

OUR NELSON



TŌ TĀTOU WHAKATŪ



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Keep up to date with the latest news from Nelson City Council



Nelson City Council gives full backing to 0% rates rise proposal

Nelson City Council has shown its commitment to supporting the community through the COVID-19 crisis by voting unanimously to consider a zero percent rates rise in the 2020/21 Annual Plan.

At an Extraordinary Meeting held on Thursday, 9 April Council asked officers to investigate the impacts of a 0% rates rise on the budget for 2020-21, outlining how it will be achieved and report back to Council in late April.

Consultation on the Annual Plan is extended to 06 May, so the public can have their say on the proposal.

Council also agreed to a comprehensive relief package designed to aid Nelson's recovery from the COVID-19 shutdown that included:

- Establishing an emergency fund of \$200,000 for community organisations.
- Suspending all City Centre parking fees until end of June 2020.
- Remitting rates penalties on the 2019/20 fourth rates instalment using 'compassionate grounds' or where an agreed repayment programme is in place.
- Removing the \$5000 cap on applications to the 2021/22 Community Investment Fund and prioritising projects that reduce impact of COVID-19 on vulnerable communities.

- A three-month rent holiday for Council tenants in the hospitality, tourism, and community sector.
- Three-month holiday for payment of Outdoor Dining Licences
- Lobbying Government to waive alcohol licensing fees and allow businesses to voluntarily extend their food licensing period by the amount of time they are not operating due to the shutdown.

Simon Duffy of Uniquely Nelson is supportive of Council's financial relief for city businesses.

"These are initiatives and provisions that will help with recovery for so many businesses, especially with our boutique, localised shops that Nelson offers."

Chief Executive of the Nelson Regional Development Authority (NRDA) Mark Rawson supports a 0% rate rise, but stressed that money spent by Council is a key stimulus for the economy.

"A 0% rate rise is the responsible approach in the current economic climate. It will support one of the key focus areas of our restart and recovery planning which is on the short-term stimulation of demand within the local economy to help restart the services sector. At this time it is also important that Council can continue its critical role of investment in infrastructure projects, which will create further services demand and strengthen local supply chains."

Rates make up 67% of Council's revenues, and without a rate rise proposed budgets for 2020/21 would reduce by \$3m. This shortfall would be covered by a staff wage freeze, money saved from

cancelled events, and use of Council's disaster recovery fund.

Nelson Mayor Rachel Reese says a 0% rate increase is her preferred option.

"The COVID-19 shutdown has changed things considerably. People are on reduced wages or facing unemployment and businesses are under considerable pressure, with many unable to operate. This Council will not put more pressure on people's finances during this difficult period."

Councillors discussed whether a 0% rates rise would simply mean a greater rise next year, but Mayor Reese says that would not be the case.

"These are times of uncertainty," says Mayor Reese. "It is difficult for anyone to predict the economic situation for 2021/22, but I will not be planning for a larger rise than has been applied in other years of the Long Term Plan. We will still be in recovery and that will be my focus."

As well as the relief package, Council is putting forward infrastructure projects to a Central Government initiative – the Crown Infrastructure Partnership – that seeks to fund 'shovel ready' initiatives worth more than \$10m impacted by COVID-19.

Mayor Reese says Council is focused on getting Nelson back on its feet but cannot do so single-handedly.

"No community in New Zealand will be able to dig itself out of this hole on its own. Support for local economies from Central Government will be essential as Nelson, and New Zealand as a whole, starts on the long road to recovery."



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Nelson The Smart Little City
He tāone tōrire a Whakatū



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How COVID-19 is affecting Council services

With New Zealand now on COVID-19 level four shutdown, we understand many people want to know about Nelson City Council’s key services. Here we’ve answered some of the more frequently asked questions.

Will the buses still be running?

Yes, but only for essential journeys. The Saturday timetable will be running, with an additional early morning service on the Richmond/ Nelson Route. The Sunday timetable will run as usual. All buses will be free and this will be the case until 30 June, unless the alert level is lowered before that.



Will my rubbish and recycling still get collected?

