

## Three Waters – Where things stand

Nelson City Council will consider a report on the Three Waters reforms and what they could mean for Nelson at a Council meeting on Thursday 23 September.

The report analyses the Government proposal, made in July 2021, including reductions in projected costs, and the impact of transferring Nelson's Three Waters infrastructure, and related debt, into one of four new water entities.

Every council has been asked to provide feedback on the proposal and the report includes a draft letter from Council providing feedback to the Government on gaps in information and areas that need addressing.

At this stage, Council is not being asked to make a decision about whether Nelson should opt-in or out of the reform.

Attached to the report is a review of the modelling provided by Government regarding water charges in Nelson from independent advisors Morrison Low.

The review found that Nelson ratepayers are likely to have lower household charges under the proposed Three Waters model than through continued Council service delivery.

Mayor Rachel Reese says Council's independent review of central government's modelling shows a significant saving for Nelsonians.

"If we continue to stand alone, by 2051 our cost per household for water services is projected to be \$2330 per year. Under the proposal, the cost per household is projected to be \$1260. While other Councils are projected to receive greater savings this is still an economically beneficial position for Nelson water users.

"This is a difference of more than \$1000 per household, which means we really do have to give careful consideration to the proposal."

Nelsonians had the opportunity to speak with Mayor Reese, Chief Executive Pat Dougherty, and Local Government New Zealand Deputy Chief Executive – Advocacy Jason Krupp about the Three Waters reforms in two zoom webinars held last week. More than 150 people joined live to take part in these sessions.

Chief Executive Dougherty says New Zealand is changing, and standards for wastewater, stormwater, and drinking water are rising.

"The modelling Government has used to set out the terms of this reform is not based on business as usual. As our standards for water, wastewater and stormwater rise and the effects of climate change put more pressure on our water systems, the cost to maintain and improve infrastructure is going to increase considerably.

"On this basis, the report considers that the case for national change has been made."

### Are our water infrastructure assets being sold?

"We are not selling them, we are transferring them," says Chief Executive Dougherty.

"We would transfer \$716m of assets and \$81m debt associated with those assets. Selling the assets was raised very early in the process, but if the new entities had to buy and own these assets, the amount of debt they would need to take on would leave them unable to make the improvements they are being set up to do without forcing up the price of water.

"Under the proposed reform, the assets would transfer to the new entity, and the councils involved are named as owners. If we sold these assets, then Nelsonians would end up repaying debts they had already paid off once."

Nelson would also benefit from a \$20m 'better off' payment to support the Three Waters service reform and focus on other local wellbeing outcomes associated with climate change and resilience, housing and urban design and planning, and community wellbeing.

### What are the issues?

Mayor Reese says there are several key issues that Council wants the Government to address, to make sure the reforms work for local communities.

"We need to hear how the new entities will plan and deliver resilient water services, as well as making efficiency gains. Ensuring our stormwater network can cope with increased rainfall is just as important as reducing the cost to deliver services.

"Councils need to be much 'closer to the engine room'; the representation and governance proposal needs to be simpler.

"We need to know more about how the new entities will work alongside councils so that our community's voice is heard. How do councils advocate for local issues and local priorities?

"And we need to ensure that protections against privatisation are guaranteed."

### So what happens now?

Councils have been asked to provide feedback to the Government on the reform, the impact at a local level, and the Government's financial support package. Thursday's meeting is not about opting in or opting out but about agreeing on feedback.

The Government will review this information, consider the next steps and then come back with a timetable for decision making.

### Background information for Nelson:

- Nelson's funding allocation from the "better off" package is \$20.7 million. This funding would be allocated to local wellbeing outcomes associated with climate change and resilience, housing and urban design and planning, and community wellbeing.
- Nelson City Council has been placed in Water Services Entity C, although the precise boundaries are still up for discussion. The proposed boundary between Entity C and Entity D is a cause for concern for both Marlborough and Tasman District Councils as it could mean their districts are split between the two entities. Both Marlborough and Tasman have expressed a preference that their districts are not split by these reforms. Nelson City Council supports this view.
- The Three Waters activities are more highly indebted relative to revenue than the rest of Council, with a forecast debt to revenue ratio of 222%.
- At the proposed transfer date, Council's overall debt to revenue ratio will have increased from the current level of 70% to 132%, still well under the cap of 175%. If the transfer to Three Waters goes ahead in June 2024, the debt to revenue ratio would reduce to 101%.



# International repair day celebrated



Nelson City Council is hosting a pop-up repair cafe in honour of International Repair Day this October.

Repair Cafes are a growing movement worldwide and volunteer the skills and advice of experts in helping give new life to broken or damaged items that would otherwise be thrown away.

In Nelson, the repair cafe concept was first picked up by St Stephens Church's Silver Service Repair Cafe, which runs every Tuesday morning at Habitat for Humanity on Tahunanui Drive. The Nelson Tasman Climate Forum has also started holding regular repair cafe events.

Every item that is repaired is an item that may have otherwise been thrown out and gone to landfill, making repair cafes a great way to reduce waste and save money.

In celebration of International Repair Day, 16 October, Nelson City Council, with the Nelson Tasman Climate Forum, and with the support of other organisations involved in repair cafe activities, will be holding a Fix-it Saturday pop-up repair cafe. This day also marks the launch of Repair Cafe Aotearoa New Zealand (RCANZ) – you can find out more information here: [facebook.com/RepairCafeNZ](https://facebook.com/RepairCafeNZ)

The event is open to Nelson residents who have items to be fixed, free of charge, and will be held at Pūtangitangi Greenmeadows from 10am-1pm. The event will be taking place subject to Covid 19 alert levels, with relevant health & safety requirements strictly observed.

Options for items that can be repaired include clothing, small electrical appliances, toys, general household items and small pieces of furniture. One item is allowed per person, and only minor repairs will be carried out at the discretion of the repairers.

Fix-it Saturday – 16 October, (International Repair Day) 10am-1pm, Pūtangitangi Greenmeadows

[nelson.govt.nz/services/rethink-waste/rethink-waste-workshops-and-events/repair-cafes](https://nelson.govt.nz/services/rethink-waste/rethink-waste-workshops-and-events/repair-cafes)

## Raising Residents: a local architect's thoughts on Nelson's future

If you ask Pierre Hammond, architect at Arthouse Architects and key contributor to Te Ara ō Whakatū, which city's urban design inspires him the most, the answer is London..

"But not the 'Square Mile'.

"It's the eastern fringe neighbourhoods that have undergone rapid regeneration that I find really inspiring—Shoreditch, Hackney, Stoke Newington.

"These areas are becoming more popular with younger residents who choose to stay local rather than go further afield for their shopping and socialising needs."



With relatively fewer cars and more pedestrians and cyclists, these London neighbourhoods have been reinventing themselves as places for people, first and foremost.



"It's been a really inspiring movement to observe over the past decade. The streets of these neighbourhoods have been changing to allow people to interact, meet and socialise on the street and laneway level, rather than behind car parks and glass facades."



