Street Reserve is being relocated to the Barnett Street Reserve. The swing set has reached the end of its life and

will be disposed of. This reserve is a more suitable spot for a playground as it is accessible to a larger neighbourhood and is more open and visible. Council encourages neighbourhood children to enjoy this new facility.

The other relevant issue is that the Barnett Street Reserve is currently identified as a Dog Exercise Area, which means dogs can be exercised there off-leash. Because we are moving a children's playground there, we can no longer have this space as an off-leash Dog Exercise area. Barnett Street Reserve will become a Prohibited Dog area.

But dog owners, don't worry... we have a better spot for you and your pooch(es).

## Totara Park

Totara Park (off Kennedy Drive, near the Rugby Club) has been used by a number of sporting groups that, over the years, have moved from Totara Park to other reserves, including Glenshea Park.

So, we are making it a new off-leash Dog Exercise area.

Once this area is formally included as a new Dog Exercise area, appropriate signage will be installed and we will do some social media.

Dog owners of course are reminded that you are required to have your dogs under control at all times and to pick up dog waste. There is a bin on the site.

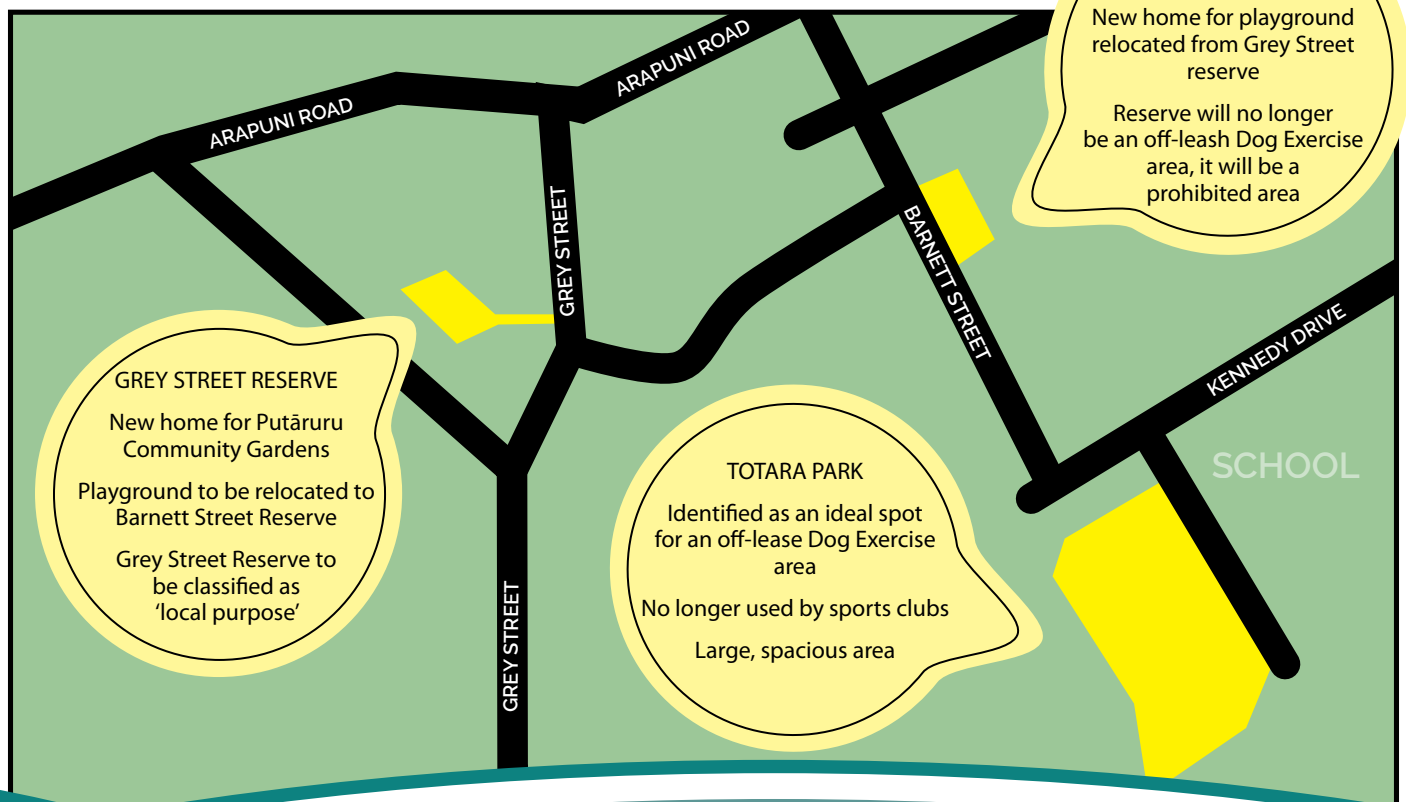
### Proposed re-classification - Grey Street Reserve

As part of this process, Council needs to re-classify the Grey Street Reserve as 'local purpose' under the Reserves Act. This involves public notification inviting community objections by mid-May.

