



October 2019

Welcome from Chief Executive Harry Wilson

Tēnā koutou. We're about to enter a new chapter for South Wairarapa District Council. With the outcome of local elections soon to be confirmed, whatever the results, we can feel excited about the future of our district. Voting for the candidates that best represent your views on the future direction of the district, is one of the best ways to influence the work of council.



If you've not voted yet, you've missed the postal cut-off but there may still be time to hand deliver your vote to Council - the deadline for this is 12 noon on Saturday 12 October. To find out more about the candidates for South Wairarapa mayor, councillors and community board positions, visit www.swdc.govt.nz/local-body-elections-2019.

I would like to publically thank the current mayor, councillors, and community board members for their contribution to the District during the past term. On 1 November, SWDC will celebrate 30 years of existence since amalgamation of the three town borough councils and the Featherston County Council. We plan to mark the occasion by reflecting on our history and celebrating what has been achieved.

Harry Wilson
Chief Executive



SWDC joins Wellington Water

On 1 October, SWDC became a joint owner of Wellington Water, alongside six other council shareholders - Greater Wellington Regional Council and the Hutt, Porirua, Upper Hutt and Wellington city councils.



For customers, day-to-day, not a lot changes. Customers still call Council for any matters relating to their water supply or drainage.

Under the new arrangements, SWDC retains ownership of all its infrastructure assets and contracts Wellington Water to provide dedicated management of Council water infrastructure and operations. This includes providing planning, advice, design, project and operations management, maintenance, and monitoring relating to the assets and services of the water networks.

SWDC sets all the policies and performance objectives that are expected to be met by Wellington Water.

Permanent chlorination for safe water

Council has formally approved permanent chlorination of Martinborough's water supply. The decision was made at the full council meeting on 18 September, with Council concluding that chlorination was the only option to ensure safe, secure, clean and clear water for the town for the long term.



Chief Executive Harry Wilson led community engagement, meeting with a number of community groups, individuals and businesses before the decision was made. A manganese removal plant will be installed later this year. Manganese removal will address the water discolouration issue caused by chlorination.

Further information will be released to the community regarding the water conservation measures that may be required during summer prior to the manganese removal plant being operational. For more information visit - www.swdc.govt.nz/martinborough-water-supply.

Beautiful day for wastewater treatment plant tour

Approximately 30 members of the community attended a tour of the Greytown and Featherston wastewater treatment plants on Saturday 21 September. There was a lot of interest in the irrigation system at Greytown, as Featherston residents sought to gain a better understanding of how the wastewater to land scheme could operate for their town. Chief Executive Harry Wilson and Assets and Operations Manager Lawrence Stephenson were on hand to answer questions.

If you're interested to find out more about the proposed Featherston Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade proposal, visit www.swdc.govt.nz/featherston-wastewater-project. An overview and update of the project document was published on the website last month. This information includes the project's objectives, information about the resource consent process, as well as the additional technical assessment work being completed before the hearing process.

This additional work, which focuses on pathogens and groundwater effects, will enable SWDC to provide a more refined assessment of the extent of the potential effects, and what measures may be required to mitigate these.

To ensure there is sufficient time for these outstanding matters to be resolved, SWDC has been given an extension to 29 May 2020 to complete the hearing of the resource consent application. Greater Wellington Regional Council granted SWDC's extension request in accordance with section 37 of the Resource Management Act 1991.



Cleaner, greener, smarter recycling

Now we are a month into the new kerbside recycling service and everyone is getting the hang of it. Thank you to everyone for your patience as the three Wairarapa councils work through some teething issues, which are inevitable when rolling out a programme of this size.

Crates and wheelie bins are emptied on alternative weeks. Everyone in South Wairarapa puts out their wheelie bin in **Week 1**. See calendar to the right, in your booklet or at wairecycle.nz.

Just remember, plastics numbered 3 to 7 can't be recycled in New Zealand so we encourage plastics 1 and 2 only in your wheelie bins, along with tins, cans, paper and cardboard. Glass goes into your old crates.



Recycling Weekly Calendar

October

	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Wheelie	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Crate	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Wheelie	28	29	30	31			

November

	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2	3
Crate	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Wheelie	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Crate	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Wheelie	25	26	27	28	29	30	

December

	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
							1
Crate	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Wheelie	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Crate	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Wheelie	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Crate	30	31					

KEY:

PUBLIC HOLIDAY: black dot ●

COLLECTION A DAY LATER: yellow strip

Thank you for Spatial Plan feedback

Thank you to those who provided feedback on the Spatial Plan Discussion Document. Feedback on Phase 1 of the project is now closed, but there is an opportunity to input during Phase 2 consultation after the Draft Spatial Plan is released.