Much like these revitalised neighbourhoods in London, Nelson is planning its own unique transformation into a place where people take priority.

Nelson City Council is seeking feedback on Te Ara ō Whakatū—Nelson Pathways, a draft spatial plan and vision for the future of Nelson's city centre.

The plan includes eight transformative actions to guide Nelson's development over the course of the next 30 years.

For Pierre, 'Raising Residents', or increasing the number of people living in the city centre, is a crucial transformative action needed to unlock many other aspects of the city's potential.

"Once we start hitting our target in the plan to provide a range of residential living options in the city, the other actions will seem obvious.

"More housing options in the city means our streets will be busier with people. Busier streets will activate more nightlife; shops will not only fill up but also stay open later; hospitality options will thrive and grow alongside new ones shifting into the city.

"From there, developing linked up laneways, greener streets and places for people to stay and play will become an integral part of drawing more people to city centre living."

One aspect of the plan that would make the city more attractive to residents, visitors and businesses alike is the redevelopment of Bridge Street into a linear park.

A linear park is a former transport thoroughfare reimagined as a 'green corridor' to promote recreation, connectivity and biodiversity.

Parks and open spaces—well known for improving our physical and mental health—will not only be important to provide easily accessible green spaces for city centre residents, but also make our city a more desirable place to work and visit.

Pierre says the proposal to turn Bridge Street into a linear park really gets his imagination going.

"As a cyclist and city centre worker, I find the prospect of moving in and out of this green corridor very exciting.

"We often cycle into the market with our two little kids. To have that green link to the cycle routes, where vehicles move slower and we don't have to worry about the kids being hit by cars, would be absolutely priceless."

Submissions are currently open for people to have their say on Nelson City Council's vision for the future of Nelson.

For information on how to make a submission, please visit Shape Nelson and search 'Te Ara'.

Feedback is open until Friday 24 September.

If you have questions about the plan or want to learn more about a project, you can contact us by calling 03 546 0200 or emailing [submissions@ncc.govt.nz](mailto:submissions@ncc.govt.nz).



# Mayor's Message

We've been fortunate in our region to have been able to enjoy a couple of weeks of relative freedom with the move to COVID-19 Alert Level 2. But a number of our local businesses are still doing it tough, with some sectors hurting more than others, particularly hospitality, retail, tourism, and accommodation.

I'm delighted to support a new campaign in our region called We've got You. This community-led campaign, launched by the Nelson Regional Development Agency, aims to give these businesses a much-needed boost by stimulating local spending.

[wevegotyou.nz](http://wevegotyou.nz)

We are a region full of small businesses, run by locals, so our support can make a world of difference, both financially and mentally, so I urge you to help. Perhaps you can get ahead and do your Christmas shopping early or treat yourself to a weekend away on your doorstep.

As you spend time in our city, I hope you have a little time to get creative and think about the city of the future. For inspiration take a look at Te Ara ō Whakatū - the pathways of Nelson, our draft City Centre Spatial Plan on Shape Nelson. What do you think about these ideas? Have you got other suggestions? Please let us know.

[shape.nelson.govt.nz/city-centre-spatial-plan](http://shape.nelson.govt.nz/city-centre-spatial-plan)

Last week, along with Chief Executive Pat Dougherty, and Jason Krupp from Local Government New Zealand, I took part in two webinars for Nelsonians about the Government's Three Waters Reform programme. These provided a good opportunity to share Nelson-specific information about the proposal and for members of the public to ask

questions. These webinars were recorded and are available on the Shape Nelson website

[shape.nelson.govt.nz/three-waters-reform](http://shape.nelson.govt.nz/three-waters-reform)

Prior to the Government undertaking further work on the proposed reforms, every council in New Zealand has been asked to give its initial feedback. The Three Waters Reforms require very careful consideration and at this week's Council meeting we will be giving our feedback to the Government on aspects of the proposal that we think can be improved.

And finally, a huge congratulations are due to two organisations at the heart of our community. The first goes to Coastguard Nelson for receiving the internationally recognised Outstanding Team Contribution to Maritime SAR Operations. This was for their part in the rescue of six people on a yacht drifting in heavy seas in the Cook Strait last March. The Nelson Police SAR squad, Tasman District Harbourmaster and Rescue Coordination Centre NZ were also recognised for their role in the 14 hour plus operation. The second congratulations goes to Nelson College 1st XV after their win against Christ's College at Trafalgar Park. Now the team heads to Forsyth Barr Stadium to compete for the South Island title against Otago Boys' High School. Kia kaha!



## Plastic recycling update

It has been more than a year since Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council switched to accepting only plastics 1, 2 and 5 through our kerbside recycling collection. We wanted to update our community on how those changes are going.

We are pleased to report that plastics 1, 2, and 5 collected in our region are processed and repurposed right here in New Zealand. Nelson and Tasman collect around three kilograms of plastic waste per person every year. This is sorted at the materials recovery facility in Richmond – one of the busiest of its kind in the country.

Nelson and Tasman contamination rates (e.g. food being left in containers, or the wrong items being put in the recycling bins) are about half the amount of some other regions. While there is still room for improvement, we want to extend a big thank you to the residents who are conscientious with their recycling efforts!

In July 2020 we changed to accepting only plastics numbered 1, 2 and 5 because these are being re-processed into products within New Zealand. The change from harder to recycle plastics to recyclable plastics has meant that we have improved the quality of the sorted materials. High-quality materials make high-value products, so the materials will also be wanted by overseas manufacturers, should the domestic market reach saturation at some point.

"Nelson residents have done a great job adapting to the new rules over the past year, often in challenging circumstances due to COVID-19," says Infrastructure Committee Chair Councillor Brian McGurk. "It's particularly reassuring to see the quality of the sorted materials has improved – it means that if New Zealand manufacturers who process recycled plastics run out of capacity, and in the future plastics have to be exported to overseas manufacturers, we know that the high quality of the commodity means it will be properly recycled into a new product."

So what's next? We all know that the best way to reduce plastic waste is to avoid using it, and it is great to see that the Government is planning to phase out hard-to-recycle plastics numbered 3, 4, 6 and 7, in addition to phasing out more single-use plastic items.

Meanwhile, making sure that we continue to put the correct items into our kerbside recycling collection bins will ensure that more resources are recovered and reused. "People sometimes think recycling is complicated, but if you get the basics right, you're doing just fine," says Councillor McGurk. "Check your container is marked 1, 2 or 5, remove the lid, give it a quick rinse and it's ready to go in your yellow bin. Think of it like a mantra; check, remove, rinse, and you're done."

We will be sharing tips and videos on how easy it is to recycle over the coming months on our social media channels.





# Te Ara ō Whakatū - answering your most common questions

Nelson City Council would like to thank everyone who has submitted so far on Te Ara ō Whakatū – the Draft City Centre Spatial Plan. Your feedback is important and will help guide the development of the finalised plan for Nelson’s city centre.

Some of the submissions we have received include questions about the plan, so we have rounded up a few of the most common questions we have seen and answered them below.