Yes. We ask that medical waste or tissues be put in a bag before they go in the rubbish, and that rubbish bins or bags only go outside your home on the day of collection. Kerbside recycling collections will continue, but materials picked up in yellow bins will go to landfill. Glass is being recycled as normal.

Please do not put general waste in your recycling bin. Not only does it contaminate the bin, it is not designed to accommodate the extra weight.

Refuse collection is a user pays service, and yellow bins full of rubbish instead of recycling will not be picked up.

Can I still use public toilets?



Yes, most are still open. For hygiene purposes we ask the public, where possible, to use your home toilet, and only use public toilets in an emergency.

Can I take my children to the playground if I stay away from other families?

No. Council’s community playgrounds and exercising equipment have been closed. Keeping equipment sanitised is simply not possible and the risk of passing on the virus is too high.

Can I still contact the Customer Service Centre with my questions?

Yes. You can call us on 03 546 0200 or email us at enquiry@ncc.govt.nz. Civic House is closed.



Nelson’s public water fountains temporarily turned off

Due to COVID-19, and the risk of spreading the virus, all of Nelson’s water fountains are being temporarily turned off.

Please also avoid using any picnic tables and park benches, as any non-essential touching of surfaces can spread the virus.

As you can imagine, there are hundreds of tables and benches around Nelson and it’s simply not possible to cordon them all off, but please use your common sense and treat them as off limits.

As our Prime Minister has advised, act as if you have COVID-19, treat any public surface as a potential avenue to passing on the disease, and let’s keep each other safe.

Water meter readings on hold for COVID-19 shutdown

Nelson City Council will not carry out water meter readings during the COVID-19 Level 4 shutdown.



This is to ensure the continued safety of the public and our meter readers who are usually required to attend properties.

Reading of both residential and commercial water meters and the subsequent invoicing will recommence once the lockdown is over.

If people are having difficulty paying their water accounts, please call the Customer Service Centre on 03 546 0200 or email enquiry@ncc.govt.nz to discuss a manageable payment arrangement.

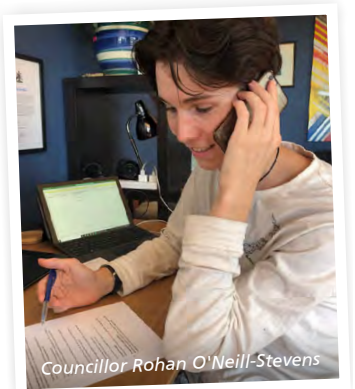
Looking out for our older adults: Nelson City Council hits the phones

Nelson City Council staff and councillors have been assisting the Ministry of Social Development in its plan to make phone contact with every New Zealander over the age of 70 during the COVID-19 shutdown.

Council staff who are not able to fully work at home and Councillors Matt Lawrey, Gaile Noonan, Rachel Sanson and Rohan O’Neill-Stevens have been checking on the welfare of older adults in our region.

Nelson Mayor Rachel Reese says it is vital that we look out for each other during the COVID-19 shutdown.

“Many Nelsonians over 70 lead independent, well-connected lives, and can cope with the demands of the shutdown. But we know there are some isolated people who may struggle. That’s why it is so important that we all reach out to help our neighbours during this crisis.”



Remember trails are closed to mountain bikers during COVID-19 shutdown

All of Nelson and Tasman’s trails are closed to mountain bikers.

There may not be signage up on every trail to indicate this, but they are to be treated as closed.

If you have concerns about anyone who is not self-isolating as required you can report it to police online at 105.police.govt.nz

Please stick to your local neighbourhood for physical exercise, and maintain a physical distance of two metres between yourself and people from outside your bubble.

Whatever exercise you choose, touching gates and other infrastructure should be avoided, and make sure you wash your hands with soap for at least twenty seconds when you get home.



Whakatū whānau

**Being in a bubble doesn't mean
you can't reach out.**

We're all whānau in Whakatū.

Find out how you can help the vulnerable in your community at
volunteernelson.org.nz/project-c19



A message for those 65+ from Nelson Marlborough Health.

Looking after yourself is looking after others.



