



# Community Link

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## Fund of information at Funding Expo!

A free event focused on funding is coming to the Whanganui War Memorial Centre on **Thursday, 27 April 2023**.

The Whanganui Funding Expo is open to anyone in the community wanting to connect with funders, learn more about funding opportunities or seek advice on applications.

Whanganui District Council’s creative community advisor, Anique Jayasinghe, says, “This forum will be an opportunity for funding seekers to speak face-to-face with funders and cultivate connections.”

A panel of experts will take a deep-dive into funding, as well as taking some audience questions. Sitting on the panel are Maggie Regan, community advisor from the Department of Internal Affairs, Stephen Brandon, foundation manager of Whanganui Community Foundation, Jenni Giblin, director of Funding HQ, and Rach Hoskin, strategic lead of capability at Whanganui & Partners.

“We hope to lift the lid a little on the funding world,” Rach Hoskin says. “Attendees can leave empowered to submit applications independently. So come along with your questions ready!”



Whanganui District Council is partnering with Whanganui & Partners, the Department of Internal Affairs and the Whanganui Community Foundation to organise the inaugural expo. Guests are encouraged to register first for the event, and can submit questions to the panel prior to the forum at: [shorturl.at/jkoET](https://shorturl.at/jkoET)

Funders who would like to be involved can contact: [communitywellbeing@whanganui.govt.nz](mailto:communitywellbeing@whanganui.govt.nz)

For more information, visit: [www.whanganui.govt.nz/news](https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/news)

## Annual Plan 2023/24 community consultation now open

Community consultation for Whanganui District Council’s Annual Plan 2023/24 is open **until 11.59pm on Sunday, 30 April 2023**.

Council staff and elected representatives have held a series of workshops to bring the proposed average rates rise for 2023/24 down to 8.2 percent. For an average household this is an increase of about \$5.00 a week. It’s important to note 8.2 percent is an average only – you can find your property’s rating information at:

[www.whanganui.govt.nz/rating-information-database](https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/rating-information-database)

### The future of the Virginia Lake aviary

A zoologist’s report has identified the Rotokawau Virginia Lake aviary (pictured) does not meet best-practice standards of care for the birds. The big question in this annual plan is whether the council makes some level of investment to upgrade the aviary, or closes it and rehomes the birds.



### Find out more and have your say

- **Online** – [www.whanganui.govt.nz/annual-plan-2023](https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/annual-plan-2023)
- **Hard copies** – pick up from council customer services at 101 Guyton Street or the Davis or Gonville libraries
- **Email** – [policy submissions@whanganui.govt.nz](mailto:policy submissions@whanganui.govt.nz)
- **Call** – 06 349 0001 (request annual plan submissions).

## Call for feedback on Cemeteries-Crematoria Bylaw review

Whanganui District Council is comprehensively reviewing its Cemeteries and Crematoria Bylaw, and associated policies and guidelines that set out the rules for and the approach to cemeteries, burials, cremations and monuments within the district.

Cemeteries are important spaces for the community. They’re places people go to find peace and quiet, to mourn and remember friends and family members. This bylaw and associated rules ensure that human remains are laid to rest appropriately, and that land and structures in cemeteries are protected.

The review touched on a number of key issues including the scattering of ashes into water, grave maintenance, and alcohol in cemeteries. In a unique proposal, it has been suggested that a purpose-built water feature be installed at Aramoho Cemetery. This would provide a space for the scattering of ashes into water, as well as adding to the atmosphere of the cemetery.

For more information and to make a submission, please visit: [www.whanganui.govt.nz/have-your-say](https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/have-your-say)  
Submissions close at 5.00pm on Sunday, 16 April 2023.



### WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

Whanganui District Council invites you to have your say on these topics:

- Annual Plan 2023/24 consultation
- Proposed Fees and Charges 2023/24
- Cemeteries and Crematoria Bylaw review

More details at: [www.whanganui.govt.nz/have-your-say](https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/have-your-say)

## Mayoral Relief Fund

### Cyclone donations total over \$80k

Donations to the Whanganui Mayoral Relief Fund to help with recovery efforts in the aftermath of Cyclone Gabrielle have reached in excess of \$80,000 to date.

Whanganui District Council sent an initial amount of \$50,000 last week to the Hastings Mayoral Relief Fund, the district that Whanganui has been paired with through the Adopt-a-Community campaign. The remaining balance will be transferred once local fundraising efforts have finished.

If you’d still like to help, please donate via internet banking to account: **01-0790-0157888-00** – reference **CG23** or visit: [cg23.whanganui.govt.nz](https://cg23.whanganui.govt.nz)

## Rating valuations

### Lodge your objection by 14 April

Quotable Valuation (QV) sent rating valuation letters to Whanganui property owners in March and this is the last week to lodge an objection. If you didn’t get a letter, you can look up your property’s new rating valuation at: [www.whanganui.govt.nz/Property/Rates/Property-Rating-Search](https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/Property/Rates/Property-Rating-Search)

QV’s deadline for objections is **5.00pm on Friday, 14 April 2023**. Call QV on 0800 787 284, or email: [ratingsupport@qv.co.nz](mailto:ratingsupport@qv.co.nz) or lodge an objection online at: [www.qv.co.nz/services/rating-valuations/object-rating](https://www.qv.co.nz/services/rating-valuations/object-rating)

For more information on how rating values are calculated, please visit: [www.qv.co.nz/about/about-rating-valuations](https://www.qv.co.nz/about/about-rating-valuations)

## Appy Seniors sessions

### Learn more about using mobile apps

Seniors! Learn how to use your smartphone or tablet. Whanganui District Library is running Appy Seniors, a series of one-hour sessions on popular mobile apps.

There are still a few places in our introductory sessions – book now for your preferred session:

- **Wednesday, 12 April from 2.00pm to 3.00pm**
- **Friday, 14 April from 11.00am to 12 noon.**

In the following weeks, we’ll cover Libby, PressReader, Google Maps, video calling, WhatsApp, Stuff, SuperGold card, AirBnB, TradeMe, online banking and grocery shopping.

Please email: [rachel@whanganuilibrary.com](mailto:rachel@whanganuilibrary.com) to book your place, or call or text 027 211 4261.

## WRET funding open

### Applications close on Sunday, 30 April

Applications are open for a special funding round from the Whanganui River Enhancement Trust (WRET).

Priority consideration will be given to applications for innovative environmental projects that help contribute to the health and wellbeing of the Whanganui River catchment. Specific criteria apply.

Pick up an application form from Whanganui District Council at 101 Guyton Street, or you can download a printable form at: [www.whanganui.govt.nz/public-notices](https://www.whanganui.govt.nz/public-notices)

Applications close at **11.59pm on Sunday, 30 April 2023**.