**Q: I support the vision but have concerns about the paving, seating, water feature, and/or other details I see. Do the concepts depicted in the images and video represent actual final designs?**

The images shown with the plan are simply meant to convey what is possible for the city. While made to scale, they are not in any way exact or final designs. Any future designs will need to go through the usual Council processes for development.

Think of these concept images as the first stage in a home renovation.

Before undertaking the renovation, you would collect information, determine a budget and understand what might be possible for your home.

Perhaps you would find inspiration from other homes you have seen in magazines or in person and use that inspiration to visually plan your new home.

You would then work with a draughtsman, architect or builder to draw up professional concepts showing the possibilities for your home.

All of this would typically be undertaken before you make any final detailed design plans or pick up a brush or hammer.

This is where we are with Te Ara ō Whakatū — we are asking you to imagine with us what is possible for the city and share what inspires you.

**Q: Why do we have to wait 30 years - can't we make changes sooner?**

Te Ara ō Whakatū sets out a long-term vision for Nelson. However, this doesn't mean we have to wait 30 years before getting started.

If the plan is approved by Council after receiving your feedback, work could begin as early as next year and continue over the next few years as funding becomes available.

Setting the vision for this longer timeframe allows us all to think of the future and be inspired about the kind of city we want to live in, and leave behind for the next generation.

**Q: I'm concerned about social housing in the city centre. How will Te Ara ō Whakatū give me confidence we can create a great city centre outcome that includes social housing?**

With consultation also open on the proposed sale of Council-owned land to Kāinga Ora for housing development, we've noticed some concerns about social housing in the city centre.

Final designs will be created further down the track, but Council's agreement with Kāinga Ora would ensure high-quality, mixed-use developments that cater to the needs of a wide variety of people.

Similar fears arose for a low-cost housing project in The Brook, which is now part of a harmonious and thriving community.

The people who may live here could be your friends and neighbours. They might work at your children's school, the hospital, or your favourite café. They might be a former refugee family, resettling to make a new start. They might be a young professional couple at the beginning of their careers. They might be someone who has fallen on hard times, or someone downsizing to a flat that is easier to maintain.

These proposed developments would also reserve space for commercial and community use at the ground level, further adding to the businesses and attractions our city centre has to offer, while ensuring the people who might live there are connected and integrated with the wider community.

If you'd like to submit on what we are proposing for the future development of our city, please visit [shape.nelson.govt.nz](https://shape.nelson.govt.nz) and search 'Te Ara'. Submissions close Friday 24 September.

To give feedback on the Kāinga Ora proposal visit [shape.nelson.govt.nz](https://shape.nelson.govt.nz) and search 'Kāinga'.

If you have questions about the plan or want to learn more about a project, you can contact us by calling 03 546 0200 and asking to speak to the City Centre Development Team or emailing [submissions@ncc.govt.nz](mailto:submissions@ncc.govt.nz).



# Affordable and Social housing in Nelson – who needs it

Council is currently accepting public feedback on our proposal to sell Council-owned land to Kāinga Ora so it can be developed into around 175 affordable and social homes within our city centre. Less than 50% will be social housing, the greater portion will be a mix of affordable rental and affordable sales.

One of the questions we have been asked is 'who will the housing be for?', and how will it be successfully managed. We asked organisations and housing providers based in Nelson for their thoughts:

## Who needs affordable housing?

### Nick Clarke, General Manager, Habitat for Humanity:

The reality is it is people just like you and me. Everyone needs a decent place to live, and so the need for affordable housing affects all cross-sections of society—from young families just starting out to established families, elderly people, and single people. People who, once they know they have safe, decent homes where they can stay long-term, begin to engage with each other and with their community. The result is a community that is safer and healthier for everyone, where people feel a sense of belonging and shared responsibility.

## Who needs social housing?

### Nelson Tasman Housing Trust:

People on low incomes, in part-time or seasonal work, with an increasing number who are pensioners and/or not able to work, especially older singles.

### Oranga Tamariki:

Oranga Tamariki work with a disproportionate number of people who struggle to find suitable accommodation. This includes those who struggle to find work due to being single parents/caregivers with no support network. This also includes whānau who have offered to care for their mokopuna but need larger properties to do this or rangatahi transitioning out of the care of Oranga Tamariki who are unable to find accommodation due to their age, lack of references and cost.

## How will high quality, secure accommodation change the life of people on waiting lists, or living in insecure accommodation?

### Oranga Tamariki:

The proposal for more Kāinga Ora properties in Nelson City Centre is extremely welcome to Oranga Tamariki as one of our roles is to advocate for the whānau we come into contact with. An increase in social housing will mean more parents and caregivers will feel settled and have the opportunity to develop a sense of belonging to a community. This will have a positive impact on the tamariki they are caring for by providing safety, more whānau resilience and the stability to be able to access the services and supports they need, resulting in better outcomes for the most vulnerable members of our community.

### Nelson Tasman Housing Trust:

People typically comment, "I feel safe here", "my family can breathe again", "I can get work now".

We see marked improvements in people's health when they live in warm, dry, healthy homes instead of barely coping in a car/old caravan/garage/over-crowded house. They report an increased feeling of stability and much reduced anxiety (no more fear of having to move if boarding or a landlord sells up). They also say they feel happier and more settled having a safe place to call home. Health services can more easily reach them. Parents can ensure children attend school regularly, and stop stressing about finding a place to live that they can afford. A stable home makes it much easier for someone to land and keep a job.

## What's a great example of social and affordable housing work well together?

### Nelson Tasman Housing Trust:

All seven Nelson Tasman Housing Trust developments successfully combine social/public housing and affordable rentals in small clusters of 3-12 homes in the Brook, Victory, Nelson South, Stoke, Richmond.

In practice, this means each housing cluster includes a mix of people in different circumstances; some working, others on benefits or NZ Super; a range of ages (young families up to pensioners); and diverse ethnicities (NZ European, Maori, Pacific, new migrants/former refugees).

### Abbeyfield NZ:

Our Abbeyfield house in Hornby, Christchurch, is located in a small cul-de-sac with a mixture of other houses, including housing managed by housing providers. The Abbeyfield residents – who are all over 65 – like the location, because it is handy to the local library and community centre, shops, medical facilities and buses.

This means they can maintain their independence, which is very important to them. The location also encourages a sense of community and belonging, which fits well with the Abbeyfield philosophy and the way we do things. Abbeyfield's mission is to provide affordable, shared housing that enables residents to enjoy the companionship of others.

To provide feedback on the Kāinga Ora proposal visit [shape.nelson.govt.nz](https://shape.nelson.govt.nz) and search 'kāinga ora'.

# Future Development Strategy – upcoming engagement on our plans

Work on the Nelson and Tasman 2021-2051 Future Development Strategy (FDS) is currently underway.

The FDS sets out where and how residential and business growth within Nelson and Tasman regions will occur. It will replace the current FDS which was adopted in July 2019.

