



KIA KAHA TE REO MĀORI

MĀORI LANGUAGE WEEK
10 - 16 SEPTEMBER 2018

To celebrate and acknowledge Te Wiki o te Reo Māori (Māori Language Week) we've set a goal to encourage and grow our te reo skills, not just during Māori Language Week, but on an ongoing basis...

- From next week, public toilet signs at Ohinemuri Park, Karangahake Reserve, Ngatea Main Street and Waihi's Victoria Park (aka Rocket Park) will sport bilingual headings. Over time, this will be extended to other Council signs throughout the district.
- Email signatures will be changed to include te reo job titles
- Te reo will be added to the name badges of customer services staff and library teams
- Staff will be encouraged and supported to practice speaking te reo with each other and with customers where they can
- A karakia will be introduced at the beginning and end of Council meetings
- Our libraries will add more te reo to existing programmes such as Toddler Time
- Resources will be on display at our libraries – we'd love you to join us and brush up on your own te reo skills

“For some of us this will be a bit of a learning curve so we ask our customers to please bear with us and support us in our efforts. We may not always get our pronunciation or wording 100 percent right but we expect this will improve with practice and encouragement. Whakawhetai koe mo to tautoko – thank you for your support”

Chief Executive, Langley Cavers



Take part in our Facebook Challenge and win a set of te reo children's books. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more details.



One, three, four, two... how many councillors should represent you?

If you haven't already shared your thoughts with us, it's not too late!

Our initial proposal... was to reduce the number of councillors in the District from 12 to 9.

However... the general view of those who gave us their feedback was that a reduction in numbers from 12 to 9 councillors would not meet the representation needs of our communities.

So... we've taken that on board and amended our proposal to go with the status quo, which is to have one mayor (elected by the whole district) and 12 councillors; four representing the Paeroa ward, four representing the Waihi Ward and four representing the Plains Ward, with no community boards.

What now?

Anyone who objects to our final proposal can lodge an objection against Council's proposal.

Anyone who has made a submission on the Council's initial proposal can lodge an appeal against the Council's decision.

Appeal/objection forms will be available at our offices and on our website from Wednesday 12 September to Friday 12 October 2018.

As the amended proposal will likely fall just outside the allowable population range for the Waihi Ward, the matter will then go to the Local Government Commission to make the final decision on how it thinks our councillor numbers and wards should look for the next two elections.

What's this all about?

Every six years we have to look at the number of councillors and wards in our district, as well as whether or not we should have community boards. This is to make sure we have the right amount of councillors around the Council table to fairly and effectively represent the number of people that live in each of our communities.

For more information go to www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/our-council/representation-review

Hey, if you're a homeowner on a low income, we need to talk...

Rates rebates we don't want you to miss out

We're concerned some of our ratepayers could be missing out on hundreds of dollars of savings on their rates bill per year because they haven't applied for a rates rebate. The maximum rebate this year is \$630.

To get at least some of the \$630 savings, for someone paying an average amount of residential rates in Hauraki, your annual household income would need to be \$35,000 or less. If your rates are higher than average, then you could earn more than \$35,000 and still get a rebate. You're also allowed an extra \$500 income for each dependent person in your household.

If this sounds like it might apply to you, phone us to make an appointment with one of our friendly customer services team and find out how much you can save today.

If you have arrears on your rates bill, our customer services team can help sort that out too.

If your rates bill is in arrears you can still apply for a rebate. For more information go to www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/services/rates/rates-rebates

easypay

We're always happy to talk about rates payment options/arrangements to make things easier for you. Come and talk to us about the easypay way to pay your rates.

It's easy-peasy

Find out more on our website

www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/services/rates/rates-easypay

Do you know someone who...



- Makes the world a brighter place
- Shakes things up
- Stick their neck out to help others
- Is outstanding in their field

Nominate them today for an
**HDC Citizen or
Young Achievers Award**

[www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/
community-awards](http://www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/community-awards)

