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‘No surprise’ as Council monitoring detects movement in hazard zone

Council monitoring has picked up ground movement in an identified hazard zone in Waihi, but Council engineers say there is no cause for concern. There are no houses in the affected area near the intersection of Slevin and Newman Street, which was part of a large residential area evacuated by the Council, Newmont Waihi Gold and the Crown following the collapse of historic mine workings under Barry Road and nearby areas in 2001.

“We expected there would be some movement in this area, that’s why the houses were evacuated in the first place, so it’s not a surprise from our point of view,” says Engineering Services Manager, Adrian de Laborde.

A barrier has been erected around the site as a precaution while Council engineers continue to monitor and investigate the cause of the ground movement. Part of the Pit Rim Walkway also passes by the affected area and this is still safe to use, says de Laborde.

“We have purposefully gone out quite wide with the fencing to reduce any risk to the public,” he says, adding there is no relation between this incident, caused by historic mine workings, and the modern mining that now occurs in the town.



PUBLIC NOTICE FLUSH YOUR TAPS

Ministry of Health Notice

Some plumbing fittings have the potential to allow minute traces of metals to accumulate in water standing in the fittings for several hours.



Although the health risk is small, the Ministry of Health recommends that you flush a mugful of water from your drinking water tap each morning before use to remove any metals that may have dissolved from the plumbing fittings.

We are recommending this simple precaution for all households, including those on public and private water supplies.

Hauraki District Council

2015 General Revaluation

The Rating Valuation Roll for the Hauraki District has been revised as at 1 July 2015 by Quotable Value Limited as the Councils Valuation Service provider. It will be open for public inspection during office hours at the Hauraki District Council offices at William Street in Paeroa, Orchard Road in Ngatea and Rosemont Road in Waihi for the period 11 September 2015 to 22 October 2015. The valuations will also be available on the Council's website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz.

Objections must be received at one of Council's offices by 4.30pm on 22 October 2015.

Objection forms are available from our offices or can be downloaded from our website.

Langley Covers
 Chief Executive
 Hauraki District Council

Hauraki Towns make Ultrafast Broadband Long List

Good news for those with slow internet in Waihi, Paeroa and Ngatea. All three towns have made the long list of towns to receive Ultra Fast Broadband (UFB) in the next Government rollout.

Minister for Communications, Amy Adams, announced the list of 113 towns last week as part of the tender process for prospective build partners to expand the UFB network to at least 80% of the population.

No guarantee, but a promising step in the right direction

While there is no guarantee all those towns on the list will receive a share of Government funding to provide UFB, it's a promising step in the right direction.

Despite being prioritised for UFB in the Council's Registration of Interest application, Kaiaua and Kerepehi were not included in the long list. This doesn't necessarily mean they will miss out on UFB. The Government has encouraged prospective partners (like Wel Networks, and Chorus etc...) to include additional towns and coverage areas they believe are feasible and cost-effective in their bids and we will also be encouraging them to do so.

Hauraki District Council submitted a Registration of Interest – Support application in July in a bid to win a share of the Government's contestable \$360 million fund for UFB, and improved rural broadband and mobile services. The long list is based on projected population size to 2023, along with the information supplied by Councils in their Registration of Interest applications.

The Next Phase

A steering group made up of the Mayor, Councillors and members of the community, is now working on the second phase of its broadband funding application – a Digital Enablement Plan. The finished plan will include a number of projects that utilise technology to enhance community and business growth, and is due to be submitted on 18 September 2015.

Although the Minister initially signalled the short list of successful towns would be announced in December this year, she now says towns to receive UFB will be announced in the middle of 2016, while areas to receive rural broadband and mobile phone funding will be announced towards the end of 2016.

Are you entitled to a RATES REBATE?



Good news for low-income homeowners: the government has increased the thresholds for its rates rebates scheme, making more people eligible for a subsidy.

Ratepayers can now receive a maximum annual income of \$24,440 plus \$500 for each dependant, to qualify for a full \$610 rebate. People with an income of up to \$40,000 may still be entitled to some assistance, depending on the rates amount and the number of dependants in the household.

Council will send out letters to Hauraki homeowners who have previously received a rebate, encouraging them to apply again. The Department of Internal Affairs requires people to apply every year for their rebate. Brochures are also being distributed with newsletters from all schools, so those that may be eligible because of dependants have a better chance of becoming aware of the eligibility criteria.

Rebate applicants can make a 15-minute appointment at a council office, with a Customer Service Advisor. Customer services staff are authorised to take the statutory declaration required by the Department of Internal Affairs. Every endeavour is made to ensure that these short interviews are friendly and private.

Alternatively you can contact us to have a form posted to you or download the application form from [http://www.dia.govt.nz/pubforms.nsf/URL/Application-form-2015-16-4-pages.pdf/\\$file/Application-form-2015-16-4-pages.pdf](http://www.dia.govt.nz/pubforms.nsf/URL/Application-form-2015-16-4-pages.pdf/$file/Application-form-2015-16-4-pages.pdf)

If you are completing the form yourself you will need to get the Statutory Declaration witnessed by a Solicitor, JP, Notary Public, Court Registrar or MP, before mailing it to Council.

If you are unable to come into a Council Office, home visits are available by arrangement. Council staff really will go the extra mile to assist!

Wage or salary earners need to bring a summary of earnings and a bank interest statement, for the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015, to their appointment. Self-employed workers need to supply an income summary for the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015 from the IRD or an accountant. Those receiving income assistance need only bring their bank interest statement for the previous financial year, as the Council has been instructed to use pre printed benefit schedules for this calculation. If you have received accommodation supplement throughout the year you do need to supply a statement showing the amount of accommodation supplement received.

Applicants must have been living at the relevant property as at 1 July 2015.

The deadline for applications is 30 June 2016, but we encourage you to apply early in order to gain the benefits of the rebate throughout the rating year.