## The preparation of the updated FDS will include the following stages:

- **Stage 1:** Project Initiation (July-August 2021)
- **Stage 2:** Baseline information analysis and review (July-October 2021)
- **Stage 3:** Initial Stakeholder and Community Engagement (online) (September-October 2021)
- **Stage 4:** Drafting the FDS (October 2021- February 2022)
- **Stage 5:** Public consultation; Special Consultative Procedure (face to face meetings) (March-May 2022)
- **Stage 6:** Update and finalise the FDS (May-July 2022)

The first round of community engagement will start on October 4 and run until October 26. Information about the new FDS will be available at Shape Nelson, and staff will run several information sessions for the public on Zoom.

During the Zoom sessions, staff will provide an overview of the project and seek feedback on some key questions. This round of engagement will provide an opportunity for people living in Nelson and Tasman to suggest sites for future housing and business development for consideration in the preparation of the FDS.

More details on these sessions will be available in the coming weeks on the Nelson City Council website: [nelson.govt.nz/building-and-property/city-development/future-development-strategy](https://nelson.govt.nz/building-and-property/city-development/future-development-strategy)



# Councillor's Comment

## By Rohan O'Neill-Stevens

The decisions we make now will shape our city for the decades to come, so it's crucial to have your say on where we're heading, writes Nelson City Councillor Rohan O'Neill-Stevens.

I've always loved cities, both big and small. At their best, they represent the inter-connected, collective aspirations and livelihoods of tens of thousands of people, each taking individual paths through their days but contributing to the vibrancy and activity of a community that can be enjoyed by all. Cities are dynamic and constantly redefining themselves, as the needs and desires of their residents shift and change.

At their worst, cities become places that lock us in to ways of life, that reduce our freedom and safety, while causing harm to the natural environment and residents in turn. Whakatū Nelson certainly hasn't reached this fate, but it hasn't unlocked its full potential either – this is something that, together, we can change.

At the end of last month, Nelson City Council released two incredibly important projects for feedback. The first is Te Ara ō Whakatū, a 30-year vision for the future of our city. It lays out a path to a city with busier, greener streets, successful businesses, great places, and strong precincts. It looks to provide more places for people, more people living in our city centre, and stronger representation of mana whenua and our cultural and creative communities.

It's a bold plan that would see our city taking big steps over the coming years to better serve and

reflect the diversity of our people, providing a city centre that's safer and more fun for everyone in it, and strengthening our local businesses.

The other is the proposal to sell two packages of council land to Kāinga Ora, the government's housing agency, to develop a potential 175 social and affordable homes. This would be a leap forward in intensification and ease pressure on our rapidly inflating housing market.

There are fantastic ideas in both proposals, but to see them succeed is not just about making physical changes to our urban landscape, it's about building a community owned vision. As Jane Jacobs, the relentless urbanist and activist who championed placing communities at the heart of planning, put it "Cities have the capability of providing something for everybody, only because, and only when, they are created by everybody." We can't do this without your input – your ideas, aspirations and hopes for the Whakatū Nelson of 2050. We want to hear your dreams for the city your kids, grandkids and great-grand kids will find a future in.

The future of our city centre matters deeply to me, and I'm sure it matters to you, too, so make sure you have your say before 24 September.



Councillor Rohan O'Neill-Stevens

## \$3.7m project to restore the mauri of Nelson's Mahitahi catchment well underway

When COVID-19 hit, tourism worker Adam Haack was out of a job, until he found an opportunity to join a crew working to restore the mauri (life force) of the Mahitahi catchment, a project that received \$3.7 million from the Jobs for Nature programme.

"It's been perfect, conservation just fits with my values. I've learnt a whole bunch coming into this job, I'm ticking off new environmental management skills slowly but surely," says Adam.

Over the next five years, Project Mahitahi will generate employment for around 54 people, who will plant around 125,000 plants, restore 1.3 hectares of wetlands and do comprehensive pest and plant control throughout the whole catchment. The programme is designed to help find further permanent positions for the people it employs, and that's exactly what's happened for Adam Haack, who has just started a new position with the Department of Conservation. As people leave the Project Mahitahi workforce, new opportunities open up for others to get involved in the programme, which has had significant interest since it began in October 2020.

The \$3.7 million boost, from Ministry for the Environment and Department of Conservation's Jobs for Nature funding, builds on work that landowners in the catchment and the wider community have been doing for many years. The New Zealand Forest Service – Te Uru Rākau has also contributed plants.

"We are making really good progress," says Jo Martin, Manager Science and Environment at Nelson City Council. "We have planted in excess of 15,000 native plants, hosted five community events, undertaken weed control over more than 10 hectares of land, and employed 32 people working across six different host employers.

"This is the first project that Nelson City Council has co-developed and delivered with the iwi of Te Taihū, under the guidance of the Kōtahitanga mō te Taiao strategy."

"Project Mahitahi has given Ngāti Koāta a platform to acknowledge tupuna Ben Peneamine Hippolite, who historically was denied access to this significant cultural harvesting area back in the 1950s," says Alice Woodward, Environmental Manager at Ngāti Koata Trust.

"The iwi have paid tribute to him and his active role in gaining back this significant site by naming the Peneamine restoration project after him. Partnerships like this allow us to employ whānau to take an active role in projects that have a lot of meaning to us and restore not only the sites, but also our own connection to the whenua."

The project is a collaboration between Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Rārua, Ngāti Koata Trust, Te Ātiawa Manawhenua Ki Te Tau Ihu Trust and Nelson City Council.

"The result of all this employment is that we are going to end up with an ecological restoration workforce," says Martin.

"Nelson City Council are hoping that through this new trained workforce in our region we will be able to make a huge difference in the regeneration of our natural ecosystems in the coming years."

The government's \$1.219 billion Jobs for Nature package aims to create significant environmental benefits and bring thousands of people into nature-based work to help accelerate the recovery from the impacts of COVID-19.

This year's Conservation Week Te Wiki Tiaki Ao Tūroa (4-12 September) encouraged New Zealanders to arohia te taiao (notice nature). Projects like this one ensure there will continue to be green spaces all around the country in which Kiwis can unwind and connect with nature.

For more information about Project Mahitahi go to: [nelson.govt.nz/project-mahitahi](https://nelson.govt.nz/project-mahitahi) and to watch the latest video go to:

[nelson.govt.nz/project-mahitahi-jobs-for-nature](https://nelson.govt.nz/project-mahitahi-jobs-for-nature)





# Nelson City Council seeks public feedback on next stages of Draft Nelson Plan

Nelson City Council is looking for public feedback on three topics of the Draft Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan (the Draft Nelson Plan) – river flood hazards, the Airport Zone and airport noise, and Port Nelson noise management options. Council is seeking the public's views on these issues until 19 October 2021.

The Draft Nelson Plan is designed to help guide the sustainable management of Nelson's natural and built environments. It provides a framework for managing how Nelson grows and responds to changing pressures, and for managing the use of our natural environment, including the effects of natural hazards such as river flooding.

This is the latest round of engagement on the Draft Nelson Plan and follows a comprehensive phase of engagement in late 2020 that covered a range of subject matter, including residential, commercial and environmental topics.