**Your health and well being is important to all of us.
Together we can unite against Covid-19 with these simple guidelines.**

Stay healthy

Physical Health
Taha Tinana



- Stay at home & 'stick to your bubble' to protect yourself from the virus and reduce the spread
- If you need a prescription, call your doctor who will send it directly to your pharmacy. Then call your pharmacy and they will advise you if you should pick it up or if it can be delivered
- Head outside if you can - but remember to stay in your bubble and keep your dog on a lead
- Focus on the things you can control - wash your hands, practice physical distancing of 2m, and phone your GP to organize your flu vaccine - it's free for people aged 65+

Be kind

Spiritual Health
Taha Wairua



- Keep doing the things you enjoy to make you feel happy and calm
- Think about what you have to give - a smile and wave means a lot to many
- Talk to your neighbour over the fence - but stay 2m apart and don't swap things like food or reading material - the virus lives on surfaces
- Consider asking to change the subject if you're finding the COVID-19 conversation overwhelming
- Be aware of scams:
www.covid19.govt.nz/help-and-advice/for-everyone/misinformation-and-scams/

For updates and more information visit:

www.covid19.govt.nz

APRIL 2020



**Unite
against
COVID-19**

Stay in touch

Mental Health Taha Hinengaro



- Keep connected-set up daily phone calls with friends, whanau/family.
- Keep up to date by using credible sources such as www.covid19.govt.nz or Radio NZ (FM 101.6 and AM 1116).
- Take a break from social media and be selective about what you follow
- GPs are still available for your everyday (non COVID-19) health needs
- Keep your phone close to you at all times – you can still call 111 in an emergency

Ask for help

Family Health Taha Whanau



- Those older people with existing medical conditions are more vulnerable to COVID-19 so it is important to ask for help
- Supermarkets are prioritising grocery delivery for older people
- Tradespeople can do essential maintenance on your house
- Reach out to friends, family and neighbours to deliver supplies or contact Welfare Support (see below)

National numbers

Dedicated COVID-19 Healthline (FREE) 0800 358 5453 (or your own GP first)

Emergencies – 111 or **Police non-emergency contact** – 105

Elder Abuse Helpline – 0800 32 668 65

Nelson/Tasman Local Information

Welfare Support Nelson/Tasman

0800 50 50 75 (press '1' NCC, or '2' TDC)

Email: em.welfare@ncc.govt.nz

Age Concern & Phone a Friend Service

03 544 7624 (Ext2)

Email: manager@ageconcernnt.org.nz

CBAC (Community Based Assessment Centres)

for screening & assessment 0800 358 4636

Locations: **Toi Toi**, Harvey Norman carpark, 69 St Vincent St, Nelson; **Tahunanui**, former Suburban Club, 168 Tahunanui Drive, Nelson;

Motueka, Bridge Hall, 32 Tudor St, Motueka.

Marlborough Local Information

Welfare Support Marlborough

03 520 7400

Email: welfare@marlboroughcdem.co.nz

Age Concern & Phone a Friend Service

0279 446 975 or 03 579 3457

Email: fieldageconble@extra.co.nz

CBAC (Community Based Assessment Centre)

for screening & assessment 0800 358 4636

Location: The old netball courts, Horton Park, 29b Redwood St, Blenheim.



Unite
against
COVID-19

For updates and more information on
keeping yourself safe, visit **Covid19.govt.nz**

New Zealand Government

Feeling unwell? Stay home and use the phone.

Phone the free Coronavirus helpline for advice before you visit a GP, pharmacy or hospital.

0800 358 5453

COVID-19: What to do if you have symptoms

If you have COVID-19 symptoms, you should contact your local Community-Based Assessment Centre or doctor.

The centres are free and anyone with COVID-19 symptoms including;

- Fever (temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or more)
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or trouble breathing
- A sore throat
- Sneezing and a running/dripping nose
- Temporary loss of smell

Is asked to contact a centre on
0800 358 4636 or attend a CBAC directly for

screening, assessment and if needed, testing. This is especially important for those residing with large groups, be it a large family or in a hostel or apartment block.

Anyone who is immunocompromised is asked to go to the emergency department at the Hospital instead of a CBAC for assessment.

There are two testing centres in Nelson, at the former Suburban Club building, 168 Tahunanui Drive and Toi Toi (Victory), in the Harvey Norman carpark.

