



CATCH UP WITH MAYOR CRAIG Kanohi ki te Kanohi Face to Face

If you have anything you would like to discuss with the Mayor, please call the council offices on 06 838 7309 to arrange a meeting time. The Mayor is available to meet on Wednesdays or by appointment.

FROM MAYOR CRAIG LITTLE

Happy New Year

2026 has certainly got off to a flying start. It was great to have some good old-fashioned summer weather with locals and visitors able to enjoy our beautiful beaches, rivers and lakes. Then, as things began to dry out, the rain came, supporting grass and crop growth.

Light rain last Saturday didn't dampen spirits at the Wairoa A and P Show. The 125th show was a poignant event as it was the last time the show would be held at its current Ruataniwha Road showgrounds, with Wairoa's Flood Mitigation spillway taking in the showground land.

Led by President Michael Thomas, the show organisers and volunteers delivered a fantastic event which celebrated the legacy of the A and P Society and generations of hard work, pride and community spirit.

Thank you to all those people who called into the Council gazebo, shared their thoughts and provided feedback through the residents' survey.

RESIDENT AND RATEPAYER SURVEY UNDERWAY

The Wairoa District Council's resident and ratepayer survey is now open and will run until 7pm on January 31.

The survey is an opportunity for the Council to gather information that will help us better understand what we are doing well and what needs improvement. The thoughts and experiences shared through the survey provide the Council with information to base its decision-making.

The council values the input from the community and will analyse the results, and these will be included as part of the Council's future focus and decision-making.

We welcome as many people as possible to please complete the survey: <https://feedback.askyourteam.com/doOyfei>

Wairoa Flood Mitigation Project

The pre-Christmas announcement that the Wairoa Flood Mitigation project secured formal support to proceed to construction was fantastic news.

This really is the breakthrough we have been waiting for. I would again like to acknowledge those whānau who have worked with us to make land available. Your contribution will protect hundreds of families and businesses and secure Wairoa's future.

Once constructed, Option 1C+ will enable around 600 properties currently classified as Category 2C to be moved to Category 1, protected from a 1-in-100-year flood event. This will provide the certainty needed for whānau, businesses, and the wider community to rebuild their lives with confidence.

Working collaboratively

It was great to kickstart the new year with a visit from Hawke's Bay Regional Council Chair Sophie Siers, Deputy Chair Jerf van Beek, and elected members.

We are all very mindful of the changing environment we live in, particularly regarding the Central Government's resource management reform and its impact on regional councils.

It was encouraging to hear Hawke's Bay Regional Council Chair Sophie Siers tell us they are not letting the government proposals get in the way of knuckling down and doing the necessary work, focusing on flood protection, water security, and integrated land management.

Our Council took the opportunity to show Sophie and Jerf around the district, highlighting some of our problem areas. This included a visit

to the Wairoa river mouth, where we stressed the importance of bar management with local input and ultimately funding for a groyne to keep the bar open and in an optimal position.

It was also an excellent opportunity to visit sites of riverbank erosion, tree debris and slash to ensure the regional council representatives had a genuine understanding of some of the challenges our district endures.



Thanks to everyone who called into the Council tent at the Wairoa A and P Show.



Wairoa District Council and Hawke's Bay Regional Council are aligned on the need for a groyne at the Wairoa River mouth to keep the bar open and in an optimal position.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Ordinary Meeting of Council

Tuesday, February 3, 1pm

Environment & Economic Development Committee

Tuesday, February 10, 1pm

Assurance, Risk & Infrastructure Committee

Tuesday, February 17, 1pm

Māori Standing Committee

Tuesday, February 24, 1pm

DOG CONTROL REPORT

As per section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996, The Dog Control Policy and Practices Report for the period of 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025, was adopted by Council at an ordinary Council meeting on 16 September 2025. The report is publicly available on the Council website or a copy can be provided on request.

The GAIETY Cinema & Theatre

Grand Prix of Europe

G | 1hr 38m

Sunday 25th January 2pm

Song Sung Blue

M | 2hr 13m

Saturday 24th January 5.30pm

Anaconda

M | 1hr 40m

Friday 23rd January 5.30pm

Avatar: Fire and Ash

M | 3hr 12m

Saturday 24th January 2pm

Send Help PREMIERE

TBC | 1hr 53m

Thursday 29th January 5.30pm

Now Showing January 22 - January 29

The Spongebob Movie: Search for Squarepants

G | 1hr 36m

Sunday 25th January 11.30am

Mercy PREMIERE

M | 1hr 40m

Thursday 22nd January 5.30pm

Friday 23rd January 8pm

Wednesday 28th January 5.30pm

Coming Soon

Crime 101

GOAT

Epic: Elvis Presley in Concert

Scream 7

Tenor: My Name is Pati