

## MAYOR CALLS FOR TAUPŌ DISTRICT TO HELP SLOW SPREAD OF COVID-19

Let's all do our part and stay at home to help slow the spread of COVID-19.



**THIS IS SUCH a simple, yet vital step, to protect people's health.**

As we are now at Alert Level 4, we need to be following the Government's directives and we need to be taking this very seriously, as it will save the lives of tens of thousands of New Zealanders.

All schools and non-essential businesses

including bars, restaurants, cafes, cinemas, playgrounds are now closed for the next four weeks, and we now need to be staying at home in self-isolation.

I cannot stress that enough – please stay at home unless you need essential supplies or are doing solo outdoor activities. If we do this, we have a chance to slow the spread.

We all have a part to play.

Essential services including supermarkets and pharmacies are still open, so there is no need to panic.

Of course, our council services are continuing to operate online and over the phone. We have ramped up our call centre and we are here to help. You can also head to our website or use our council-app Antenna to log a request.

Lastly, please be kind to one another. This is an unprecedented, uncertain and challenging time for everyone and we need to ensure we are looking out for each other.

MAYOR – DAVID TREWAVAS.

### WHAT IS ALERT LEVEL 4:

- People instructed to stay at home
- Educational facilities closed
- Businesses closed except for essential services (e.g. supermarkets, pharmacies, clinics) and lifeline utilities
- Rationing of supplies and requisitioning of facilities
- Travel severely limited
- Major reprioritisation of healthcare services

For further information on COVID-19 you can head to [covid19.govt.nz](https://covid19.govt.nz).

## GET IN TOUCH WITH US

Our service centres may be closed but our friendly call centre team are here to help you with any council-related inquiries you may have over this four week lock-down period. Whether you want to discuss setting up a direct debit for your rates payments on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis or you would like to report an issue, the team will be able to assist. You can contact them by phoning 0800 ASK TDC (0800 275 832) or emailing [info@taupo.govt.nz](mailto:info@taupo.govt.nz).

## CONSENT AND LICENSING APPLICATIONS

**ALL APPLICATIONS THAT can be processed without an inspection or face-to-face meeting are progressing as normal. This includes building and resource consents, health and alcohol licensing.**

However, any applications where inspections are required are currently on hold for at least the next four weeks, to ensure we are adhering to the Government's directive to self-isolate.

## ALL CAPITAL PROJECTS POSTPONED

**AS WE MOVE to support the district to self-isolate, all council capital projects have been put on hold, for at least four weeks.**

This includes major projects like the Great Lake Walkway upgrade, Miro St upgrade and Acacia Bay / Wiley Terrace retaining walls.

This does not affect any essential services like water or wastewater network issues which will be dealt with during the four week period.

For the most up to date information on council services you can head to [taupo.govt.nz/covid-19](https://taupo.govt.nz/covid-19) or head to our facebook page [facebook.com/taupodistrictcouncil](https://facebook.com/taupodistrictcouncil).

## ALL COMMUNITY FACILITIES CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

**AS A RESULT of the Government's move to Alert Level 4, all Taupō District Council community facilities are now closed for at least the next four weeks.**

The facilities closed are:

- Taupō, Turangi and Mangakino libraries
- Taupō Museum
- AC Baths and Turtle Pools
- All playgrounds
- Great Lakes Centres
- Events Centre
- Rockwall
- Fitness Studio

- Superloo
- Turangi, Taupō and Mangakino Customer Service Centres
- All community halls
- Three council-managed freedom camping areas at Hipapatua/Reid's Farm, Whakamaru Domain, Mangakino Recreation Reserve
- All public toilets

The landfill transfer stations across the district are open for disposing of bagged rubbish and for essential commercial services only. We will not be accepting any green waste, recycling or any other materials.

## KERBSIDE COLLECTION UPDATE

**KERBSIDE RUBBISH COLLECTION services will continue to be made on your normal collection day, however, kerbside recycling services will not be operating over the four week lock down, as the sorting facilities involve close contact for staff.**

Head of operations Kevin Strongman said these measures would ensure the council was adhering to the Government's directive and reduce as much risk as possible.

"As our recycling sorting facilities require our staff to

be in close contact we have made the decision to stop this service until further notice," he said.

"We understand that this will be an inconvenience for many and apologise for this – but the health of our staff, our community and our country must be our first priority.

"We also ask that anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or who is unwell and may have been in contact with a confirmed case to double bag their waste and wait 72 hours before putting out your collection."

