

H t Wire

WHANGANUI
RURAL
COMMUNITY
BOARD

Newsletter of the **Whanganui Rural Community Board** – January 2022

Digital survey is key to improving rural internet access

Whanganui District Council – with the help of the Whanganui Rural Community Board – is holding a survey on internet access and the level of digital confidence in the Whanganui District.

The survey is intended to help the council assess what's happening digitally in our district, and what support is needed to ensure everyone has the same chance to participate online.

David Wells, the board's rural digital advocate and deputy chair, says the survey results will help advocate for better digital coverage throughout rural Whanganui. "I encourage everyone, particularly our district's rural communities, to fill out this survey and share it widely. We need to do our research and be proactive if we want to see any assistance for further improvements."

If you live in a rural area and have any questions or comments about the survey, or you'd like to raise awareness and/or help distribute the survey within your rural community, please contact David Wells (*see side panel*) for more information.

Board chair Peter Oskam says, "The ability to use digital services and technologies is of real importance to our rural communities. However, various factors such as our district's terrain make reliable internet access and mobile phone coverage difficult for a lot of people. We need to seize this opportunity to assist ourselves, so I ask as many of our rural constituents as possible to please take part in this survey."



The survey is not just for regular internet users. If you'd like to take part but don't have internet access, paper survey forms are available from Whanganui District Council at 101 Guyton Street. You can also participate over the phone – please call the council on 06 349 0001 and request the digital survey.

Survey prize draw!

Survey participants have the option of going into a draw to win a digital tablet or a \$25.00 Prezzy Card. Prizes have been generously donated by Tuatahi First Fibre.

To participate in the digital survey, please scan the QR code above or visit: www.surveymonkey.com/r/whanganuidigital
All other information: www.whanganui.govt.nz/digital-survey
The survey on internet access and digital confidence in Whanganui closes at **5.00pm on Tuesday, 22 February 2022.**

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

The Whanganui Rural Community Board is elected by the district's rural community to represent and advocate for local rural issues.



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