



Clutha District Council
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**Tapanui Service Centre,
Information Centre & Library**
Suffolk Street, Tapanui
Phone: 03 204 8306
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Hours: Mon - Fri: 8.30am - 5pm (The library is open until 6pm on Fridays)

Please initially contact Council staff (rather than your local Community Board member, Councillor, or our contractor) to report any problems with Council services. Please contact your nearest Council office or call 0800 801 350 if outside of normal office hours.

**Next West Otago
Community Board meeting**
Wed 26 May 2010, 9.30am

Meeting agendas now available online

It is now easier for residents and ratepayers to keep track of decisions made by Council and West Otago Community Board, with meeting agendas now available online.

Meeting agendas for the full Council, Standing Committees, the District Development Board and the Community Boards are now accessible via the Council website www.cluthadc.govt.nz

The intention is to make information about Council and its decisions more readily available to the community and stakeholders and also to reduce future photocopying and postage costs.

Agendas will generally be available online on the Monday prior to a particular meeting. Agendas can be downloaded in PDF, either in full, or by each agenda item to make the service more user-friendly and accessible for those on dial-up Internet connections

WEST OTAGO NEWS

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE CLUTHA DISTRICT COUNCIL - April 2010

Draft Annual Plan - have your say!

As you may be aware by now, Council is currently consulting on its Draft Annual Plan 2010/11.

The Annual Plan is the document which sets out the projects and services Council intends to deliver over the next financial year and also includes estimates of how much this is expected to cost. This year's plan also includes the following proposed amendments to the Long Term Council Community Plan 2009-19:

- To provide an extra \$1.3 million to the proposed Clutha Recreation Centre, lifting the proposed funding from \$1.2m to \$2.5m.
- To change how the ratepayer contribution to the Clutha Recreation Centre is funded.
- To (a) grant \$1m to West Otago Health Trust and (b) rate a uniform charge to the households who fall within the West Otago Health service area, to pay back the loan principal and interest charges needed to fund the grant.

If you are potentially affected by the West Otago Health proposal you should by now

have received some information in the mail asking for your thoughts, while a summary of the full Draft Annual Plan including information on the proposed Recreation Centre was published in the Clutha Leader on April 15.

The projected rates change for Tapanui township in 2010/11 for a medium value property is an increase of 4.7%. This relates mainly to an increase in the water rate for the local share of the major upgrade of the town supply.

The rates change for rural properties vary depending on the rural area and the value of the property. A property with a capital value of \$250,000, for example, could expect an increase of 1.7%, whereas a property with a capital value of \$7.7m could expect a decrease of 1.3%.

For more information on the Draft Annual Plan, including submission forms please go to our website www.cluthadc.govt.nz, or visit the Tapanui Service Centre and Library.

Submissions to the Draft Annual Plan close on Monday 10 May.

Tapanui water fluoridation going ahead

Council has decided to go ahead with fluoridation of the Tapanui water supply following confirmation from the Ministry of Health that it will provide full financial assistance for the capital costs of installing fluoridation equipment.

A non-binding referendum in 2007 and subsequent consultation through Council's annual planning process revealed public support for fluoridation of the supply in order to help protect children's teeth.

The operating costs for fluoridation will add about \$20 to the annual water rate and this

has been provided for in the current draft annual plan.

The installation will be done in conjunction with the CAP-funded water treatment upgrades, and is expected to be in place and operating by mid winter.

Meanwhile, Council will be replacing a 180m section of old asbestos cement water main pipe in the Suffolk and Sussex streets area. The section of pipe has been the subject of a series of main pipeline breakages, causing repeated water outages and associated problems in recent times.

Summer water restrictions lifted

Council advises that due to the onset of cooler temperatures, the normal 'Stage One - Summer Mode' water restrictions which had been in place for the entire district have now been lifted.

These restrictions have been in place since December 2009, and Council will look at re-establishing these seasonal restrictions if weather conditions demand again next summer. Council has a standardised three-stage system of water restrictions to encourage the efficient use of water during summer months.

The 'Stage One - Summer Mode' restriction means watering is restricted to between 8pm and 8am only; while Stages Two and

Three ban sprinklers and hoses respectively at all times. While many of the district's water schemes have plentiful sources, restrictions are standard during times of high demand because the treatment plants and pipe capacity of the schemes restrict the amount of water that can be delivered to consumers.

Despite the lifting of the restrictions, consumers are still urged to avoid wasting water at any time and to report any leaks.

There is obviously a cost involved to treat and supply all water even when there is no shortage. Any wastage of water represents unnecessary cost to ratepayers.



Clutha Country
where everyone says hello