When Council last engaged with the public about river flood hazards in 2017, approximately 5000 properties were affected. Council has updated its river flood hazard models and maps, following national direction and guidance from the Ministry for the Environment. The models also reflect new data from the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA). Council is now seeking feedback on potential draft rules for managing risks for these areas and welcomes the views of both property owners affected, and the general public.

The updated maps show the majority of the properties identified in 2017 are still considered to be at risk of river or stream flooding, although there are some changes to the areas shown on the 2017 maps. Increased rainfall intensity, longer timeframes, increased sea-level rise predictions and changes to flood protection works mean that some properties are no longer affected, while others are newly affected.

"It's been four years since we last gave information to our community about the risk of flooding from rivers and we know it's important to keep looking at our how our communities may be affected by flooding," says Nelson Plan lead councillor, Brian McGurk.

"The updated flood maps take a long-term view, looking out over 100 years, to help make decisions that future-proof our communities. The new flood hazard mapping includes consideration of climate change impacts, such as sea level rise and increased rainfall intensity."

The new maps show general river flood hazard areas, and 'high risk' areas where the water depth and velocity are higher. Different approaches for risk management are proposed to be applied to the different hazard areas.

The new flood hazard rules are just one part of how Council manages flood risks. Council also has an annual programme of works for river protection and stormwater networks.

As part of the engagement on the Draft Nelson Plan, Council is also looking for public feedback on the draft provisions for the Airport Zone and associated Airport noise, and on options for managing Port noise. The Airport Zone covers all the airport land and is intended to enable the continued operations of the airport, while managing the potential issues regarding noise, and the wider environment.

The Port noise options recognise the regional significance of the Port and the ongoing need for the Port to operate, but acknowledges noise is an effect that must be managed. Four options have been developed for consideration and feedback. Stakeholders and property owners located around the Port are being asked for their feedback on the options.

Feedback is welcome until 19 October 2021.

You can provide feedback on the Shape Nelson website, by email to: [nelson.plan@ncc.govt.nz](mailto:nelson.plan@ncc.govt.nz) or by letter to Nelson City Council Customer Service Centre, PO Box 645, 110 Trafalgar Street, Nelson.

More information, including maps, draft rules, reports, FAQs and technical information can be viewed online at:

[shape.nelson.govt.nz/nelson-plan](https://shape.nelson.govt.nz/nelson-plan)

Physical copies of the maps, frequently asked questions, and technical information are also available to view at the Nelson Public Libraries and the Nelson City Council Customer Service Centre. If COVID-19 Alert Level 2 restrictions are still in place, visitors to Council's Customer Service Centre must observe physical distancing and register for contact tracing. There will be a maximum of six customers allowed in the centre at any one time. Masks will be mandatory, in line with central Government advice for Alert Level 2.

## Gambling Venues Policy review

On 9 September 2021, Council met to consider a review of the Gambling Venues Policy, which is required under the Gambling Act 2003 and the Racing Industry Act 2020.

Council is required by legislation to review the Gambling Venues Policy every three years to consider whether any change is needed and, if changes are proposed, Council is required to consult on proposed amendments.

The current Gambling Venues Policy, reviewed and amended through a special consultative process in 2018, includes a strictly imposed restriction that limits any new Class 4 gambling premises opening in Nelson city to operating no more than five gaming machines. Following the 2018 review and consultation on the Policy, the cap on the number of gambling machines in operation was also tightened, bringing it down from 273 to 162.

In addition to the five-machine limit, new venues are prohibited from opening in suburban Nelson or within 100 metres of an ATM, school, playground, or place of worship.

A majority of elected members decided that no change is needed to the current Policy and that it was not appropriate to carry out consultation or any further engagement on the decision to retain the current Gambling Venues Policy. Council noted that the restrictive nature of the Gambling Venues Policy is such that it acts as a disincentive and a barrier to the opening of new venues.

Council's Climate and Environment Committee Chair, Kate Fulton, says that the current Policy is operating effectively and is restrictive in its impact. "The evidence for this is that no new venues have opened since the Policy last underwent a special consultative procedure in 2018. Since then the number of Class 4 gambling venues operating in Nelson has actually decreased from 11 to 9, resulting in a decrease in the overall number of machines from 162 to 140.

"The existing Policy is restrictive in its impact, and by deciding to retain the Policy without change, Council can focus on other important work streams that will result in positive changes for the community right now."

Council also directed that at the next review of the Gambling Venues Policy in 2024, Council officers are to bring forward a proposal to consult with the community on including a sinking lid clause and a new objective of further reducing gambling harm.



# Secondhand Sunday popularity continues

Secondhand Sunday is a well-loved way to reduce waste by rehoming unwanted items.

A joint venture between Nelson City and Tasman District Councils, Secondhand Sunday began in 2014. Run once every three months, residents of both areas can give away unwanted household goods for free by registering to go on the map and putting out the items for donation in their driveway on the day.

Numbers of homes registered to take part each event varies, but has been more than 100 homes at times.

Regular surveys carried out by Nelson City Council have found 95% of respondents would take part in Secondhand Sunday again. The most popular items collected at the last event were children's toys, books and gardening and outdoor equipment.

Of the households surveyed, 43 per cent said they had rehomed 100 per cent of items that would otherwise have gone to landfill.

The next Secondhand Sunday will take place on 14 November, and following feedback, will start at the new, earlier time of 9am.

If you would like to get involved, register your address before 10am on 12 November and print out the letter box poster to let people know you're taking part. The map is available to download from 12pm on 12 November.

On the day, put your items out on your driveway (not the footpath) and don't forget to bring anything that hasn't been taken away back in at the end of the day.

Please do not include items such as food or dangerous goods, like faulty electrical equipment, chemicals, or firearms.

This event is subject to COVID-19 Alert Levels.

If you are planning to forage on the day, please be a considerate collector:

- Wait until 9am before you start foraging, to give everyone a fair chance
- If you like the look of something, take the whole item. Don't deconstruct or take only parts of an item
- Pass on a friendly thanks if you see the property owner and have fun.

# Reducing wild goats, pigs and deer in our native forest

The annual Ungulate Control Operation in the Maitai and Roding Water Reserves will take place from 20–30 September. This important work, which first occurred in 2018, has seen a steady decline in the number of goats, deer and pigs culled in subsequent years.