Themes of the feedback on the Discussion Document included where development should and should not be located. This included the protection of good production land from urban development, infill development preferred over urban expansion and suggestions on areas for future industrial and commercial activities.

The other key themes included: options for better transport between the three towns; the introduction of better infrastructure and facilities including parks and tracks; development options for Featherston township; tourism opportunities; and increased partnerships and initiatives with Māori and community groups.

Overall, the responses were environmentally focused with people wanting to protect, retain and enhance the special landscape characteristics and natural environment of the South Wairarapa.



And other news...

Water race maintenance

A friendly reminder to race ratepayers: maintenance and cleaning of water races are the land owner's responsibility and this work should be completed before Christmas. Reminder notices will be sent out later in October.

Martinborough growth area

For the proposed Martinborough South Growth Area (between New York Street, Todds Road, Dublin Street and Regent Street), consultants are carefully evaluating stormwater matters as part of technical assessments for the development of the area and proposed plan change from rural to residential. An update report will go to Council in due course.

Wairarapa Region Positive Ageing Strategy

The Wairarapa Positive Ageing Strategy was launched by the three Wairarapa councils in August to prepare for the region's rapidly ageing community. The aim of the Strategy is to help them achieve positive outcomes through leading valued, connected and fulfilling lives. Emily Clarke has been appointed to oversee the implementation of the Strategy, available here - www.swdc.govt.nz/joint-wairarapa-councils-positive-ageing-strategy.



Global Climate Change Week - 14-20 October

Global Climate Change Week is an annual awareness week, which we will be using as a springboard to launch some climate change activities, aimed at educating Council staff and the community about the possible actions they could take to help mitigate the effects. This is just the beginning. Along with Carterton District Council, we have appointed Mélanie Barthe as Climate Change Advisor, who will be leading the development of a climate change strategy, which will be available next year.

Rebates 2019/20

The Rates Rebate Scheme provides a rebate of up to \$640.00 for low income earners. Rate payers must have been living in the home they own on 1 July 2019.

1. Your rebate will be calculated based on your gross income from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019, your rates, and the number of dependants you have. The income eligibility for a rebate is \$25,560-\$42,000.
2. You must provide proof of income from your income provider for ALL forms of income, including interest & dividends. Application forms will be sent to those who have received a rebate in 2018/2019 and are also available from the Featherston and Greytown Libraries, the Council office and online swdc.govt.nz/rates-and-property.

Get your rates invoice by email

We now have a facility to send rates invoices by email. If you wish to receive your rate notice by email contact rates@swdc.govt.nz.

We encourage you to take up this option to allow Council to use the postage savings on projects to benefit the district.

Rates 2019/20 Instalment two

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Enclosed with this newsletter is the first rates invoice covering the period 1 October – 31 December 2019.

The last day for payment is 20th November 2019. Please pay by this date to avoid the 10% penalty.

Please help us to process payments by ensuring you include the property valuation number for all properties you are paying. If paying online please make a separate payment for each property.

Having trouble paying your rates?

Please contact us as soon as possible so we can work with you on a payment plan. Council's policy is to approach banks and legal representatives to assist us in recovering arrears at the end of the rating year.

For any queries regarding your rates, please contact our rates team at the following e-mail address: rates@swdc.govt.nz



Payment by Direct Debit

Council encourages ratepayers to pay rates via Direct Debit as this ensures the correct amount is paid and you avoid paying penalties for late payment.

Based on feedback from ratepayers, we now offer **weekly, fortnightly, monthly or quarterly direct debit options** to pay rates.

Direct debit is the easiest way to pay your rates as we withdraw the funds directly from your bank account at the very last minute. That way you will get the benefit of your funds for the longest

possible time, and avoid penalties. If you would like your payments to be made by using this method the forms are available from the Featherston and Greytown Libraries as well as the Council office and on our website swdc.govt.nz/rates-and-property. All you need to do is complete the form and send it to SWDC, PO Box 6, Martinborough 5741, scan and email it to rates@swdc.govt.nz or drop it off at either the Council office in Martinborough or at the Featherston or Greytown Libraries.



GET IT SORTED

Something needs fixing?
Let us know...

To South Wairarapa District Council,
P.O. Box 6, Martinborough 5741

From:

First Name

Surname

What's the Problem?

Where Exactly?

Street, Road, Number

Your Phone Number *(Should we need to contact you to clarify the details)*