At the Toi Toi centre, people will be

screened and assessed. If they need testing, this will happen at the Tahunanui CBAC and transport will be available if needed.

Staff at the Toi Toi CBAC can also connect people to welfare support: Accommodation, food, personal and whānau safety, financial and social support.

If you are tested, it is important you stay in isolation at home and follow physical distancing rules carefully. Test results will be notified by phone, usually within 48 hours.



Nelson Heritage Festival re-imagined online

The Nelson Heritage Festival has been given a 21st-century twist.

After this year's Heritage Festival, due to take place over the month of April, had to be cancelled due to the risk posed by COVID-19, Nelson City Council has decided to bring some elements of the original festival online – launching the Nelson Virtual Heritage Festival

Among the virtual events is a pub crawl and dance around Nelson, a Voice Collective Ngā Iwi e singalong and an exploration of the region's pottery and clay industries, hosted by Nelson Libraries in collaboration with Marlborough Museum, the

Suter Art Gallery and with input from local pottery industry experts.

The Nelson Provincial Museum will be hosting a series of videos, with topics including preserving objects, May Davis "Crewanna" pottery and identification of photographs.

Community Services Chair Matt Lawrey says the 2020 Nelson Heritage Festival was shaping up to be easily the best yet and he hopes people take advantage of the online offerings.

By bringing parts of the festival

into people's homes digitally, Council is making sure the City still gets something out of the money it had already invested in the programme, he says.

"It's also worth remembering that traditionally the festival's biggest fans have been Nelsonians who are 70-plus; people who are also potentially our most isolated citizens during lockdown. I think it's great that Council is giving a whole lot of them the opportunity to connect with the festival from within their bubbles.

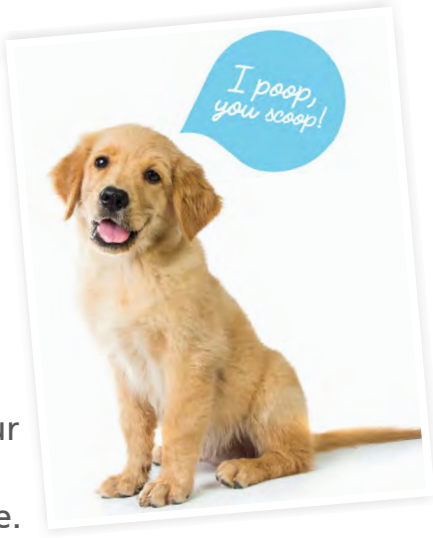
"Not only that, but a whole lot of clever and creative people put a tonne of work into the cancelled festival so it's really good that they're getting an opportunity to share some of what they came up with."

More events will be added to the schedule in the coming weeks. Links to events will be on Council's Heritage Festival webpage and recorded events will go up on the Nelson Virtual Heritage Festival YouTube channel.



Please keep your pet dogs inside your bubble

Two legs or four – if you are out exercising with your family then all members need to stay in your bubble.



While dogs are very unlikely to contract COVID-19, they can carry it about with them on their fur if an infected person touches them.

You can help keep your family safe and be kind and considerate to others by keeping your dog close or on a lead when out walking.

Likewise, bringing your own doggy doo bag from home eliminates the need for touching the bag dispenser and further reduces the risk of transmitting the virus.

We all need to work together if we want to stop the spread of COVID-19. **Scoop the Poop**

If your dog is getting extra walkies while you are at home, don't forget to scoop the poop. An average dog will produce about 125 kg of waste a year and a single gram of pet waste, the size of a pea, contains 23 million faecal coliform bacteria. Bacteria from dog faeces are washed into stormwater drains and go into our rivers and streams river during rain or flood events. So do us all a favour and scoop the poop – our rivers will thank you.

DIY painters' guide for paint disposal

Council is receiving lots of calls during the shutdown about stream pollution being caused by paint discharges to stormwater drains.

Whilst this may be a great time to catch up on your interior decorating or DIY about the house, please don't wash your brushes or pour any unused paint or other chemical substance down the stormwater drain. The drains discharge into our streams so any pollution can kill off wildlife and cause lasting damage.