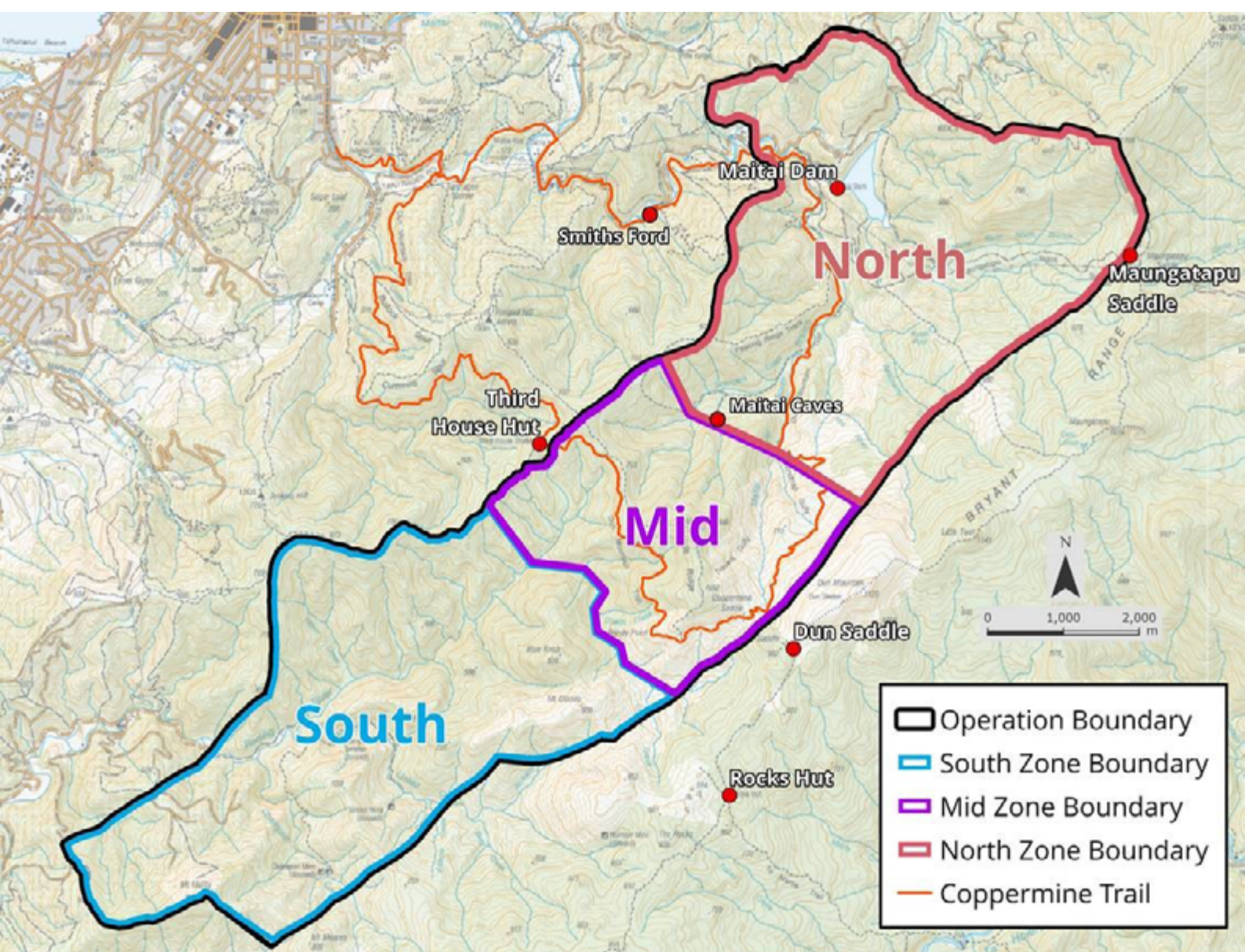
The operation protects the natural values of one of Nelson's most precious ecosystems – the Mineral Belt – and reduces the number of wild goats, deer and pigs grazing in Nelson's native forests, damaging tracks and entering property.

In former years both reserves were closed for the entire duration of the operation. The main change this year involves splitting the operation into three different hunting zones and only closing a zone to the public when the hunters are working in that zone. This means the public will be able to use walking and mountain bike tracks while the hunters are not present.

The Coppermine track will be left open on 25-26 September as the Coppermine Classic mountain bike race takes place. The trail runs through two of the hunt zones. Hunters will be working on 26 September, but with a 1km buffer from the trail.

The map below outlines the boundaries of each zone, and these will be clearly signposted on trails. The closure dates for each zone are:

- South Zone (Zone 1) 20-25 September
- Mid Zone (Zone 2) 20-25 September
- North Zone (Zone 3) 26-28 September



# Nelson City Councillors approve new bylaws

Councillors voted on 2 September to approve new Wastewater and Water Supply bylaws.

The existing bylaws were made in 2014 and were due for a review after five years.

The purpose of the bylaws is to regulate, manage, and protect Nelson City Council's wastewater system and water supply (not including private water supplies), respectively.

## Wastewater bylaw

The new bylaw includes improvements relating to discharges from swimming pools, and also from grease, silt, and oil traps.

There has also been a change to the formatting and sequencing of the bylaw to better align with Tasman District Council's Wastewater bylaw.


## Water supply bylaw

The major changes to the 2014 bylaw include making it consistent with the Nelson Tasman Land Development Manual 2019 and aligning it with the new Tasman District Council Water Supply Bylaw (as much as possible).

Other changes include recognising the requirements of the National Environmental Standards for Sources of Human Drinking Water by introducing source protection zones.

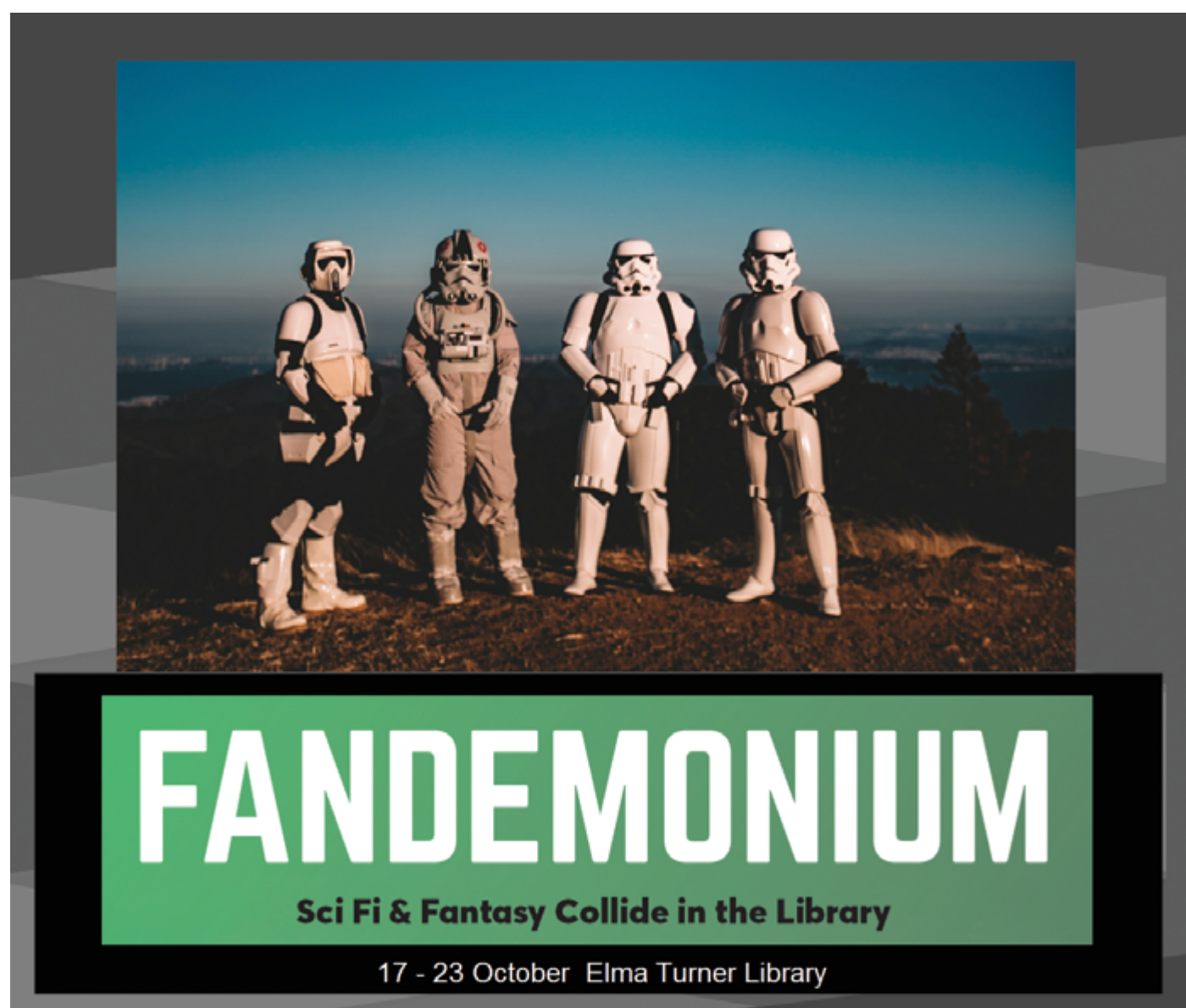
These zones will have appropriate restrictions on activities within the zones and make provision for any future restricted flow supplies, should these be necessary.





