



# On the Radar

On the Radar is your fortnightly hub for essential information, updates and reminders. In this edition, Sainsbury Road Reserve restoration, library open day and Te Awamutu’s watermain upgrades.

## Save the date! Upcoming events and notable dates

A yellow circle containing a white daffodil flower icon.

Memory Meadow  
daffodil planting

9am to noon,  
Sunday, May 11  
The Oak Arboretum,  
Cambridge  
Franklin Street, Pirongia

A blue circle containing a white icon of a house with an open book inside.

Library open day  
*Elected Members and  
staff*

10am to 4pm,  
Tuesday, May 13  
Kaipaki Room,  
Cambridge office

A green circle containing a white tree icon.

Sainsbury Road Reserve  
planting day

From 10 am  
Saturday, June 7  
Sainsbury Road  
Reserve,  
Pirongia

# Community Services

## Reserves planning



We're aiming to kick off the **ecological restoration of Sainsbury Road Reserve** in Pirongia with a community planting day on Saturday, June 7 – and would welcome your company!

We hope to plant out around half a hectare of wetland, with 6000 plants.

Local restoration and nursery suppliers, Pūniu River Care, have been contracted to do the site prep, plant provision and pre-dig the holes (which helps significantly with plant survival), and new fencing has been put in to keep grazing stock out.

We've had good engagement with Ngāti Hikairo and Ngāti Apakura who are keen to support the day. We'll be promoting this to the community and hope to get around 70 people to attend.

The development of the Reserve Management Plan for the reserve was approved by Strategic Planning and Policy Committee in June 2023, so it's been a long journey for the Pirongia community.

Council's biodiversity planner has been working with Titoki Landcare to get a restoration plan done for the remainder of the reserve, so we can continue further restoration as funding becomes available.

## Park operations



## Lake Te Koo Utu fish deaths

Staff are continuing to respond to – and try to understand the cause of – the recent deaths of non-native pest goldfish in Lake Te Koo Utu, Cambridge.

A water sample was taken last week and sent to a lab for testing, with results due next week. One of the fish collected this week has been sent to Ministry of Primary Industries for testing. The numbers of dead fish collected continue to reduce, with only around five collected the last couple of mornings.

## Library in-house open day



The Waipā District Libraries would like to invite you to join us for an internal open day at the Cambridge Library on Tuesday, May 13!

The library team will have the Kaipaki room (in the Cambridge offices) set up from 10am until 4pm as an expo, showing off all the things that a modern library such as ours has to offer.

There will be interactive displays featuring a wide range of library offerings, including free programmes for tamariki, robotics coding classes, online services, and our new Library of Things, which ranges from electronic drumkits to spinning wheels for homemade thread. Even library regulars will learn something new, as we have sneak peeks of upcoming programmes and events still in development, as well as some recent highlights that you may have missed!

**This event is for staff and Elected Members only** to trial for a public open day we are planning for later in the year. Please come along, experience what the team has on offer, and give us your feedback.

## Cambridge Connections

### Katie Mayes - our new Executive Director

Katie Mayes begun her role as Executive Director with us this week and has hit the ground running!

She has been reviewing the technical work to date and is starting to understand people's various perspectives. Katie says she intends to spend the rest of her first month listening and learning from everyone. She will then be in a position to put together a plan of how to reset the project. At this stage, she expects to seek Council approval on a revised project approach in August.

Katie is reaching out to key stakeholders and the Cambridge Connections database this afternoon to Document Set ID: 1659125 and outline those next steps.



# Service Delivery

## WasteMINZ Finalist!

Waipā District Council and our waste minimisation advisor Shelley Wilson have been selected as finalists in the 2025 WasteMINZ Awards for Excellence, in the 'best initiative to reduce waste or redesign products' category.

This is to recognise our free Make and Donate programme. Two booked-out workshops were held in Te Awamutu and Cambridge last year (pictured below) where an array of people came together to learn how to make low-cost and low-waste cleaning products: washing powder, cleaning paste, bench spray, and dishwasher powder. The aim was to reduce waste, enable reuse, provide hands-on education, and save money for people!

The WasteMINZ Awards will be held in Christchurch on Tuesday, June 10.



## Transport

The SH1 northbound onramp at Victoria Road will be closed from Sunday, May 11 to Thursday, May 15 between 8pm and 5am.

NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi need to work near the Victoria Road interchange to repair electric cables.

- Light vehicles to detour via Cambridge Road to access SH1.
- Heavy vehicles will detour via SH1B and SH26 to re-join SH1.
- Emergency Services will be prioritised through the worksite.
- Work is weather dependent, stay up to date at [nzta.govt.nz/traffic](https://nzta.govt.nz/traffic).

# Waters



## Te Awamutu watermains upgrade

We are installing the new 450mm pipes along SH3 Ōhaupō Road, between Mutu and Arawata Streets, between Wednesday, May 14 and Tuesday, May 20.

To complete these works, we need to drill and pull the pipes under the existing concrete watermain pipes. These older pipes can be fragile, and while we are taking every precaution, there is a possibility that one or more could burst during the installation process. This could potentially shut off water to a large portion of Te Awamutu.

