

Mackenzie District Mayor, Anne Munro

Welcome to the final Messenger for 2023.

It has been a busy year for us as the local government sector has faced unprecedented central government reform which has moved at an incredibly fast and challenging pace. With our other elected members and the executive leadership we have continued to be a strong voice for the Mackenzie, with submissions delivered on Three Waters reforms, Resource Management Reform, Emergency Management Reform and on the Future for Local Government report.

Economically tourism has rebounded for our local businesses but servicing the sudden growth has proven difficult due to a tight labour market and labour skill shortages. Primary industries remained the backbone of our economy and added resilience to a tenuous and uncertain economic environment.

It was pleasing to have our Annual Report adopted within the statutory time frame this year and I am very grateful to my fellow Councillors for their hard work throughout the year.

Our Annual Report contains all the information you require to keep you abreast of Council performance and activity. It is available on our website or at Council offices.

Some of our key projects are:

- The review of our outdated District Plan (which is 15 years old) updating it to better respond to the effects of growth, and bring it into line with national and regional planning instruments. During the year we successfully delivered three Plan Changes (Strategic Guidelines, Light and Implementation of the Spatial Plans) with no appeals.
- Following the adoption of Te Manahuna Ki Uta (our long-term destination management plan) in August 2022 we secured government funding for five key initiatives: Lake Tekapo/Takapō Master Plan, Destination Branding, Development of a Rural Spatial Plan, Development of a Pou Whenua (concept and storytelling) and Alps to Ocean (A2O) project development.
- We started construction of the new Fairlie Water Treatment Plant to improve water treatment so we can meet New Zealand Drinking Water Standards for protozoa levels (\$8M). This will be in use in 2024.
- We relined a total of 900m of Wastewater Pipe reticulation in Fairlie.



Residents Satisfaction Levels

Our annual residents' survey this year showed that our hard work in key areas is paying off with improvements in satisfaction in a number of operational areas. 92% reported that Mackenzie was a great place to live (vs 88% 2in 022) and 79% felt there was a good sense of community (vs 74% in 2022). Satisfaction levels significantly improved across water services, roading and solid waste.

I am enjoying the team spirit and enthusiasm staff display as they go about their business and I look forward to coming back for a productive and busy 2024.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you, your family, whanau and friends a very merry Christmas, and happy, healthy, safe and prosperous New Year.

