



FROM MAYOR CRAIG LITTLE Budget 25

We are told the Government's Budget 2025 aims to lay a solid foundation for continued recovery and future prosperity.

It is heartening to have a further \$219m tagged for local roading recovery earmarked for the four Hawkes Bay Territorial Authorities and the Gisborne District Council. The funding is to enable the completion of road recovery programmes across three years from 2026/27, although we are yet to understand how the funding will be allocated.

Keeping our recovery firmly in the government's sights is important. I have continued to lobby and advocate on behalf of Wairoa, and it is reassuring to have our needs recognised.

For Wairoa to thrive, we need a reliable and resilient road network. This additional support shows that the government is delivering on its commitment to stand by the region through its recovery.

Rates Rebate Scheme

The new rates rebate income threshold announced in Budget 25 will support local people. The Rates Rebate Scheme is a government programme designed to help low-income homeowners with the cost of their local Council rates.

We are told an additional 66,000 SuperGold Cardholders (typically seniors) will qualify for the rebate and receive help with their rate payments through the higher income limit.

Last week, Council adopted its 2025/26 Annual Plan, which

included an average rate increase of 5.2% for the coming year. We have worked hard to keep the increase as low as possible and significantly less than we had forecasted the rates would be a year ago.

I acknowledge that any increase is difficult, and the Rate Rebate Scheme changes will help benefit our SuperGold Cardholders.

For more information about the rates rebate head to: www.wairoadc.govt.nz/services/properties-and-rates/rates/rates-rebate

For any assistance, including alternative rates payment arrangements, please call or email rates@wairoadc.govt.nz or phone 06 838 7309.

New CEO

It is great for our Council to have future certainty through the appointment of our new Chief Executive, Matthew Lawson.

Matt has previously been a legal advisor for Councils and a partner of Lawson Robinson Barristers and Solicitors in Napier. He knows the intricacies of local government very well and will bring a range of capabilities to the position.

Recruitment company Robert Walters New Zealand managed the Chief Executive recruitment process, with the final appointment made by elected members.

We now look forward to Matt starting his new position on July 1 and remain grateful that interim Chief Executive Malcolm Alexander will continue to support us until then.

LOCAL WATER DONE WELL

Consultation is now open for Local Water Done Well. Have your say by going to www.consultations.nz/wdc/ or picking up a submission form from our Council office on Queen Street or Wairoa Library. Consultation closes 11.59pm on Sunday, 15 June 2025.

CARAVAN SESSIONS

Tuesday, 3 June 1pm - 3pm

New World Wairoa

Wednesday, 4 June 10am - 2pm

Frasertown Shop

Tuesday, 10 June 1pm - 3pm

Gemmells, Marine Parade

INFORMATION DROP IN SESSION

Friday, 13 June 10am - 2pm

Wairoa District Council Chambers

WAIROA DISTRICT ROAD CLOSURES

8.30am - 5pm

Wednesday 4th June 2025

Pursuant to section 342(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 1974, notice is hereby given that the Wairoa District Council, for the purpose of installing stormwater assets will close the following roads to all vehicular traffic:

- Tiniroto Road at Mangatawa Bridge RP 12.278km.

Alternative date if weather does not permit, Thursday 5th June 2025 8.30am - 5pm.

Any further queries can be directed to the Wairoa District Council on 06 838 7309.

Malcolm Alexander

INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

WAIROA DISTRICT ROAD CLOSURES

8am Monday 9th June 2025 to 5pm Sunday 29th June 2025

Pursuant to section 342(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 1974, notice is hereby given that the Wairoa District Council, for the purpose of installing stormwater assets to Tihi Tihi Pa subdivision will close the following roads to all vehicular traffic:

- **Kitchener Street** between Kauri Place and McLean St from **Monday 9th June to Sunday 15th June 2025**
- **McLean Street** between Black St and Kitchener St from **Monday 16th June to Sunday 29th June 2025**

A detour will be available for each closure.

Any further queries can be directed to the Wairoa District Council on 06 838 7309.

M Alexander

INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Mayor Craig Little

MEET THE MAYOR KANOHI KI TE KANOHI

If you would like to have a meeting with the Mayor, call the council offices on 06 838 7309 to arrange a meeting time.

He is available to meet with people on Wednesdays.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

MĀORI STANDING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 3, 10am

YOUTH COUNCIL

Tuesday, June 3, 3.30pm

STRATEGY, WELLBEING, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Tuesday, June 10, 10am

FINANCE, ASSURANCE, AND RISK COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 17, 12.30pm

COUNCIL FORUM

Tuesday, June 24, 10am

ORDINARY COUNCIL

Tuesday, June 24, 1.30pm

GAITY Now Showing May 29 - June 5

Thunderbolts

M | 2hr 6m

Wednesday 28th May 5.30pm

Sunday 1st June 2pm

Final Destination: Bloodlines

R16 | 1hr 49m

Thursday 29th May 5.30pm

Friday 30th May 8pm

Lilo & Stitch

PG | 2hr 4m

Friday 30th May 5.30pm

Sunday 1st June 11.30am

A Minecraft Movie

PG | 1hrs 41m

Saturday 31st May 2pm

Sinners

R16 | 2hr 17m

Saturday 31st May 5.30pm

Wednesday 4th June 5.30pm

Ballerina PREMIERE

R16 | 1hr 29m

Thursday 5th June 5.30pm

Brought to you by

KEEP YOUR DRINKING WATER SAFE - FLUSH YOUR TAPS DAILY

Did you know that water sitting in your pipes overnight can absorb small amounts of metals from plumbing fittings – especially in older homes?

To help keep your drinking water safe, Taumata Arowai and the Ministry of Health recommend a simple daily habit:

Flush your taps for a few seconds each morning before using water for drinking or cooking.

This helps remove any metals like lead or copper that may have dissolved while the water sat in your pipes overnight – especially if your water is slightly acidic or “plumbosolvent.”

Simple Tips to Stay Safe:

- Flush your tap each morning or after long periods of non-use (like weekends or holidays).
- Use cold water for drinking and cooking – hot water can dissolve metals more easily.
- Consider upgrading old plumbing fittings to certified lead-free options.

A few seconds of flushing = safer, cleaner drinking water for your whānau.

Easy. Free. Effective.

Find out more at www.taumataarowai.govt.nz