The contingency plan includes:

- Council representation on-site – project manager, Mahendra Kumar, and network engineer, Colin Basset
- Retic staff on-site in case urgent repairs are needed
- Processes in place to alert the Communications and Customer Experience Teams

A letter has been delivered to all the businesses, schools, and high-water users, giving five days' notice of the works. An Antenno post, web alert, and social media post has also been done in advance of the work.

Pre-recorded messaging has been done to streamline calls if necessary, and a CRM is ready to collect information should the worst-case scenario take place.

## Property

### Pensioner housing rental reviews

As advised at the Council meeting on April 16, we have recently reviewed the rents on our pensioner housing units. While the report tabled at that meeting advised that none of the tenants would be paying market rentals, when we were reconciling increases it was discovered that six couples will in fact be paying market value rent for their units, due to no movement in market value since 2023. These increases are between \$5 and \$20 per week. Five of the units are in Churchill and Mangapiko Streets, and one is in Sherwin Village.



### Cambridge Water Tower

The Detailed Seismic Assessment and peer review have been completed, confirming the building is earthquake prone, and the preliminary design of potential strengthening options is now under way.

### Roche Street

The first stage of the refurbishment of the Roche Street building is almost complete. This included re-roofing and window renewals. The scaffolding was due to be removed this afternoon.

## District Growth

### Proposed Plan Change 33

Proposed Plan Change 33 will be publicly notified on Thursday, May 15. This is a private plan change lodged by the Hautapu Landowners Group. PC33 seeks to change the zoning of Hautapu Area 7 from Deferred Industrial Zone to Industrial Zone, and proposes to activate the 16.3 hectare area for industrial development ahead of the timeframes set out in our District Plan.

The final deadline for submissions is 5pm Friday, June 13.

# Strategy

## Draft 2024-34 Long Term Plan and Local Water Done Well public consultations

After the Extraordinary Council meeting yesterday which approved the consultation document and supporting information for the draft 2024-35 Long Term Plan, we are pleased to advise that public consultation is live! Today, we also went live on consultation for Local Water Done Well.

You can find the draft 2024-35 Long Term Plan consultation and submission page [here](#).

And the Local Water Done Well consultation and submission page is [here](#).



## Proposed waste-to-energy plant hearings

The Environmental Protection Authority has advised that the Board of Inquiry resource consent hearing for Global Contracting Solutions Ltd to construct and operate a waste-to-energy plant in Te Awamutu have been set to begin on Monday, June 16.

The hearing will be held at the FMG Stadium, 128 Seddon Road, Frankton, Hamilton, and run for three weeks.

The hearing schedule which will indicate the days and sessions at which each witness or submitted is set to appear will be provided on the [EPA website](#) closer to the time.

Information about the process will continue to be posted and updated on the same website as the hearing progresses.

If you have any questions, please contact the EPA on 0800 722 667 or at [Teawamutu.nsp@epa.govt.nz](mailto:Teawamutu.nsp@epa.govt.nz)

The Board of Inquiry is comprised of Brian Dwyer (chairman), Nicholas Manukau and Myles McCauley.

Legislation and submission update

We actively monitor the changes to legislation being proposed by Central Government, and want to keep Elected Members across the latest changes, submissions and directions.

The table below lists the changes that have occurred over the last fortnight.

Item Name	Description	Status comments
Open for Submissions		
<a href="#">Proposed changes to the Waste Minimisation Act and Litter Act</a>	<p>These changes are part of the Government's waste work programme for 2024-2026, which aims to give effect to its newly released waste and resource efficiency strategy. The key proposed changes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• creating a framework for extended producer responsibility</li><li>• changes to how the waste levy is allocated to territorial authorities, and what they can spend the money on</li><li>• clarifying roles and responsibilities for central government, local government and the waste sector</li><li>• improving tools for compliance, monitoring, and enforcement</li><li>• enabling efficient and effective controls for littering and other types of mismanaged waste.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Submissions now open – close June 1.</li><li>• Staff recommendation – Submit. Council meeting for approval in May.</li></ul>
Updates		
<a href="#">Animal Welfare Act - Regulations about prolonged tethering of dogs and subgingival dental procedures in dogs and cats</a>	<p>The Government is now working on regulations to prevent the prolonged tethering of dogs and intends to finalise these regulations by the end of 2025.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regulations likely to be finalised by end of 2025.</li><li>• Staff recommendation - Keep watching brief until further information is known. Likely only action will be enforcement of new legislation.</li></ul>