You are welcome to object to this proposal by writing to Council at [info@southwaikato.govt.nz](mailto:info@southwaikato.govt.nz) – please indicate in the subject line: Proposed re-classification of Grey Street Reserve.

Please include the following: name, address, phone number and/or email address and whether or not you wish to be heard.

Please direct all queries to Phil Parker, Parks and Reserves Manager. Phil can be contacted at 07 885 0340.



## Councillor Column Herman van Rooijen

Kia ora tatou, I write this after having been to the vigil for the people killed and wounded in the terrible massacre in Christchurch, a city whose very name implies it to be safe and of God.

The feeling of outrage turned into a feeling of unity by all those present. We all belong here, we all live here, this is our home.

I would like to highlight the work going on with Wai Ora Healthy Rivers. Council has submitted to make sure our voice is heard by the commissioners on this vital piece of work. The outcome of sustainable management of our land and water will affect those living in our towns and in our rural areas.

The Putāruru Re-zone District Plan Review is coming along steadily, but way too steadily for those of us involved. We are following the laws which govern these things, though at times we all feel the laws get in the way of what we want to achieve.

I hope this finds you all well. As a rural person I would like some rain soon!

## IN the know

You can keep up to date with Council information via:  
[www.southwaikato.govt.nz](http://www.southwaikato.govt.nz)  
[www.facebook/SouthWaikatoDistrictCouncil](http://www.facebook.com/SouthWaikatoDistrictCouncil)  
Download Antenna FREE  
[info@southwaikato.govt.nz](mailto:info@southwaikato.govt.nz)

## IN view

If you would like to receive this newsletter in electronic format please email [kerry.fabrie@southwaikato.govt.nz](mailto:kerry.fabrie@southwaikato.govt.nz).

## Councillor Column Wendy Cook

Greetings everyone. Well, we've almost come to the end of our three-year term.

As always there has been a lot of work done and I acknowledge still so much to do and be completed.

But this is the nature of our role. We can only do what time allows and I hope the next Council will pick up where we left off with the same passion for the tasks we have initiated and hope we see them come to fruition.

There have been a lot of major items to deal with in this term - wastewater, solid waste and taking advantage of our growing district being three of the most significant.

I'm confident the huge amount of time and effort that has gone into this planning and decision making will pay off for us in the future.

The same goes for the Long Term Plan (LTP) and other planning documents as they are ongoing tasks.

It's never easy, but I believe it has been a good term.

Plenty of open and robust discussion around the table. It is always important to remember everyone's opinion is valuable and all need to be heard to agree on solutions that will give us the best outcome for all concerned.

The past years have been full of people working hard to ensure everything that is done, is in the best interests of everyone in our community.

My thought for today... look after one another... take time to think about how your words can effect someone's life and their mental health; once heard, they can't be unheard.

## Councillor Column Marin Glucina

The South Waikato has over the last three years been focused on providing for population growth in the district, with rural land being zoned as residential in Putāruru.

In Tokoroa some reserve land could be used for housing. Empty sections have had homes relocated on them providing tidy homes for families.

Planning is still underway as to how to provide for an increase in population and employment opportunities.

The increasing population living in the South Waikato has led to an increase in property prices and values.

Unfortunately there has been a drop in available rentals in that many rentals have now been sold to owner-occupiers, leaving the previous tenants homeless.

Council will need to look at solutions to that problem.

There may also be sufficient demand for hostel housing similar to the old NZ Forest Products hostels which housed single men and women in units with communal eating and washing facilities.

There is a demand now for labour in the district and it is essential to provide accommodation for people who wish to work in the South Waikato.

In the past, Tokoroa has had to provide the Police and teachers with subsidised housing to encourage those people to work here.

It could be time for the major employers of labour in the district to look at providing accommodation for their workers so as to attract new industries and labour to the district.

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