



HDC NEWS



Thinking of Standing for Election?

This is another in the series of articles giving you information about becoming an elected member. Some weeks ago we answered the two questions - "How much time does it take?" and "How much will I get paid?" If you missed these articles you can always look them up on our website: www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz

Today we will try to answer the question: "What do councillors do?"

Elected members are there to govern. Those who have served on school boards of trustees will know the difference between governance and management but it is an area of confusion for many. Councillors do not instruct staff. They do not tell people to fix potholes or how to mow the grass or weed the gardens. They do set policy and decide priorities then let the staff get on with the day-to-day management of Council.

One way of putting it is that management is doing things right, governance is doing the right things.

Council's work is wide and varied. It stretches from roads, water, sewerage and rubbish, to parks, reserves, halls, cemeteries and libraries and then to issues such as gambling, liquor licensing, prostitution, economic development, tourism, and of course dog control and the fencing of swimming pools. The other major regulatory issues are those of enforcing both the Resource Management Act and the Building Act. This list is not a comprehensive one and things seem to be added every year.

While councillors will be expected to develop a working knowledge of these matters this will not happen overnight and if you are elected to Council you will be given some training opportunities. It is wise for councillors not to try to become experts on a wide range of topics but to specialise in an area they are interested and then have a broad overview of the rest of council work.

All decisions should be made on facts not on predetermined notions and councillors should keep an open mind on each issue until they have heard all sides of the argument. It is usual for staff to present options to Council and recommendations on issues to be decided. Because of the need (which is laid down in legislation) for councillors to keep an open mind on each issue it is not much good for people to stand for election on a platform of getting a specific job done in a particular way. It could be construed that you have predetermined the outcome on the issue and, as such, you could be barred from voting on it.

Suffice to say, that if you are an ordinary citizen with normal common sense, who has an interest in your community and a reasonable general knowledge of what is happening around you, you would be capable of being a good councillor.

Elected Members' Diary

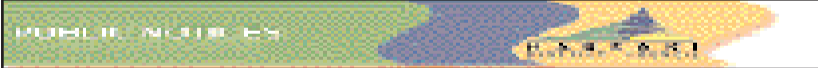
Meetings for the week of 2nd to the 8th April 2007

Tuesday 3rd April -

Water and Waste Consultative Committee

Thursday 5th April -

Hearing (if required)



WHIRITOA REFUSE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Easter: Monday the 9th of April collection will be at 4.00pm

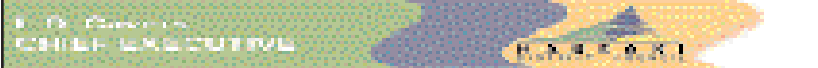
REFUSE TRANSFER STATION OPENING HOURS FOR EASTER WEEKENDS

	PAEROA	WAIHI
Easter Friday	Closed all day	Closed all day
Easter Monday	Open	Open

Any queries, please call the council offices during working hours on 07 862 8609 or 0800 734 834 (from within the district).

LIBRARY HOURS OVER EASTER

	PAEROA & WAIHI	NGATEA
Thursday 5th	9.30-5.30pm	8.00-4.30pm
Good Friday	Closed	Closed
Easter Saturday	Closed	Closed
Easter Monday	Closed	Closed
Tuesday 10th	normal hours resume	normal hours resume



RESERVES MANAGEMENT PLAN

Pursuant to section 41 (6) of the Reserves Management Act, 1977, notice is given that Hauraki District Council's Reserve Management Plan has been consulted on.

Hearings have taken place on submissions received, and the Reserves Management Plan has been subsequently adopted by Council on 15th March 2007.

The Reserves Management Plan is now available from Council Offices and Libraries in:

- William St, Paeroa.
- Seddon St, Waihi.
- Orchard Rd, Ngatea.

The plan can also be viewed and downloaded on the Council's website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz

DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN

The Draft Annual Plan 2007/08 is currently available for public comment and will be until the 23rd April 2007. Contained within the Draft Annual Plan 2007/08 are a number of documents available for consultation including that of the Draft Positive Ageing Strategy and the Draft Contestable Social Fund.

Below is a summary of each of these documents. The complete documents are available for downloading on Council's website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz

Draft Positive Ageing Strategy

Council has committed to drafting a Positive Ageing Strategy towards ensuring, Hauraki will be a great place for older people to live. Council decided a strategy was needed as Hauraki Districts ageing population presents challenges for both community groups and for Council.

