



Council News

a newsletter from the Clutha District Council

p2
Vehicles
on beaches

p3
Community
planning

p4
Better off
funding

February 2023 | www.cluthadc.govt.nz | 0800 801 350 | help.desk@cluthadc.govt.nz | CluthaDistrictCouncil



From the Mayor

By the time you get this newsletter Clutha, like virtually all councils, will be gearing up for what is anticipated to be the most demanding annual plan deliberations in a generation, maybe longer.

I cannot stress enough to you the need to have a wide understanding of the new realities and challenges we face.

With the perfect storm of inflation, a nation clamouring to deliver projects and a critical lack of staff, manifesting in council cost increases far in excess of inflation and a tendering market that at best is fragile.

So, what does this mean for Clutha as we enter the critical phase for many projects and remain committed to delivering core services?

Fortunately our district is in a strong position, with finances the envy of most, and an organisation-wide commitment and understanding of the needs of Clutha.

Unfortunately the forces that confront us are outside of our control because we can agree to projects, ensure the finances are available and undertake the tender process but, as all New Zealand has found out, the labour force required doesn't exist and you have just gone through an expensive pantomime that chews up time and money and, in many cases, achieves little.

Put bluntly, for as long as can be remembered Council has embraced an aspirational consultation process where we have cast the net out far and wide, canvassing our communities to establish what is required and actively encouraged as many initiatives to be considered as possible.

But as we found out last year, the prevailing economic and contracting environment rendered traditional outcomes redundant, and it is now imperative that we take a more strategic approach that identifies, and prioritises needs and aligns them with our ability to deliver.

Despite popular misconceptions, for years Clutha has always allocated every penny of subsidised roading available.

The \$141 million assigned specifically to Three Waters infrastructure at the last long term plan was an unprecedented commitment from our district. These aspirations align with our ratepayers' expectations.

However, the present nationwide labour shortage, combined with all the other challenges, created unintended and unpredictable outcomes only weeks after we finalised our annual plan deliberations.

Council found itself confronted with reality dictating proceedings, meaning we were forced to reduce our three waters spend by \$3,900,000 (23%) for the 23/24 year.

The reasons for this include supply chain issues and a lack of resourcing therefore the boots on the ground just to do the work to undertake these projects faces its challenges.

[Read More](#) →

From the mayor continued...

We need to dwell for a moment on what this means and consider the changes that will be required in order to prevail.

Council along with our communities identify the needs through the annual plan consultation.

These needs are deliberated and priorities budgeted, and in many cases consequently rated for the work to be undertaken.

This year we know that the number one determining factor will be our ability to

find the staff and resources to achieve our outcomes. Like never before this year's annual plan process will be focused on prioritising and aligning needs and expectations with ability and reality. Clutha will still prevail, we are up for this challenge, but it will take a different mindset. We look forward to working with you all to ensure the best outcomes, and as always Clutha's momentum will be onwards and upwards.

Bryan Cadogan, Mayor

summer watering

Water restrictions are implemented throughout the Clutha District each summer.

There are four stages depending on how dry it is.

You can find out what stage we are at online:

www.cluthadc.govt.nz/water-restrictions or give us a call on **0800 801 350**.

The summer water restriction remains in place till the end of March, and then we review whether it can be lifted or extended.

Please contact us if you see an unreported water leak (reported ones will have a cone or dazzle sprayed near them), that way we can plan and prioritise the repair of leaks across the district.

If we all save water, we may not need to implement more stringent water restrictions.

spotlight on / bylaw...

“ Vehicles on beaches



New beach bylaw now in effect

When you're out enjoying the beaches in Clutha this summer remember the Clutha District Council's Vehicles on Beaches Bylaw came into effect January 1, 2023.

The bylaw includes the following rules:

- **People driving on beaches are required to do so in a way that does not threaten the safety of people, plants or native animals.**

- **Vehicles are not allowed on sand dunes, except to access the beach.**
- **Vehicles are not allowed to drive along the beach above the high-water mark, except in emergencies.**

The bylaw addresses the effect of vehicles on public safety and enjoyment of beaches, and adverse

effects to the environmental values of the coast.

You are allowed to access your crib, launch a boat, collect seaweed or go fishing as long as you follow the rules.

It's about enjoying and looking after Clutha's beautiful beaches.

Read more about the bylaw at: **www.cluthadc.govt.nz/beaches**

Get the latest information...

If there's important information about anything from burst pipes to planned water works, you can get this directly from the council by:

- **Downloading the Antenno app from the App Store or Google Play**
- **Subscribe for text and email alerts: www.cluthadc.govt.nz/water-notice**



We're backing Our Place

Clinton & Clutha Valley

How about you?

We're developing Our Place Clinton and Clutha Valley community plans and we're keen to hear your thoughts on which projects should be a priority.

