



Council News

a newsletter from the Clutha District Council

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February 2020 | www.cluthadc.govt.nz | 0800 801 350 | help.desk@cluthadc.govt.nz



From the Mayor

It's time to roll our sleeves up and get stuck in, with 2020 bound to be a huge year for Clutha as favourable economic conditions continue and everywhere you look development is happening. Council is determined to continue to play its roll in facilitating growth, and this year will see our community plans to rejuvenate our communities move from designs and concepts to bricks and mortar.

Encouraging indicators that we are on the right track, like recent statistics that show both residential and commercial activity in Clutha is growing at a far greater pace than in the rest of the south, along with the news that on average Clutha's house prices last year rose by over 24%, are clear signs that our district is waking from an extended slumber.

Council is determined to further refine and develop our commitment to the creation of a more vibrant and prosperous district so once again we are about to embark on our annual plan consultation.

With so much activity, and so many imminent changes, we need your assistance and input. I

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It is all about water..

Summer is the time of year when we ask all residents to play their part in helping us conserve water

As most of you will be aware Stage 1 water restrictions came into force for the entire district on 2 December. We usually implement Stage 1 restrictions from early December to try and avoid more stringent restrictions as summer progresses. If we all save water early in the season, we may not need to implement Stage 2 or 3 restrictions.

Last year more water was used than was being produced in Tapanui so it's really important that you watch your water use, check for leaks, report any leaks in public places and let us know if anyone is not following the restrictions by ringing 0800 801 350.

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From the Mayor continued...

urge everyone to get involved and have your say. Once again we will be travelling around the district with 'soap box' sessions, and information will be sent to you on how you can respond to, not only the key issues that are covered in this flyer, but also to any other topics that are important to you.

As always with growth comes new and increasingly complex issues to solve, and definitely our district's key economic

inhibitors are a lack of housing and an inability to attract a workforce. This issue will only be exacerbated with major projects in the region like the Dunedin hospital rebuild further complicating a tight job market.

Another issue that is unfolding as I write this column is the problems council finds itself in with regards to failures at a number of our sewerage plants. This is an embarrassing situation for us to be in, and I assure you that every effort is being made to rectify the problems, and apologise on

behalf of Council that this should have ever happened.

No doubt we will have heaps to discuss when you come and 'hit us up at soap box' so please keep an eye out for dates and times for when we are visiting your area, I look forward to, and value, your input.

It's all about water continued...

What do water restrictions mean?

Stage 1 restrictions mean you can only water your garden between 8pm in the evening and 8am in the morning - so not during the day. Water systems should not be left unattended, so don't go to bed and leave your sprinkler running at night!

Stage 2 restrictions mean that all sprinklers and irrigation systems are banned and only hand-held watering is allowed between 8pm and 8am.

Stage 3 restrictions mean you can only water ONCE A WEEK between 8pm and 8am.

A huge thanks to all those who are already doing their bit to save water this summer!

Water notices

The best way to stay up to date with water information is to follow us on Facebook, or check out the road and water notices page on our website. That's where we post the latest news about water outages, conserve water notices and more.

If you are a rural water scheme customer, it's worth signing up to receive text messages or emails so you get immediate alerts about your drinking water. To sign up for email notices go to www.cluthadc.govt.nz and search for online newsletters.

To receive text messages sign up by looking for the link on the front page of our website, or by calling Council on 0800 801 350.

Of course, if you are having any water issues call 0800 801 350 any time and report it.

Do you have a project in mind?

Clutha District Creative Communities hold two funding rounds for the 2019/20 year. The next round closes on 1 March 2020.

The application guide can be found on the Funding Schemes page of our website.

Council's website:
www.cluthadc.govt.nz

To qualify, projects must:

- Take place within the Clutha District
- Be completed within 12 months of funding approval
- Not have started or finished before the funding is approved.

Please contact our Corporate Services Administrator Karen Piercy with any questions on 03 419 0261. It's great to have local groups take full advantage of this funding opportunity.