If you're painting your house you'll end up with brushes, rollers and paint trays that need cleaning.

To dispose of your paint waste safely, follow these useful tips:

- Leave small amounts of leftover paint to dry in an area safe from children and animals. When dry,

the paint solids can be peeled off and disposed of in your general rubbish.

- Wrap your paintbrush in clingfilm, or put it in a plastic bag and tape around the handle, when you are taking a short break up to an hour.
- For overnight storage, put paint brushes and rollers in a container of water with a tight fitting lid, such as a plastic pail or ice cream container.
- When you have finished painting, clean your brushes and equipment using two buckets.



Join the big backyard bio blitz



If you want to stay connected to nature during the shutdown, have a go at the Nelson Nature Big Backyard Bioblitz on the web app iNaturalist.

We've set this project up to record what nature you can find in your backyard. A bioblitz is an exploration to find and record all the different types of living things in an area in a short period of time. It's something people of all ages will enjoy and you can do it alone or with other members of your bubble in your garden.

Go to inaturalist.nz/projects/big-backyard-bioblitz or on the app, go to 'more' then 'projects' and search for big backyard bioblitz, and click the join button to take part.

Saltwater Creek Bridge wins NZ Wood design award

Nelson's Saltwater Creek Bridge has won the Exterior Structure Design Award at the NZ Wood Resene Timber Design Awards.

Congratulations to Jerram Tocker Barron Architects for their hard work and stunning design.

While the Awards ceremony was cancelled due to the COVID-19 shutdown, awards were handed out by the WPMA: Wood Products Manufacturers Association and NZ Wood Resene Timber Design Awards in a virtual presentation.



New website for Uniquely Nelson



Uniquely Nelson has just released a new website which includes "The Nelson Advantage" newsletter.

The new site is well worth a visit during the shutdown – it's got lots of entertainment, recipes, music and videos for the whole family during these unusual times, plus a chance to do some window shopping - venture into your favourite shop using the Virtual Reality feature to look around, to take a look around.

uniquelynelson.nz



The Library at Home



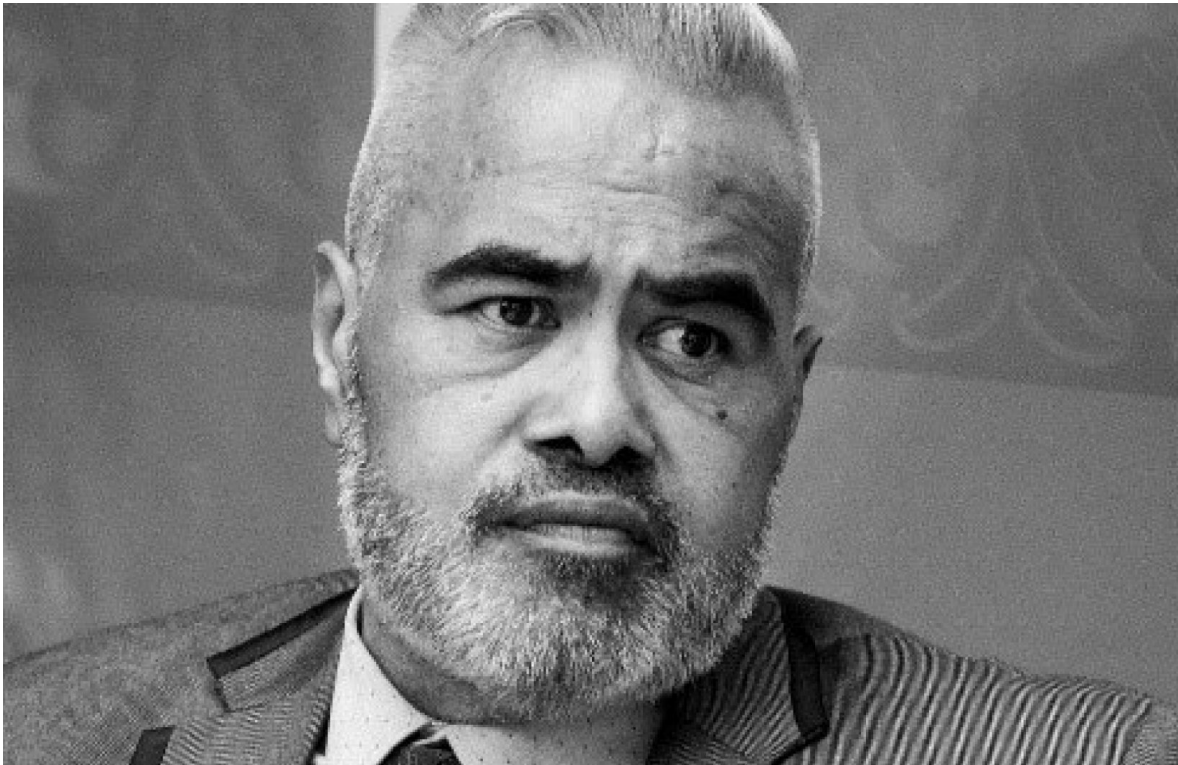
The doors to our three libraries might be closed but the online library is open and bustling with activity. During March we've seen Nelson library users collectively download over 3,000 ebooks, 1,600 audiobooks and had over 160 people take advantage of our new Digital Online Membership.

