

# Central Link

He karere tā te Kaunihera ā Rohe o Whakaahurangi  
News from the Stratford District Council

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TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O  
WHAKAAHURANGI  
**STRATFORD**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL



Colour  
in the  
Park

## Thanks for making Colour in the Park so much fun

Stratford District Youth Council (SDYC) had an incredible turnout for their Colour in the Park event in King Edward Park.

A massive thank you to everyone who came and got messy with us - cats included! We had a blast and hope you did too.

Shout-out to the youth councillors at SDYC, Zeal Taranaki, and Taranaki Electricity Trust for making this free community event possible.

## Public Notices

### Closure of a section of Carrington Walkway Eastern Loop

A section of the Carrington Walkway Eastern Loop (on the southern side, parallel with the Oxidation Ponds) will be temporarily closed for maintenance from Thursday 20 March to Monday 24 March 2025, weather permitting.

Thank you for your understanding and patience while we complete this work.

V Araba | Director - Assets

### Meeting Schedule - March

- **Percy Thomson Trust:** Thursday 20 March at 3pm, Stratford District Council Committee Room
- **Policy & Services Committee:** Tuesday 25 March at 3pm

Meetings and workshops will be held in the Council Chambers on Miranda Street, Stratford, unless stated otherwise. Visit [Stratford.govt.nz/Schedule](https://www.stratford.govt.nz/Schedule) for updates to meeting and workshop times as these may change.

S Hanne | Chief Executive



## Tougher water restrictions may be on the way, affecting commercial users too

With Taranaki in a period of drought, significantly reduced water levels in the Pātea River, and forecasts pointing to a continuation of dry weather, we want to warn our community that we may shortly have to impose level 3 water restrictions. A move to level 3 will allow only essential water use for residential and commercial users of the Stratford, Midhirst, and Toko water supply.

When the Pātea River's water flow rate drops below certain levels because of natural environmental factors, our resource consent requires us to reduce the amount we take for the town supply, leading to water restrictions. At the moment, residential users are under level 2 water restrictions, with a total ban on handheld hoses, irrigation systems, sprinklers, and water blasters.

SDC will move to level 3 water restrictions if flows in the Pātea River reduce to less than 556 litres per second at any point over 3 consecutive days. Director of Assets Victoria Araba says that while a recent drop in temperature, some rainfall, and snow on Taranaki Mouna has helped, forecasts point to a move to level 3 before the wet season begins.

"Level 3 will be nearing the crisis point for our town's water supply. So far, commercial users have been encouraged but not required to restrict their water use, but under level 3 that will change. If it happens, everyone in our community will need to roll-up their sleeves and work together to significantly reduce our water use," says Victoria.

"Essential water use will mean stopping or reducing activities that use water to what's absolutely required for the health of yourself, your whānau, your animals, and your organisation or business. Note that I did not mention your garden or lawn," Victoria points out.

"Please plan ahead and look at how you use water. If you can't stop an activity, can you safely reduce the amount of water you use for it, or how often the activity takes place? For example, on a household level, reducing the amount of laundry you do, not flushing the toilet unless you really need to, and restricting showers to 5 minutes or less. If we do need to move to level 3, it'll be all hands on deck, and we'll need you to do everything you can to save water."

## Overhanging plants? Time to trim!

Vegetation hanging over footpaths and roads can make it hard for people to get around safely - think parents with prams, wheelchair and mobility device users, our vision impaired community, kids on scooters, and your local postie or courier!

- ✓ If the footpath is next to a private property boundary, all vegetation should be trimmed back to the boundary (including hedges) so the entire footpath width is clear of vegetation.
- ✓ Clear space of 2.5 metres above the footpath, berm or walkway, and 4.5 metres above the road is required.



## Check out our easy tips to save water

[Stratford.govt.nz/SaveWater](https://www.stratford.govt.nz/SaveWater)

Businesses that require large amounts of water to remain in operation can stay open under level 3, but they must reduce their water consumption to what's essential. That may mean some parts of their business, or the services they offer, will need to stop temporarily. Under level 4, high-use commercial operators may need to close.

"At this point, we don't believe we'll need to move to level 4 this year, but we know that level 3 will be hard enough on local businesses. We encourage members of our business community to have a plan ready for a possible ban on non-essential water use, but we are here to help. Please call our Water Services team on 06 765 6099 or email [Water@Stratford.govt.nz](mailto:Water@Stratford.govt.nz) if you want to talk through your plan, or ways you may be able to save water," says Victoria.

Water restriction information is available at [Stratford.govt.nz/WaterRestrictions](https://www.stratford.govt.nz/WaterRestrictions)

Any change in water restriction levels will be advertised at [Stratford.govt.nz/PublicNotices](https://www.stratford.govt.nz/PublicNotices) as well as through the free Antenna app.



If you notice trees or vegetation affecting your safe use of footpaths or roads, please contact us on 06 765 6099, email [StratfordDC@stratford.govt.nz](mailto:StratfordDC@stratford.govt.nz), or make a report using the free Antenna App.

## FINAL CALL! Have your say on proposed transport safety improvements around Stratford Primary School

Feedback closes 4pm Friday at [YourSay.Stratford.govt.nz](https://www.yoursay.stratford.govt.nz)



Library & Visitor Information Centre  
Phone 06 765 5403  
Monday – Friday: 8.30am – 5pm  
Saturday: 9am – 1pm  
Sunday & Public Holidays: Closed

Stratford Transfer Station  
Phone 06 765 8500  
Monday: 12pm – 5pm  
Thursday: 10am – 1pm  
Friday – Sunday: 12pm – 5pm

Wai o Rua - Stratford Aquatic Centre  
Phone 06 765 6275  
Monday – Friday: 6am – 6.30pm  
Saturday: 7am – 5pm  
Sunday & Public Holidays: 10am – 5pm

Glockenspiel  
Performs daily at 10am, 1pm, 3pm, and 7pm

19 March 2025