Currently the Hauraki Districts population of the 55 year old and over age group accounts for 29.96% of the total Hauraki District population. Projections indicate it is possible for the next census to show 40% of the Districts population will be over 55 years old.

As part of this strategy Council has identified a series of key actions that Council will commit to including:

- enhancing the community contribution to local government decision making through greater community awareness.
- continuation of the Council provision of pensioner housing.
- endeavouring to provide a safe environment for Hauraki District residents.
- providing effective and tailored urban design to help seniors remain active and to enhance general CBD accessibility.
- providing parks and reserves that are free, clean and tidy open space with appropriate seating

Draft Contestable Social Fund

Following the Hauraki Community Plan 2006-16 consultation process, it was identified that there are a number of social services stakeholders in the Hauraki District that may require assistance from Council from time to time. Council has an obligation to the Hauraki Community to distribute Contestable Social Funding in a way that ensures it makes the best use of public money.

A Draft Contestable Social Fund has been developed and is currently being consulted on in conjunction with the Draft Annual Plan 2007/08. The purpose of the Draft Contestable Social Fund is to provide Council with effective administrative and decision making systems for distributing community assistance to the social services sector of the Hauraki District.

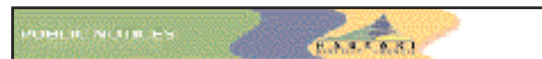
It is proposed Council's Contestable Social Funds are available to Hauraki's Social Services sectors. The amount of funding available is dependant on the amount of benefit the project can provide the community. A maximum of \$10,000 of Contestable Social Funding will be granted for an application that can demonstrate benefit/s to the Hauraki District as a whole.

Applications for funding must meet the following criteria: Should be based in the Hauraki District and/or be primarily of benefit to the Hauraki District community. The organisation or group must be accessible to a wide range of people or the intended user group.

Must demonstrate how their proposed activity contributes to the community outcome "Integrated provision of quality health and social services throughout our district".

Organisations will be required to provide an accountability report to the Council outlining the use and community benefits the funds have provided no later than 12 months after the funds have been uplifted. They must also comply with required accountability and compliance conditions.

Council appreciates your feedback and encourages you to make a submission on these policy statements. Submission forms are available from Council's website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz or from calling the Council offices on 07 862 8609 or 0800 734 834 (from within the District).



Pursuant to Section 46 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, public notice is hereby given that the following meeting will be held during the month of April 2007.

**Extraordinary Meeting of Council
Thursday 5 April 2007, 9.00am**



CREATIVE COMMUNITIES SCHEME FUNDING FOR LOCAL ARTS

Applications for funding assistance to local arts projects and initiatives are now being received.

The scheme focuses on projects that increase participation in the range and diversity of arts, within the Hauraki District Council area.

Application forms are available from council offices at:

*William Street, Paeroa
Seddon Street, Waihi
Orchard Road, Ngatea*

**Applications close 4:00pm
Friday 27 April 2007**

**For further information contact
Council's Community Liaison Officer.**



POLICY ANALYST

Hauraki District Council is seeking to appoint a Policy Analyst to join our Planning and Environmental team at our Paeroa Office. Our central location is near Auckland and the Coromandel Peninsula with fantastic beaches and native bush walks at our doorstep.

This will be a challenging and interesting position with the main purpose being to provide robust policy advice on a wide range of issues and procedures to enable Council to meet its responsibilities and plan for the future. The role is instrumental in the development and review of policy to ensure compliance with legislation.

We would love to hear from you if you have:

- A Tertiary Qualification and relevant experience in corporate planning or business management
- Knowledge of the Local Government Act
- Ability to interpret legislation and think laterally
- A desire to be part of a friendly team

We can offer you:

- A user friendly workplace where we appreciate the need for Work-life balance
- A caring team environment with a Manager who will notice and reward you for your efforts
- Developmental training to enhance your career and work life
- A competitive remuneration package.

**For Application forms and Job Descriptions please contact HR Advisors
Sue Greenville (07) 862 5024 or
Julie Sweeney (07)862 5023
E-mail jobs@hauraki-dc.govt.nz or
Visit our website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz**

Applications close on 16 April 2007