# BOOK A LIBRARIAN

Call 03 546 8100 or email [library@ncc.govt.nz](mailto:library@ncc.govt.nz)



## Fandemonium at the Nelson Public Libraries

Science fiction and fantasy collide at the Elma Turner Library, with a week of epic events from 17-23 October.

See event listing details on page 12.

Note: Events subject to COVID-19 restrictions.

## Nelson Arts Festival scales back 2021 programme

The Nelson Arts Festival has made the difficult decision to cancel most of its 2021 programme of shows and events due to the continued impact of the Covid-19 Delta outbreak.

At this stage, planning is continuing for a select number of events including Mask Carnivale, Night Vision and Pukapuka Talks.

For updates, go to the Nelson Arts Festival website.

[nelsonartsfestival.nz](https://nelsonartsfestival.nz)



## Draft Out and About - On Tracks Strategy 2021 open for public feedback

An increase in the number of easy trails, reserves dedicated to walking, and a Track Advisory Group are all part of the Draft Out and About – On Tracks Strategy 2021.

Nelson City Council now wants to hear your thoughts on the strategy ahead of adoption this summer.

A recently completed audit of Nelson's mountain bike trail grades reinforced what many in the region already knew: that the majority of mountain bike trails currently cater to more advanced users.

Group Manager Community Services Andrew White says this demonstrates a need for a greater variety of trail options.

"By focusing on creating easier trails the Draft Strategy seeks to make trails more accessible, including to families with young children as well as the elderly."

Making Eureka Park and the Grampians pedestrian-only is proposed. These reserves are not used much by cyclists but could provide a dedicated place for people who are wary of cyclists to walk and run.

"The strategy also focuses on existing trails rather than network expansion, an increased environmental focus, and setting up a Track Advisory Group that will help us plan, protect and improve one of Nelson's most important assets."

Enabling more people to easily access Nelson's beautiful surroundings will bring both economic and health benefits to residents.

"Ensuring our trail network can accommodate more people will not only further solidify Nelson as a great place to live, visit, and to do business, but it would also improve our city's connections to nature, and therefore our physical and mental wellbeing."

The Out and About – On Tracks Strategy 2016 resulted in the creation of several new trails over the years for mountain bikers and walkers alike, as well as improved relationships between different track users.

White says he's looking forward to hearing what the community has to say about the proposed Strategy.

"This plan seeks to build upon the success of the 2016 Strategy to include more trails for more people, and with projects like the Maitai Recreation Hub in development, there's a lot to be excited about."

To view and give feedback on the Draft Out and About—On Tracks Strategy 2021, head to Shape Nelson and search 'On Tracks', or visit our Customer Service Centre.





## Pay and walk away.

The PayMyPark app is the fastest way to pay for your parking or claim your free hour in Nelson's city centre. Downloading the app and setting up an account takes less than two minutes, and you can pay as you go, or pay less by adding money to your wallet. You just park, tell the app where you are, how long you want to park, and get on with your day. If you want to extend your time within the limit, you can top up from anywhere without having to return to your car.



**Nelson City Council**  
Te Kaunihera o Whakatū

**Smart Little City.**



## Nelson City Council's Antenno audience growing

There are now 1,343 Nelson residents receiving Council's Antenno alerts to their mobile phones.

Our audience has doubled since April, with app users able to receive notifications on Council topics including recycling, track and road closures, Council services at COVID Alert Levels, water shutdowns, rates information, public meetings and Council notices.

Not only does Antenno provide a helpful reminder to put out your recycling or take an alternative route to work, but if you are out and about and see something that requires Council assistance, then you can also easily report it using Antenno and it will be processed during office hours.

You can add a location, photo and log an issue with Council on a range of things including graffiti, overhanging vegetation, animal control, parking, air quality and environmental and water problems.

For further details on Antenno and other Council apps, go to:



[nelson.govt.nz/services/apps](https://nelson.govt.nz/services/apps)



## MEETINGS

The following meetings of the Nelson City Council have been scheduled. Unless otherwise stated, the location for meetings is via Zoom.

<b>Council meeting</b>	9am	23 Sep
<b>Regional Transport Committee</b>	1.30pm	28 Sep
<b>Tenders Subcommittee</b>	9am	30 Sep
<b>Council meeting</b>	9am	5 Oct
<b>Nelson Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit</b>	10.30am	8 Oct
<b>Joint Shareholders Committee</b>	9am	19 Oct
<b>Council meeting - decision meeting for 2021 Representation Review</b>	2pm	19 Oct
<b>Strategic Development and Property Subcommittee</b>	9am	21 Oct
<b>Hearings Panel - Other</b>	9am	27 Oct
<b>Council meeting</b>	9am	28 Oct
<b>Infrastructure Committee</b>	1pm	28 Oct

### Change to meeting

Forestry Subcommittee, previously advertised to take place on 29 September 2021, at 1pm, will now commence at 3.30pm

For a full list of meetings go to:

[nelson.govt.nz/meetings](https://nelson.govt.nz/meetings)



To sign up for Our Nelson by email go to:

[facebook.com/nelsoncitycouncil](https://facebook.com/nelsoncitycouncil)





# New affordable and social homes for Nelson

A lack of affordable housing close to Nelson's city centre is an issue often raised by our community. Alongside Te Ara ō Whakatū, we are running a separate feedback process on a proposal to sell land in the city centre to Kāinga Ora for a high-quality affordable and social housing development of approximately 175 homes.