Council Policy Changes

The Council Reimbursement and Rent Reimbursement policies have been merged. The new policy is called Reimbursement of Charges, Hire Fees and Rents.

The major changes are:

- The term "Non-Profit Organisation" has been defined.
- The application must be made by a (non-profit) organisation (not an individual or individuals).
- The organisation provides a service to, or is undertaking, a project that benefits residents of Clutha District.
- The reimbursement of rent is now payable at 75% of the market rent.
- Council will only consider applications which are received within three months of the activity.

The revised policy was adopted by Council on 19 September 2019.

Paying online...

When you are paying your rates online please check that you have the reference details correct.

- **If you are paying your rates, use your valuation number as the reference.**
- **If you are making a Water Billing payment online the reference is also your valuation number.**
- **If you are paying a Council Sundry Invoice, change the reference to Customer ID and/or invoice number.**

For more information just ring Council on 0800 801 350.

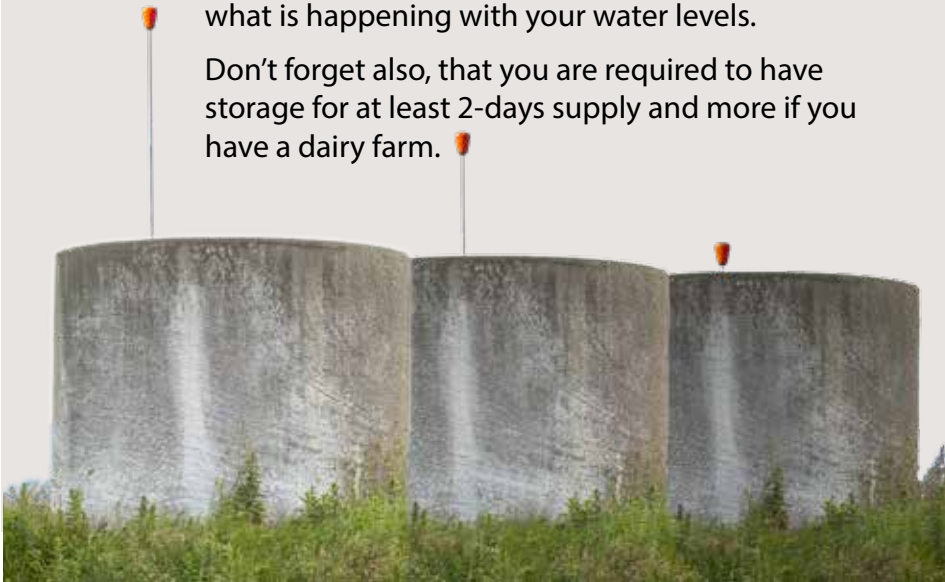
spotlight on... Tank Level Indicators



Tank level indicators are cheap to buy, easy to install, and give a valuable indication that all may not be well with your water supply.

We encourage everyone on a water scheme to have tank level indicators. You can see at a glance what is happening with your water levels.

Don't forget also, that you are required to have storage for at least 2-days supply and more if you have a dairy farm.



Only rain down the drain

Stormwater drains and pipes are made to collect rainwater efficiently, and transfer that water to local streams and rivers.

There is a separate system of sewer pipes for dirty water (the water that comes from toilets, kitchen sinks, your laundry etc.).

Importantly this dirty water goes to a treatment plant, not straight into a stream or river.

These separate systems mean it is vital that dirty water is kept out of storm drains so our rivers stay clean.

To avoid polluting our waterways, we need to be aware of activities that can cause contamination.

These include washing vehicles and boats in yards and driveways, washing out paintbrushes, letting cattle wander through drains, washing spilled chemicals down the drain, and tipping away engine oil, paint thinners or the like.

Not sure what's safe? Then remember this - only rain down the drain!

If you're unsure or have any questions, just give us a ring on 0800 801 350, we're happy to help.

