

Feedback wanted on Annual Plan

Whanganui District Council is seeking submissions and feedback on its 2020/21 Annual Plan. The Annual Plan proposes several changes to the Long Term Plan 2018-2028

Mayor Hamish McDouall says an annual plan allows councils to make necessary adjustments to their long-term plan: "This year we are faced with a level of uncertainty around the global and local impact of COVID-19. We are also conscious that the Council is a key part of any economic recovery and we want to respond to the needs of our community.

"We know that by continuing with our work programme, including a number of significant projects, the Council will continue to provide jobs and economic stimulus in the district," Mayor McDouall says.

In response to the potential impact from COVID-19 on Whanganui households and businesses, the Council is proposing the following measures:

- Reducing the proposed rates increase the pre-COVID-19 projected average rates increase was 3.9%, which has now been reduced to 2.3%.
- **Reducing rates penalties** the Council proposes to reduce the penalty on late rates payments from 10% to 5% to reduce the burden on those unable to pay on time.
- Reviewing rates remission and postponement policies
 these changes will be consulted on at a later date.



Additional funding for climate change, housing and digital connectivity has also been included in the proposed changes.

For a submission form and to view the consultation document and supporting information, please visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/annualplan Submissions can also be emailed to: annualplan2020@whanganui.govt.nz You can also print out a submission form and post to: Proposed 2020/21 Annual Plan Whanganui District Council 101 Guyton Street, Whanganui 4500

Submissions close at **4.00pm on Friday, 15 May 2020**.

Community Awards

Nominations extended to 8 May

The deadline for the Whanganui Community Awards has been extended to **Friday, 8 May 2020**. The awards are an opportunity to recognise the contribution volunteers make to our community. To submit a nomination, visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/Community-Culture/Whanganui-Community-Awards

Avoid backyard fires

Whanganui Fire and Emergency asks the public to refrain from lighting greenwaste and rubbish fires during the COVID-19 lockdown. Fire and Emergency is required to investigate every report of smoke and attending nuisance backyard fires puts fire crews at unneccessary risk during the time when they need to limit contact with the public because of social distancing rules.

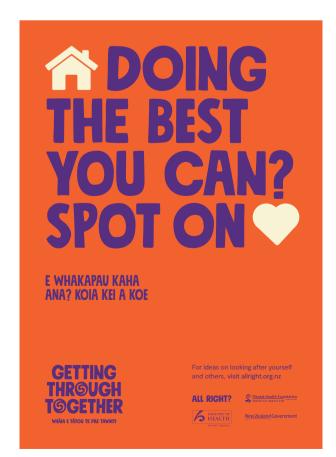
Consultation extended

Whanganui District Council has extended the closing date for submissions on proposed changes to the Keeping of Animals, Poultry and Bees bylaw.
All consultation information is available at: www.whanganui.govt.nz/have-your-say Submissions now close at **4.00pm on Friday, 8 May 2020**.



HEALTH MATTERS

Mā tātau katoa e ārai atu te



PARENTS - IT'S OK!

Parents: There is a reason we are a working parent, a stay-at-home parent or a part time working parent. Working, parenting and teaching are three different jobs that cannot be done at the same time. It's not hard because you are doing it wrong. It's hard because it's too much. **Do the best you can.**

When you have to pick, because at some point you will, choose connection. Pick playing a game over arguing about school work. Pick teaching your child to do the laundry rather than feeling frustrated they aren't helping. Pick laughing and snuggling (in your bubble) and reminding them that they are safe.

If you're stressed, lower your expectations where you can and reach out to whānau and friends for support. We are in this together to stay well. That means mentally well, too. Emily W.Kinq, PHD.

A lighthearted look at home schooling (not evidenced based, source unknown). More info: www.healthnavigator.org.nz

9am Home Economics

Learn how to make me a decent coffee

10am Engineering

Operating the vacuum cleaner and washing machine

11am Physical Education

Carrying rubbish/recycling out to bins

1pm Chemistry

How to bleach and disinfect the bathroom

2pm Geography

Lesson in where the items you have strewn across the floor ACTUALLY live

pm Orienteering

How to find the washing basket

4pm Horticulture

Chopping vegetables for dinner



Keeping Whānau Safe 0800 Hey Bro (439 276)

This number is set up for men who feel they're going to harm a loved one or whānau member.

We're here to support 24/7 to listen and to help. So give us a call next time you're on the edge!