

## INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT GIVES COUNCIL TOP MARKS



**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL is heading in the right direction despite significant challenges relating to population growth and the Covid-19 pandemic, an independent assessment report has shown.**

The council received a CouncilMARK grading of 'A' last month, an improvement from its 'BBB' rating in its first assessment in 2018. The latest on-site assessment was conducted in April this year.

The CouncilMARK programme, developed by Local Government New Zealand, is designed to improve the public's knowledge of the work councils are doing in their communities and to support individual councils to further improve the service and value they provide.

The 2022 report said the Taupō District Council had made "significant progress" since its 2018 assessment, maintaining business momentum during the district's growth while at

the same time undertaking a "substantial reorganisation of executive management".

"While numerous opportunities for further improvement remain, the past four years has set the council on a positive trajectory for success," the report said.

Taupō District Council chief executive officer Gareth Green said overall, the assessment was a great result and evidence of the hard work that had been done in the last four years.

"We are about to enter the election period and this independent report should give candidates and the community confidence that we are headed in the right direction, and punching above our weight," he said.

"While this shows we are on the right track, we are determined to keep improving and making sure the Taupō District continues to be a great place to live."

## TIME TO MAKE A STAND AND GET ELECTION NOMINATIONS IN

# WHAT DO YOU STAND FOR?

"TE AO MĀORI AT THE HEART OF EVERYTHING WE DO"

STEVIE MANUNUI // KIDS GREENING TAUPŌ CO-CHAIR

STAND FOR LOCAL GOVT NOW // VOTELocal.CO.NZ



**ACT NOW! WE have passed the halfway point of the nomination period for the local authority elections. If you're passionate about your community and have ideas for how to make it even better, then now is the time to make your stand for Taupō District Council.**

The Taupō District Council election will be for the mayor and 12 councillors.

Check out the council pre-election report titled The Big Picture at [taupo.govt.nz/vote22](http://taupo.govt.nz/vote22) which provides voters and candidates with information about the council's financial position, major projects planned and the key issues facing the district.

Completed nomination documents must be received by the electoral officer no later than 12 noon on Friday 12 August 2022. Each nomination must be accompanied by a deposit of \$200 including GST.



## FREE BETTER BANKING AND FINANCIAL WELLBEING WORKSHOPS

**ASB IS RUNNING two workshops for adults and seniors at both Taupō and Tūrangi Libraries this month and you are welcome to come along to either workshop or to both! The workshops are free, open to people using any bank, and booking is not required.**

### Better Banking Workshop with ASB and Age Concern

Do you or someone you know need to gain confidence with the ins and outs of banking? The Better Banking session is likely to be most suitable for seniors, but all are welcome. Head along to learn about:

- Cards, ATMs & phone banking
- Fraud & scams
- Password & PIN number security

Taupō Library: Tuesday 16 August, 2 - 3pm

Tūrangi Library: Wednesday 17 August, 10 - 11am

### Financial Wellbeing Workshop with ASB

Suitable for adults, the Financial Wellbeing session covers the basics of banking, setting up your accounts to work for you, spending, saving including KiwiSaver, healthy borrowing, and protecting what's important.

Taupō Library: Tuesday 16 August, 12.15 - 1pm

Tūrangi Library: Wednesday 17 August, 11.30am - 12.30pm

Visit [taupo.govt.nz/libraries](http://taupo.govt.nz/libraries) for more information.

## CONCRETE PROGRESS ON WAIORA HOUSE REBUILD

**THE WAIORA HOUSE rebuild has hit a major milestone this week, with the building's foundation poured.**

The new building on the corner of Spa Road and Kaimanawa and Motutaiko streets, will be owned by Taupō District Council but operated by Waiora Community Trust. It will be a purpose-built facility that will support the needs of the district's social sector and house a variety of not-for-profit organisations. It was previously located on the same site in the former Taupō Maternity Hospital, which was demolished in 2019.

Locally-owned and operated builders RBS Group Limited

have been at work preparing the site since April and the foundation and concrete slab pour went ahead on Monday and Tuesday this week. The next stage will be the paving, civil works and outside services.

Taupō District Council senior project manager Pete Bradshaw said he was pleased to see the concreting go ahead in good conditions this week after the recent wet weather.

"This is a significant milestone in the construction programme, which is still on track for practical completion around April next year," he said.

### RECYCLING TIP OF THE WEEK!

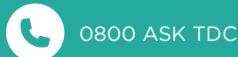
You can help our kerbside collectors by separating your recycling into three product streams:

1. Paper and flattened cardboard
2. Glass
3. Tin, aluminium and plastics 1, 2 and 5

[taupo.govt.nz/recycling](http://taupo.govt.nz/recycling)



If you see something which requires council assistance, easily report it using our Antenna app.



0800 ASK TDC



[info@taupo.govt.nz](mailto:info@taupo.govt.nz)



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30 Tongariro Street, Taupō

@ Email your elected members at [councillors@taupo.govt.nz](mailto:councillors@taupo.govt.nz)



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