



DON'T FORGET TO SUBMIT ON THE ANNUAL PLAN

It's not too late to have your say on the Annual Plan, but you only have until next Friday to do so!

The 2017/18 Annual Plan reflects the third year of our 2015-25 Long-term Plan. We are seeking feedback on two new items that were not considered at the time the plan was developed: the future of the council's Lake Terrace office and funding for Go Tongariro.

We will be holding our final public consultation day on Tuesday, May 23, from 2pm to 6pm at our Lake Terrace office. If you would like to come and chat to us, we'd love to see you there!



WAYS TO HAVE YOUR SAY

» [Make a submission online at taupo.govt.nz](http://taupo.govt.nz)

» [Email annualplan@taupo.govt.nz](mailto:annualplan@taupo.govt.nz)

» [Write to the Chief Executive, Taupō District Council, Private Bag 2005, Taupō](#)

Make sure your submission is with our team by 5pm on Friday, 26 May 2017.

All submissions will be considered but if you'd like to present yours in person, you will be invited to a hearing to be held June 7 to 9.

REGISTER NOW FOR PUBLIC FORUM

If you want to address the mayor and councillors before this month's council meeting, here is your opportunity.

Our public forum gives you a chance to talk about an upcoming agenda item or any topic of interest concerning the Taupō District.

The next forum will start at 1pm on Tuesday, May 30 before the council meeting at 1.30pm, and each person or group can speak for five minutes.

While the forum isn't a formal meeting or a time for debate, our elected members might ask you questions for clarification, but no formal decisions can be made. If a

decision is needed, the matter can be referred to a future council or committee meeting.

If you want to speak, let us know by 4pm on the Thursday prior to the meeting. In the case of this month, it means 4pm Thursday, May 25.

If you have any questions regarding our public forum, please email publicforum@taupo.govt.nz.

» **PUBLIC FORUM: 1pm, Tuesday May 30**
Register before 4pm, Thursday, May 25
by emailing publicforum@taupo.govt.nz



CONSIDERED ADOPTING A DOG?

Dog adoptions from the Taupō pound are increasing, with over 50 dogs adopted already this year and 34 adoptions in March and April alone.

Compliance team supervisor Ross McDonald said the team was working hard to see as many dogs rehomed as possible.

"We're really happy with the way dog adoptions are going and get great satisfaction from seeing our dogs go to good families," he said.

Dog adoptions reached 200 in 2016, nearly doubling the 2015 total of 101.

If you're considering adopting a dog, find our Facebook page by searching Taupo District Adopt a Dog or visit us at the pound from noon to 2pm weekdays. Come and see what wonderful dogs are looking for homes today!

If you already own a dog, don't forget to look out for your registration from next month. We'll be sending forms out from June for the 2017/18 year, and all dogs over three months of age must have a current registration. This is due July 1.

HEALTH AND SAFETY PARAMOUNT



Like all employers, the health and safety of our staff is something we consider critically important. We want to make sure everyone can carry out their work in the community in a workplace that is safe and healthy.

Unfortunately, our main council office on Lake Terrace has a number of health and safety issues, with asbestos found not only in the building cladding but in the soil around the building.

There is also a need to undertake earthquake strengthening.

The only way to ensure staff safety in the short to medium term is to relocate to other premises while the long term future of the council offices is decided and the asbestos removed. This week, elected members agreed for staff to be relocated to five office spaces around Taupō's CBD over the next three months. This will include moving our customer service centre to a site in Horomatangi Street.

We also approved unbudgeted expenditure of up to \$800,000 for the first two years lease costs and fit out of the buildings. We are fortunate in that the strong financial performance of both the council and its TEL fund investment will mean there will be no impact on rates as a result of the relocation.

Separating teams by moving them to several locations is by no means ideal, but it is something we have to do and we need to work with the space that is available. Be assured, we will work hard to ensure the impact on the community is minimal.

I know there may be some concerns about council staff taking up car parks in the CBD. While there may be some change, we will make sure the impact won't be greater than if the office spaces were being used by individual companies.

Our staff work tirelessly for the community looking after the place we love and we need to ensure they can continue to do this in a workplace that is safe and healthy for everyone.

We'll keep you updated with details about changes to our customer service centre in the coming months, so keep an eye out for more details.

Mayor David Trewavas » dtrewavas@taupo.govt.nz

Need to know

The dates for Council's deliberations on the draft freedom camping bylaw and draft reserve management plan for Reid's Farm have changed. Council will now deliberate submissions on Thursday, June 22, and this will be open to the public.

What's on?

- 19 May Ryan Orchard – Sing It Loud, Great Lake Centre
- 21 May Playday on Track – Taupō Cars, Bruce McLaren Motorsport Park
- 27 May Banff Mountain Film Festival, Great Lake Centre
- 29 May Four Flat Whites In Italy, Great Lake Centre
- Until 12 June The Crescent Moon: The Asian Face of Islam in New Zealand exhibition, Taupō Museum
- Until 12 June Heirlooms: Taupō Embroiders' Guild exhibition, Taupō Museum

For more information on Taupō District events visit www.GreatLakeTaupo.com