Now is also the perfect time to delve into a bit of family history as ancestry.com is now available for library members from the comfort of their own homes. This online resource has a significant collection of genealogy resources such as electoral rolls, birth, marriage and death records, census records, military records, shipping lists and more

from around the world. Head over to our website to begin searching– who knows what hidden secrets or stories you might discover!
Not a library member? You can join as a Digital Only Member over on our website and if you need help using these tools just get in touch by emailing library@ncc.govt.nz or through our website.

Our librarians are happy to chat through email, via phone or even online teleconference software. Go to:

nelsonpubliclibraries.co.nz



Ripiripia, Haehaea! Ripiripia, Haehaea, Tuakina!

Nelson City Council mourns the loss of Kaumātua Kereopa Ratapu.

Kurahaupō E! Kurahaupō E!
Heke iho ra ngā hupe, ngā roimata
i tō wehenga ki te pō
Nāu te puna mātauranga e ārahi i
a mātou te Kaunihera,
otirā ngā iwi o Te Taihū
Hoki wairua mai rā ngā parekura
I runga i ō koutou waka o aituā
Hoki atu ra ki tō ūkaipō
Ko Rongomaiwahine
Piki ake, Kake ake
Ki Te Mahia e
Te poho o ōu tūpuna
Ka mihia, ka tangihia
Kua ea! Kua ea!

It is with deep sadness that we mourn the loss of a great leader Kereopa Ratapu of Ngāti Kuia, Rongomaiwahine, Te Ātiawa. Kereopa was appointed by Te Taihū iwi as Kaumātua for Nelson City Council in 2019, and provided cultural guidance and service to Council and our community for many years before this.
Nelson Mayor Rachel Reese shared her memories of working with Kaumātua Kereopa Ratapu.
"Matua, you have amazed me with your resilience and calm presence. There is a grace and serenity about you that provides strength to others, and I thank you sincerely for the support you have given me personally and to all at council, and throughout the community.
"We are grateful for your leadership and guidance. I wish I could be standing beside you, but while we are not with you physically, we are with you in spirit and we wish you safe travels home to Te Mahia."
Kaumātua are taonga.
We will treasure you forever.
Ue 'Ā! Ue 'Ā!

Shape Nelson

Find these upcoming reviews at shape.nelson.govt.nz.

Speed Limits
Council is seeking your feedback on what speed limits should be on our roads ahead of a report to council later this year.
Fill in our survey, or drop a pin on our map to flag an area of concern.

Public Transport
Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council are jointly reviewing Nelson and Tasman public transport services.
Fill in our survey before it closes on 9 May, or drop a pin on a map to let us know where public transport can improve.

shape.nelson.govt.nz

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FROM
AFAR



MEETINGS

Currently, most Council and Committee meetings for April have been put on hold during the COVID-19 shutdown.
All meetings will be advertised in the Nelson Mail and listed on Council's website:

nelson.govt.nz/meetings

To sign up for Our Nelson by email go to:
 facebook.com/nelsoncitycouncil