For more information about this proposal and to tell us what you think please visit [shape.nelson.govt.nz/kainga-ora-consultation](https://shape.nelson.govt.nz/kainga-ora-consultation)



**Judene Edgar - Deputy Mayor**  
**Chair Urban Development Sub-committee**  
*"Dr Kay Saville-Smith, Director of the Centre for Research, Evaluation, and Social Assessment, spoke to Council last year about the need to address housing for the 'missing middle'. Many people have relatively secure, low-to-middle income jobs but still struggle to access and afford secure housing. This is a critical gap in Nelson's housing supply."*



Due to the uncertainty around COVID-19 alert levels please ensure you check [itson.co.nz](https://itson.co.nz) regularly for event updates.

## WHAT'S ON... at a Council venue near you



### Kirby Lane

Nelson Farmers Market. Every Wednesday 8.30am – 1.30pm  
 Kirby Fridays: Lunch Edition. Every Friday  
 11.30 – 2.30pm

### Saxton Oval

Sunrise Walk for Wellbeing, Sunday 26 September, 9am

### Trafalgar Centre

Big Brothers and Big Sisters fundraising dinner, Friday 15 October, 6pm – 12am  
*Note from Trafalgar centre: This event will only happen if we are in Level 1, otherwise will be an online auction*

### Trafalgar Park

Tasman Mako v Waikato, Friday 24 September, 7.05pm Kick off  
 Tasman Mako v Counties Manukau, Sunday 17 October, 2.05pm Kick-off

### Founders Heritage Park

Glamboyant: Nelson Pride Ball, Saturday 25 September, 6.30pm – 11pm

### Isel House and Park

Isel Twilight Market, every Thursday night from 30 September – Thursday 14 April 4.30pm

## Nelson Public Libraries:

### Elma Turner Library

Hours:  
 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:  
 9:30am — 6pm  
 Wednesday: 10am – 6pm  
 Saturday: 10am — 4pm  
 Sunday: 1pm — 4pm  
 Philosophy Discussion Group, meets every second Monday of the month, 10am – 11am  
 Back to the Future - Tech Taster Sessions, every Monday 2pm  
 Workbridge drop-in sessions, every Monday 9.30am & Wednesday 10am  
 Device Advice, every Tuesday & Thursday, 2pm – 3pm  
 Small Time at the Elma Turner Library, every Wednesday 10:30am  
 STEM writers, every second and fourth Tuesday of the month 1pm – 3pm  
 Junior Reading Club, every Tuesday 3.30pm  
 Media Club, Every Wednesday,  
 3.30pm – 4.30pm  
 Library Knitters, every Thursday. 10am – 12pm  
 Tea & Talk, every Friday 10am  
 Justices of the Peace, every Saturday 10am – 12pm  
 Employable drop-in sessions, every second Friday, 10.30am – 12.30pm  
 Learn at the Library – Research Databases, Thursday 23 September, 9.30am – 11.30am  
 Chinese Language story time, Tuesday 28 September, 10.30am – 11.30am  
 Learn at the Library – Living online, Thursday 30 September, 9.30am – 11am  
 Soroptomists, Saturday 2 October,  
 12pm – 2pm  
 Soroptomists, Sunday 3 October, 1pm – 3pm  
 Nelson Institute Talk, Sunday 3 October, 2pm – 3pm  
 Wellness Lab for Teens – Recipes and Habits for Healthy Living, Tuesday 5 October, 10.30am – 11.30am  
 Beat Saber Challenge – A VR Event for Young Adults, Wednesday 6 October, 3.45pm – 5pm  
 A Cheesarific Geronimo Stilton Morning, Thursday 7 October, 10am – 12pm  
 Spring Into Gardening, Friday 8 October, 3.30pm – 4.30pm  
 Soroptomists, Saturday 9 October,  
 12pm – 2pm  
 Soroptomists, Sunday 10 October, 1pm – 3pm  
 Create your own Manga character, Tuesday 12 October, 10am – 12pm  
 Bookchat, Tuesday 12 October, 10.30am – 11.30am  
 Story time Shenanigans – An extra goofy and mischievous story time,  
 Wednesday 13 October, 10.30am – 11.30am  
 Wingardium Library-osa-A Harry Potter Celebration, Thursday 14 October,  
 2pm – 5pm  
 Fantasy Photo Shoot for Kids, Saturday 16 October, 10am – 3pm  
 Soroptomists, Saturday 16 October,  
 12pm – 2pm  
 Soroptomists, Sunday 17 October, 1pm – 3pm  
 Fandemonium: Dungeons and Dragons in the Library, Sunday 17 October, 1pm – 3pm  
 Friends of the Library Speaker, Sunday 17 October, 2pm – 3pm  
 Fandemonium: Ninjas, Rangers and Warriors – Fantasy Gaming and Card  
 Merchant Nelson, Monday 18 October, 3pm – 6pm  
 Fandemonium: Bad Guys Doing Good – 501st Legion Talk and Armour  
 Makerspace, Tuesday 19 October, 3pm – 6pm  
 Fandemonium: Epic (Fan) fiction Necromancer Writing Party with Tamsyn Muir,  
 Tuesday 19 October, 6pm – 9pm  
 Crafting Content – Videographer workshop with NMIT, Wednesday 20  
 October, 12noon – 2pm

### Nightingale Library Memorial.

Hours:  
 Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 1pm — 4.30 pm  
 Tuesday, Thursday: 10am – 2pm  
 Saturday: Closed  
 Sunday: 10am — 2pm  
 Nellie Knitters. Every Monday 1.30 – 3.30pm  
 Story Time at the Tahunanui Library. Every Thursday. 10:30am – 11am  
 Device Advice at Nightingale. Every Friday at 2pm  
 Tea & Tales – Dementia Friendly Book Group, every Wednesday, 11.30am – 12.30pm

### Stoke Library

Hours:  
 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:  
 9:30am — 5:30 pm  
 Wednesday: 10am – 5.30pm  
 Saturday: 10am — 1pm  
 Sunday: Closed  
 Small time at the Stoke Library, every Tuesday 10.30am – 11am  
 Story Time at the Stoke Library, every Wednesday 10:30am  
 Device Advice at Stoke Library, every Tuesday & Wednesday at 2pm  
 Stoke Library Bookchat, every third Wednesday of the month 5.30pm – 6.30pm  
 Try out our new science and technology toys, Monday 4 October, 3.30pm – 4.30pm  
 Test your superhero knowledge in our Kahoot! Quiz, Monday 11 October, 3.30pm – 4.30pm  
 Let's play video games at the library, Friday 15 October, 11am – 1pm

## Museums and Galleries:

### The Suter Art Gallery & Theatre

Hours: 9.30am – 4.30pm Daily  
 Italian Film Festival, Saturday 18 September - Saturday 2 October

### Refinery ArtSpace

Hours: 10am – 5pm, Monday to Friday &  
 10am – 2pm, Saturday

### Nelson Provincial Museum

Hours: 10 - 5pm Weekdays, 10am - 4.30pm Weekends & Public Holidays