Item Name	Description	Status comments
<a href="#">Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy</a>	<p>The Ministry of Transport released an Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Strategy. The strategy outlines the Government’s long-term strategic vision for a national EV charging infrastructure that can support a growing EV fleet, while helping New Zealand meet its climate commitments. The Government has advised that this will be particularly relevant to local government and organisations in the transport, energy, and other sectors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Staff recommendation – Keep a watching brief, Central Government has indicated this will have impacts for local government.</li></ul>
<a href="#">Local Government (Natural Hazard Information in Land Information Memoranda) Regulations 2025</a>	<p>These regulations are made under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act.</p> <p>They set out the additional requirements for territorial authorities when providing natural hazard information in a land information memorandum (LIM), being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• various headings about types of natural hazards</li><li>• minimum details about technical reports</li><li>• maps (including maps from the territorial authority’s district plan)</li><li>• a plain language summary of some of the information</li><li>• specified notifications or assessments provided under the Building Act or other related Acts.</li></ul> <p>The regulations also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• require regional councils to provide natural hazard information to territorial authorities in a way that means territorial authorities are able to comply with the Act and these regulations</li><li>• don't require a territorial authority or regional council to prepare risk assessments or carry out further analysis for each property.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regulations come into force on October 17, 2025.</li></ul>

## Media releases

- [May 8: It's in your hands: Waipā's future water services and Long Term Plan](#)
- [May 7: Paws, pages and possibilities: Waipā Libraries get creative](#)
- [May 5: Dig in for cancer: Join the Memory Meadow daffodil planting day](#)
- [May 5: Behind the scenes at the Cambridge Wastewater Treatment plant](#)
- [May 2: Testing underway for Lake Te Koo Utu](#)
- [May 2: Play-on-the-way to bring fun to Kihikihi streets](#)
- [May 1: Have your say on four iwi-owned reserves in Waipā](#)
- [April 30: Waipā welcomes 108 new citizens to Aotearoa](#)
- [April 30: Smoother drive on the way for Cambridge motorists](#)
- [April 24: Leaf it to us – Waipā's autumn clean up is on](#)
- [April 24: Dead fish found in Lake Te Koo Utu](#)

## Media clippings

### [No more smoke and mirrors](#)

Waikato Business News • Andrew Bydder • Internet • 05 May 2025, 9:34 am

### [Two hundred dead fish pulled from Cambridge's Lake Te Koo Utu as investigation begins](#)

Waikato Times • Avina Vidyadharan • Internet • 05 May 2025, 5:46 am

### [Mayoral moves](#)

Waikato Times • Newspaper • 03 May 2025, 12:00 am

### [Speed shambles](#)

Waikato Times • Newspaper • 03 May 2025, 12:00 am

### [Speed humps get a haircut to appease motorists in Cambridge](#)

Waikato Times • Paora Manuel • Internet • 01 May 2025, 1:45 pm

### [Te Awamutu in nail-biter](#)

Te Awamutu News • Jesse Wood • Internet • 01 May 2025, 8:21 pm

### [Understanding the sacrifices made](#)

Te Awamutu News • Viv Posselt • Internet • 01 May 2025, 9:05 am

### [Ordinary people, doing quite extraordinary things](#)

Te Awamutu News • Jesse Wood • Internet • 01 May 2025, 7:03 am

### [Anzac Day – from sunrise to sunset](#)

Cambridge News • Mary Anne Gill • Internet • 01 May 2025, 10:32 am

### [Town's tourism reset](#)

Cambridge News • Mary Anne Gill • Internet • 01 May 2025, 6:01 am

### [Sister city relationship sealed](#)

Cambridge News • Mary Anne Gill • Internet • 01 May 2025, 7:46 pm

[Rates rise delayed for Hauraki](#)

Waikato Times • Matthew Martin • Newspaper • 01 May 2025, 12:00 am

[Waipā rates increase among steepest](#)

Cambridge Edition • Matthew Martin • Newspaper • 30 Apr 2025, 12:00 am

[Civil Defence appoints chairperson](#)

Cambridge Edition • Newspaper • 30 Apr 2025, 12:00 am

[NZTA gets it wrong in Rukuhia Village speed limit consultation](#)

Waikato Times • Jo Lines-MacKenzie • Newspaper • 29 Apr 2025, 12:00 am

[Leaf clean-up begins](#)

Waikato Times • Newspaper • 29 Apr 2025, 12:00 am

[Zoom zoom - it's back to 100kph for SH1](#)

Waikato Times • Matthew Martin • Newspaper • 25 Apr 2025, 12:00 am

[Te Awamutu applauds local icon's international impact](#)

Waikato Herald • Newspaper • 25 Apr 2025, 12:00 am

[Kennedy fluoride move greeted](#)

Te Awamutu News • Roy Pilott • Internet • 24 Apr 2025, 1:04 pm

[Board neutral on water option](#)

Te Awamutu News • Chris Gardner • Internet • 24 Apr 2025, 12:03 pm

[Walsh wants a reset](#)

Te Awamutu News • Jesse Wood • Internet • 24 Apr 2025, 9:03 am

[Alpha funding stalls](#)

Te Awamutu News • Jon Rawlinson • Internet • 24 Apr 2025, 7:01 am

[Putting Blue Blob behind us](#)

Cambridge News • Jo Davies-Colley • Internet • 24 Apr 2025, 7:59 am

[Clock ticks down for water](#)

kingcountrynews.co.nz • Internet • 24 Apr 2025, 6:08 am

