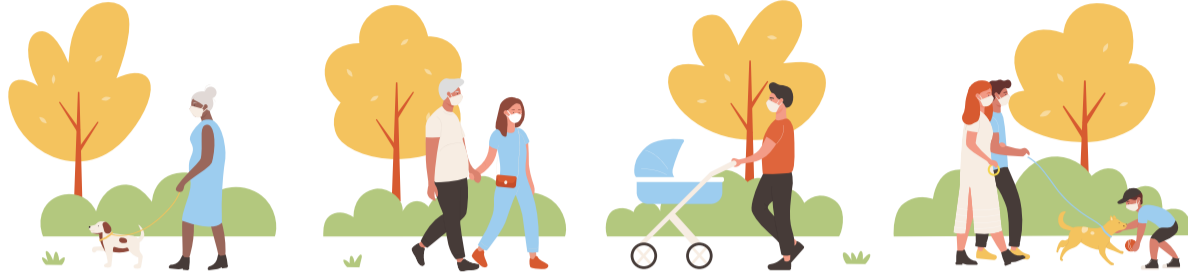


COUNCIL SERVICES AT ALERT LEVEL 3



WE ALL HAVE started to breathe slightly freer as of yesterday as the Taupō District moved into Alert Level 3.

However, the majority of council facilities must remain closed at this level. This includes:

- Libraries (you can still download e-Books and e-Audiobooks for free taupo.govt.nz/ebooks)
- Museum & Art Gallery
- Pools
- Indoor Rockwall and Fitness Studio
- Playgrounds and toilets (Tongariro St public toilet remains open)
- Freedom camping sites
- Taupō Events Centre (other than for a drive-through Covid-19 vaccination clinic on Friday 3 September and Saturday 4 September).
- Great Lake Centre
- Owen Delaney Park
- Community Halls
- All customer service centres (available by phoning 0800 ASK TDC or email info@taupo.govt.nz)

Changes to some of our facilities and services at Alert Level 3:

RUBBISH AND RECYCLING

We will be collecting kerbside rubbish. We will also be collecting kerbside recycling, however, we cannot operate our recycling facilities at Alert Level 3 due to the lack of social distancing. This means recycling will need to go to landfill. Alternatively, you can wash, separate and store your recycling for collection when we move to Alert Level 2.

Our landfill and transfer stations will be open, however, there will be customer limits and masks are required when using the facility. Please note, no recycling. We are still encouraging people to remain at home, unless it is essential to visit.

COUNCIL SERVICES

A number of other council services also restarted Wednesday, with added health and safety measures and contact tracing. These include:

- Building inspections
- Mowing of high-use parks and reserves
- Road and street-light maintenance
- Three waters maintenance
- Some gardening services
- Limited litter pick ups
- Compliance officer patrols and investigations of complaints
- Some construction projects

Resource and building consents have continued to be processed throughout the lockdown.

A reminder too, for all dog owners to keep your dogs in your bubble. We've had a number of dog attacks reported along with numerous complaints of roaming and aggressive dogs. This is putting our community and compliance team at risk by leading to contact between people from different bubbles – and that's not keeping our whanau and communities safe. Infringement notices may be issued when dogs are found to be roaming.

CALL FOR COMMUNITY VIEWS ON GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSED THREE WATERS REFORM



TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL is calling for the community to share their views on the future of three waters by completing a short survey.

The government is currently proposing significant changes to the delivery of three waters (stormwater, wastewater and drinking water) including the creation of four publicly-owned entities to deliver these services. For the Taupō District, this would see us join with 21 other local council areas.

Every council has until late September to assess this proposal and the impacts on local communities.

Taupō District Mayor David Trewavas said while this is a government-led proposal, and council doesn't have all the information, it is important to include community feedback at this stage in the process.

"This is about getting the conversation started. While formal consultation would be government-led, we think including your feedback at this stage is the right thing to do, as we believe our local voices are a key part of these reforms.

"What we do know is that compliance costs for water will increase significantly over time so a key consideration for us is whether we want to pay higher rates to keep ownership and control of our water assets or do we want to pay lower rates, by spreading the cost out across a wider area, but see the ownership and control of these assets sit with central government.

"The survey will allow us to better understand the community's views on this balance of keeping costs affordable for households and retaining the delivery of three waters within council.

"This will also allow us to include our community's views as a valuable part of what we take back to Government at the end of September," Mr Trewavas said.

The survey closes on Wednesday 14 September to allow council time to review responses and include them into the formal response to government on their Three Waters Reform proposal.

After this, the government has said they will consider next steps, including the process and revised timing for decision-making and consultation.

To fill out the survey please head to surveyMonkey.com/r/pf3td5c

For more information on Three Waters you can head to taupo.govt.nz/threewatersreform or head to dia.govt.nz/Three-waters-review



E-BOOKS FOR ALL

WHILE OUR LIBRARIES in Taupō, Turangi and Mangakino are closed at alert level 3, members can still download e-Books and e-Audiobooks for free! And if you're not a member, you can sign up online for a free, temporary Digital Only Membership which gives you access to all e-Books, e-Audiobooks and online resources. Find out more at www.taupodc.govt.nz/ebooks

Note that all loans of library items will be extended without fines and fees while the libraries are closed. After-hours book returns slots are closed too, so just hold onto any loan items you have until the libraries reopen.

If you have any urgent queries about your library account or items checked out to you, or would like help accessing library resources online, please phone 07-376 0899 or email info@taupo.govt.nz

REACHING OUT

OUR CALL CENTRE will always be in operation to answer your calls – you can contact us anytime by calling 07 376 0899 or 0800 ASK TDC (0800 275 832) or email info@taupo.govt.nz.

If you need help with financial assistance or social service support, including food grants, please visit www.msd.govt.nz or ring the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) on 0800 559 009. This number is for everyone who may need assistance.



DRIVE-THROUGH COVID-19 VACCINATIONS IN TAUPŌ

Bookings are open for the Taupō drive-through vaccination clinic.

This is taking place on Friday 3 and Saturday 4 September at the Taupō Events Centre, AC Baths Ave.
You can book at www.bookmyvaccine.nz

Anyone with a booking for Friday or Saturday at the immunisation hub on Totara St will have a new booking for this drive-through.