Report a problem

If you need to report any problems with Council services, for example road damage or water leaks, it's easy to get in touch, just ring

0800 801 350 and lodge a service request or visit the Contact Us section on our website:

www.cluthadc.govt.nz



We want to know what you think

Council is always keen to get your feedback, particularly when it comes to future projects and important decisions.

There will be several opportunities over the coming months to tell us your thoughts about topics which are of importance to you or your community. We're always happy to have a chat, but look out for the following programs which will be additional opportunities to talk:

- Our Place Lawrence and Kaitangata Community Plans: if you care about these communities, and want to help shape a brighter future for generations to come, then please get involved in these two consultation processes. Lawrence consultation is planned for February-March, and there will be events in Kaitangata in April-May.
- Reserve Management Plans for the Catlins, Lawrence and Kaitangata: these plans establish the framework for how we manage our reserves, including the purposes and activities that may be undertaken on a reserve.
- 2020/21 Annual Plan consultation: Look out for this in March when we will be checking with ratepayers before making decisions that will affect rates from 1 July 2020.

Balclutha Pool Hours

Opening Hours:

Monday to Friday	6.00am to 8.00pm
Saturday	1.00pm to 4.30pm
Sunday	10.30am to 12 noon and 1.30 to 4.30pm
Public Holidays	10.30am to 4.30pm

Farewell/hello

At Christmas we said farewell to Kerrod Baldwin who left his role of Water and Waste Team leader. Kerrod started with us when he left school and worked his way through his Civil Engineering Diploma, graduating in 2013. He became our Operations Engineer and then Team Leader in the Operations Team. However, Council hasn't lost the benefit



of his expertise and local knowledge as he has moved to work for Citycare who have Council's water contract.

Milton Swimming Pool

Alicia Gillies has returned to the Milton Pool for another season as a Lifeguard, along with Rachal Fegan and Lynne Copland. We have two new staff at Milton, Josie Pirie and Susan White, as Swimming Pool Assistants. Tamaralee Rodwell and Maria Scott have also joined the Milton swimming pool team for this season.

Executive Assistant

Jo Jack has started at our Rosebank Office as Steve Hill's new Executive Assistant. She brings with her experience in a range of environments from banking, policing, youth education work, as well as developing her own successful business.

Jo's appointment allows Valerie Bell, who has supported several Chief Executives in her 22 years at Council, to concentrate on looking after Council's Human Resources.

Visitor Information Officer

Debbie Nixon has joined the Clutha i-Site team, working each fourth Friday and weekends, plus providing relief cover at other times.

Graduate Engineer

We've taken on James Ma for a limited period to help out the Capital Delivery team with some auditing and site supervision of various projects. James, a recent graduate from Canterbury University with BE (Hons) in Forest Engineering, is here until June 2020.

Library Changes

Shannon Rodwell moved from full time work to part time and now works on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Gisela Cook picks up the Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays plus Saturday mornings at times.

Changes in our Planning Department

Leonie Mullions joined Council in the second half of 2019 as our Senior Planner in our Planning and Regulatory Service Team. When asked what a Senior Planner did, Leonie explained that as well as getting ready for the review of the District Plan during 2020, she:

- Processes Resource Consents
- Processes PIMs (Project Information Memorandums)
- Deals with requests for LIMs and public enquiries

Leonie came to us from Marlborough where she did very similar work, but at a regional level.

Although Leonie comes from Northland, and grew up in Auckland, she is very much enjoying the southern lifestyle, and certainly doesn't miss the heat and humidity of the Far North.



Duty Planner Service

From early 2020 Leonie and her team member Nerilee Hakkaart have started a Duty Planning Service to answer simple planning questions the public may have.

This service will answer simple planning queries about the District Plan, Resource Management Act 1991 and what you can do with land.

The service is available Monday to Friday from 1.30 pm to 5.00 pm and can be accessed by calling 0800 801 350.

You can also email your query if that would be easier to planning@cluthadc.govt.nz. They will reply to you by email and can provide any additional information such as zone rules and plans if possible.

You can make an appointment to see a Duty Planner, by calling 0800 801 350 or by emailing planning@cluthadc.govt.nz.

