

NEWSLINE

MAY 2020



MAYOR'S COLUMN



The Waimate District has shown immense community spirit and unity during the COVID-19 pandemic. We have all faced a massive challenge over the last few months but I'm proud that our District has shown its strength and resilience by sustaining the efforts of the lockdown period.

Mayor Craig Rowley

I also want to extend my gratitude to all the essential service workers and businesses across the District who have helped to keep the community safe, fed and well during this difficult time, they have truly been outstanding in supporting our community.

As we move into the next phase, I'm confident our community will continue to support each other, and our local businesses, as we return to some form of normality.

RATES AND PAYMENTS

The final rates instalment for the 2019/2020 financial year is due by 29 May 2020.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, some people may be experiencing financial difficulties and we encourage those of you who have been affected to contact us to discuss your payment options.

Many of our ratepayers already have an acceptable repayment plan in place and while these regular payments continue Council will hold the charging of any penalties for the duration of the repayment period.

If you are finding repayments a struggle, please contact us and we will look at how we can change your repayment plan to ensure penalties are not applied.

Last month, Council met to prepare an emergency budget in response to COVID-19, and minimise the impact on ratepayers in our District. This resulted in a majority vote to reduce the 2020/21 rate increase to 4% rather than a previously proposed increase of 7.7% as budgeted in the draft 2020/21 Annual Plan.

The draft budget includes investments in key infrastructure, including upgrades to our rural and urban drinking water schemes, sewer and stormwater network, and accounts for a reduction in income from Council's Alpine Energy Ltd investment.

Alpine Energy was regulated by the Commerce Commission's Default Price Pathway (DPP3) review late last year. A reduction in revenue led to a review of dividends to shareholders which includes Waimate District Council.

Council has spread some project costs over a greater time period and incurred some borrowings to lessen the impact.

A rates freeze at the present time would slow or even cripple economic recovery as Council would have to borrow money to achieve a zero % rates increase. Deferring essential infrastructure projects along with borrowings would come at a cost, with rates set higher in the following years to offset the debt.

There are many options for rates payment available. If you qualify for a rates rebate for the current year, make sure you get your application in to us by **30 June 2020**.

RUBBISH AND RECYCLING CONSULTATION

The Waimate District Council is currently consulting on future rubbish and recycling services in the district.

WHY ARE WE CONSULTING?

Over the last ten years, there have been a number of improvements and innovations in waste management services across New Zealand. As a Council, we are committed to reducing the amount of rubbish our District sends to landfill, improve the environmental outcomes and deliver a modern, sustainable service to our residents.

The current rubbish and recycling contract ends 30 June 2021, so now is a good time to review what level of service and management we need as a district.

WHAT ARE THE OPTIONS?

A consultation document was delivered to properties across the District last week which outlines three proposed options:

Option A - This multi-bin system includes:

240 litre organics (green/food waste) bin collected weekly ■ 240 litre recycling bin collected fortnightly ■ 140 litre rubbish bin collected fortnightly ■ Glass crate collected fortnightly.

Option B - This option includes:

240 litre recycling bin collected fortnightly ■ 140 litre rubbish bin collected fortnightly ■ Glass crate collected fortnightly ■ Rubbish taken to Waimate Resource Recovery Park (RRP) for transport to a landfill other than Redruth ■ Recycling processed at the RRP or contractor's nominated site ■ Organic service provided at RRP at a charge via gate. A contractor service may be available.

Option C - This option includes:

80 litre urban rubbish bin collected weekly ■ Recycling crate collected weekly ■ 240 litre rural rubbish bin collected fortnightly ■ Rural recycling drop-off stations ■ Organic services provided at the RRP at a charge via gate. Contractor service may be available.

A full description of these options, costings and collection routes are discussed in more detail in the consultation document. For a copy of the consultation document go to: waimatedc.govt.nz or phone 03 689 0000 and Council will post you a copy. An online submission form is also available on the website.

Consultation closes 4pm Friday 22 May 2020

WHAT GOES IN EACH BIN? (Examples)

Compost	Recycling	Waste
NO PLASTICS	NO COMPOST/WASTE	NO COMPOST/RECYCLING
Animal droppings in paper	Aerosol cans - empty	Animal droppings in plastic
Bones	Aluminium cans - clean	All ash
Branches	Books	Band aids/dressings
Burger boxes	Cardboard & paperboard	Batteries -alkaline
Butter paper	Cereal boxes	Bread bags
Cereal slops	Coffee cans	Carbon paper
Chicken bones/scraps	Computer paper	Cassette tapes
Coffee grounds	Drink cans	Ceramics
Dairy products	Envelopes - incl. window	Cigarette ends
Egg shells	Foil trays	Cooking oils and fats
Fish	Food cans	Crockery
Fish and chip paper	Greeting cards	Cutlery - plastic
Flowers	Ice cream containers	Disposable nappies
Food scraps/leftovers	Janitorials - cleaning bottles	Drink cartons
Food soiled paper	Juice bottles	Foam boxes/meat trays
Fruit & vegetable scraps	Junk mail	Kitty litter
Garden waste	Magazines	Lightbulbs excl. ecobulbs
Grass cuttings	Margarine tubs	Lolly wrappers
Hair	Milk bottles	Matchboxes
Hot chip packets/boxes	Motor oil containers	Medical waste
Leaves	Newspapers	Multi-material packaging
Meat - raw or cooked	Oil containers	Pens, pencils, felts, crayons
Paper hand towels	Office paper	Plastic wrap
Paper bags	Paint tins - clean & empty	Plastics - all flexible
Pizza boxes	Pet food tins - clean	Plate glass
Plant cuttings	Phone books	Polystyrene meat trays
Shredded paper	Plastics - all rigid plastics	Pyrex
Takeaway food boxes	Sandwich spread bottles	Styrofoam
Tea bags	Shampoo/conditioner bottles	Supermarket bags
Tissues	Soft drink/water bottles	Takeaway cups
Vegetable scraps	Steel/tin cans - clean	Toothbrushes
Weeds	Toilet roll inners	Toothpaste tubes
Wood - untreated only	Wrapping paper	Treated timber
	Yoghurt containers - clean	Vacuum bags
		Waxed paper
		Window glass / mirrors

