

News & Information from Mackenzie District Council



Creative NZ funding opportunities

The first Creative NZ Mackenzie District funding round for 2025/2026 is open, closing 5:00pm on Wednesday 27 August 2025.

We want to widen the scope and variety of community arts projects supported for our community. We would particularly love to hear if you have an idea for a diverse art or cultural project, you seek to engage young people in the arts or if your project encourages community participation in arts and culture

Further details, and an online application form is at: mackenzie.govt.nz > Community Grants and Scholarships > Creative Communities Scheme.

Any questions? Contact Jean Proctor, Community Advisor on 027 269 0217 or grants@mackenzie.govt.nz



Funding HQ Cohort Coaching online

A great FREE opportunity for Not For Profit Mackenzie District Community Groups.

Funding HQ are holding monthly sessions to develop your fundraising capability in a supportive and collaborative group coaching setting.

Starting on Wednesday 20 August at 6:30pm, then each third Wednesday of the month for the following 6 months, this course will provide you with online coaching sessions – Fundraising Fundamentals, Creating a Plan, Developing your Compelling Case, Trusts and Foundations and Central Government Funding and Sponsorship.

To learn more or to register, contact Jean Proctor – Community Advisor – Projects and Funding at jean.proctor@mackenzie.govt.nz or 027 269 0217. Registrations close Wednesday 13 August 2025.



Council votes to keep water services in-house

At the Council meeting on Tuesday 15 July 2025, Councillors voted to keep the water services in house, creating a stand alone business unit that is governed by MDC.

Council will now complete the water services delivery plan, due in September. This plan will outline both the operational and financial aspects of the business unit and will go to the Department of Internal Affairs for approval. The Council business unit will be up and running by 1 July 2027.

The Council Agenda for this meeting can be found on the Council website at mackenzie.govt.nz > Council > Meetings and Agendas under MDC Meetings and Agendas.



Smart water meters project starts in Tekapo

As part of a district-wide project, Rooney Earthmoving Limited (REL) has been awarded the contract to install smart water meters in Tekapo township.

Drinking-quality treated water is expensive to produce, and it is important that we do not let it leak out of pipes or valves and go to waste. By installing meters at the point of consumption we can identify the places where we are losing water and we can target our repair work to address these issues.

The meters also let us know where a property has a potential leak so that we can alert the homeowner that there may be a problem. This could mean we can help prevent unexpected large bills from undetected leaks. This can be particularly useful for absent or holiday homeowners.



When will this happen?

The work involves the installation of a meter and toby box to every water connection in Tekapo, starting on 4 August. Contractors will be starting in the following streets:

- Lochinver Avenue
- Mistake Drive
- Rapuwai Lane
- Rankin Rise
- Manning Place
- Motuariki Lane

The project is planned to be completed by the end of October.

How will the meters work?

The meter will log the flow of water passing through it, and will send that information via the mobile data network to Council's systems in the office every day.

Does this mean that water will cost more?

There is no intention to change the amount we charge for water. Currently, the first 500m3 are included in your water rate. Anything over 500m3 currently incurs a charge, and this extra will continue to be billed.

Find out more at mackenzie.govt.nz > Public notices > Smart water meters project starts in Tekapo



Report an issue or problem?

Contact us on 0800 685 8514 or email info@mackenzie.govt.nz



Dates of upcoming meetings

Date	Meeting	Time	Location
Monday 25 August	Twizel Community Board Meeting* Twizel Community Lounge	3:00pm - 4:30pm	Twizel
Tuesday 26 August	Audit and Risk Meeting* Council Chambers, Fairlie	9:30am - 11:30am	Fairlie
Tuesday 26 August	Council Meeting* Council Chambers, Fairlie	11:30am - 3:00pm	Fairlie

*This will be the final meeting before Local Government Elections in October.

The public are welcome to attend meetings. Occasionally times and venues change so please call and check beforehand. There is a public forum at the beginning of each Council and Community Board meeting and members of the public are invited to address Elected Members on relevant matters.

Agendas for scheduled meetings are available two days before the meeting (with the exception of late papers, which are added to the agenda when available).

Agendas for extraordinary meetings are made available as soon as practicably possible. (Extraordinary meetings are meetings held outside the published meeting schedule and are called when a decision cannot wait until the next scheduled meeting).

Once published, agendas are available at mackenzie.govt.nz > Council > Meetings and Agendas