Ideas include improving access to the Mata-Au (Clutha River), walking and cycling, improving our parks and reserves and investing in community facilities such as the pools.

We'll be out and about in February gathering feedback from the community to help inform this plan.

Clinton

Date	Time	Where
Friday 10 February	1-2pm 5-7pm	Crossroads, corner of Gorge Road and Main Road, Clinton

Clutha Valley

Saturday 11 February	10am-12pm	Tuapeka Mouth Heritage Hub, 3 Skinner Road, Tuapeka Mouth
Friday 24 February	5-7pm	Greenfield Tavern, 33 Allangrange Road, Clydevale

Come along to one of these locations to talk about your ideas and suggestions for Our Place Clinton and Clutha Valley.

Along with the consultation events, council has developed an Our Place Clinton and Clutha Valley consultation document which is being delivered to residents and ratepayers across these two wards.

Have a read, fill out the feedback form and return via FreePost, or online at Council's website on the Consultation Page or else just pop along to the consultation events and deliver in person.

It focuses on areas Council has flagged as being priorities for the area including:

- Community facilities
- Parks and reserves
- Creating sustainable, vibrant communities
- Landscape and environment

If you care about our community and want to help shape a brighter future for generations to come, then please get involved in this consultation process.

The Our Place Clutha Valley and Clinton follows on from the Our Place West Otago consultation, which was held in 2022, as well as previous Our Place plans for Balclutha, Milton, Waihola, Catlins, Kaitangata and Lawrence-Tuapeka that have already been developed and are in the process of being actioned.

Clutha District to benefit from \$3.27 million better off funding

Three projects in the Clutha District will receive \$3.27 million in funding, after Clutha District Council's application to Government's three waters better off support package was approved.

The funding will boost three key projects – the Bruce community pool and library complex in Milton, the streetscape upgrade in Balclutha and the Whitehaven Street Playground in Lawrence.

Clutha District Mayor Bryan Cadogan says "It's fantastic news for Clutha District. This funding will help these exciting projects come to fruition and support wellbeing in our community. These will also be drawcards for visitors."

The Bruce Community Pool and Library complex in Milton received a \$1.9 million funding allocation. The \$14 million facility is a collaboration between Clutha District Council and the Bruce Community Facilities Trust. Better off funding will be put toward construction costs.

The Balclutha streetscape improvement project will receive \$1.3M in funding for landscaping and provision of carparking in the vicinity of the community-led Clutha Community Hub development which is currently under construction.

The Whitehaven Street Playground



The concept design for Bruce Community Hub.

redevelopment will also benefit from funding.

This playground upgrade is a community-led initiative to improve the Lawrence's destination playground. Better off funding of \$70,000 will go towards the cost of play equipment and refurbishment of the playground.

New recycling trial for Clutha

Drop off your cut, opened and rinsed UHT and fresh milk, juice and stock cartons.

Visit Mt Cooee Landfill, Le Bocal, Cafe 55 or Tokomairiro Community Hub to recycle your used cartons and help to reduce waste in the Clutha District.

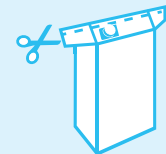
Please do note put these items in your yellow-lidded wheelie bin.



1

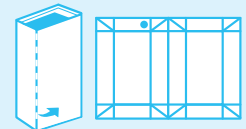
Cut along the top and sides of the carton

*Note: leave the Cap attached



2

Completely open up the carton



3

Rinse clean. Job done!



\$16 million water supply upgrades to begin

Significant upgrades to four rural water supplies are underway, benefitting residents in Waihola, Lawrence, Tuapeka and Balmoral.

Clutha District Mayor, Bryan Cadogan says, "After extensive engagement with our rural water schemes we are making significant investment in these four water schemes. These projects will improve water supply for our residents as well as improving water quality for close to 1000 properties."

Construction of a 17km pipeline from the Milton water treatment plant to Waihola started in December.

"Council has been working for some time to find the best solution for Waihola.

The water supply of around 250 residential connections is at capacity and the township is continuing to grow.

This upgrade is needed to help meet growth and will essentially double the amount of water available in Waihola as well as making supply available for development in the Milburn area."

The pipeline upgrade is expected to be completed in late 2023 and once operational, will move the township's water supply from the North Bruce rural water scheme to the Milton water treatment plant.

Meanwhile, the Greenfield Rural Drinking Water Scheme Project, which involves a new water source and construction of a

41 km pipeline from near the Clydevale Bridge to Lawrence, will get underway in early 2023.

"This project will improve the quality of drinking water and the reliability of supply to the Balmoral, Tuapeka and Lawrence water schemes. It also has additional capacity to futureproof water supply for the area."

This first stage of upgrades involves pipework and will cost \$16.3 million. Contracts for construction of pump stations and treatment plants are still to be tendered and are not included in the \$16 million cost.