Mayor Anne

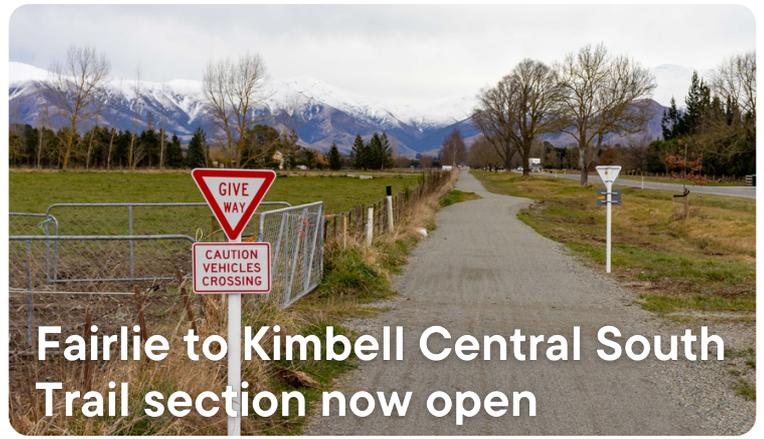
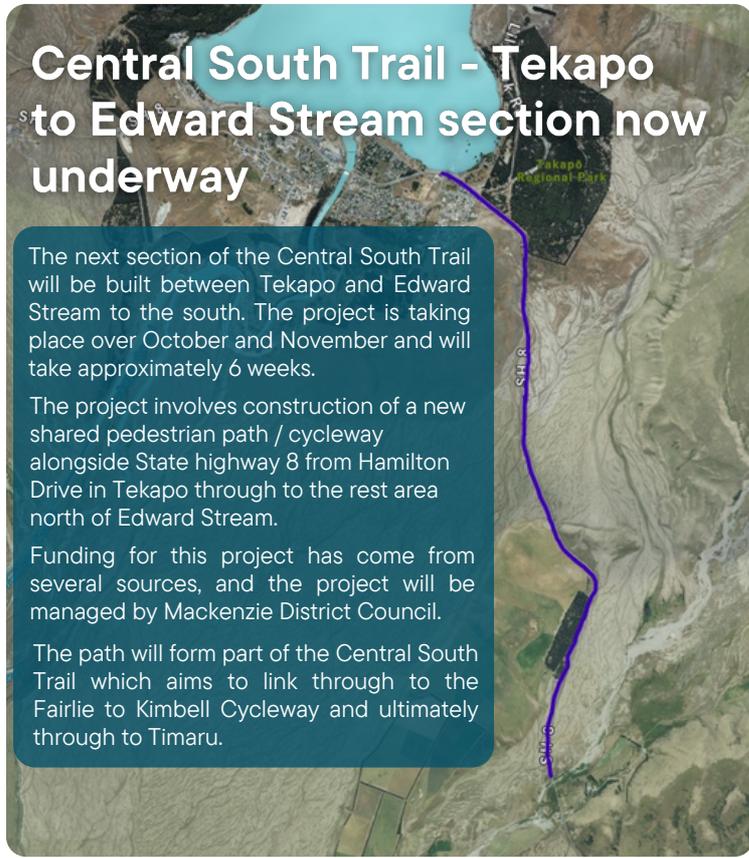
Central South Trail - Tekapo to Edward Stream section now underway

The next section of the Central South Trail will be built between Tekapo and Edward Stream to the south. The project is taking place over October and November and will take approximately 6 weeks.

The project involves construction of a new shared pedestrian path / cycleway alongside State highway 8 from Hamilton Drive in Tekapo through to the rest area north of Edward Stream.

Funding for this project has come from several sources, and the project will be managed by Mackenzie District Council.

The path will form part of the Central South Trail which aims to link through to the Fairlie to Kimbell Cycleway and ultimately through to Timaru.



Fairlie to Kimbell Central South Trail section now open

Have you checked out the newly opened shared-use Fairlie to Kimbell section of the Central South Trail yet? The trail provides a great off highway option for those walking or cycling between the towns.

The trail section was officially opened on Sunday 10 September by Mackenzie District Mayor Anne Munro.

In time, the trail is planned to extend further west towards Burkes Pass, and will eventually link up with the Lake Tekapo-Twizel section of the Alps 2 Ocean Cycle Trail.

Wilding Pines Guide

Wilding Pines are a pest tree throughout the Mackenzie District - disrupting ancient native landscapes, native ecosystems, and productive soils for high value sustainable land use.

A guide has been created by wildingpines.nz to identify Wilding Pines, highlighting the issues that they cause.

View the guide at wildingpines.nz > Wilding Species Guide



WILDING CONIFER QUICK ID GUIDE

NATIONAL WILDING CONIFER CONTROL PROGRAMME



New Slide on Fairlie Village Green

The playground at Fairlie Village Green has a new slide. Celebrate our lovely spring days by coming and giving it a go. This replaces the old one which had reached the end of its life.

Rates in the Mackenzie District

Rates are the way that everyone pays for those essential community services that we all use every day. When most of you turn on the tap, drive on a local road, flush the toilet or go for a walk in the park, you're using a service you've helped pay for.

As part of the 2023/24 Annual Plan, the overall total amount of rates collected by the council has increased by 10.2%. Your individual rates bill may have increased by more than this or less depending on things like which services you receive at your property and how much your land value has increased compared to other properties.

Rates are due and payable in four equal instalments on the following dates during the year:

Instalment	Due Date
1	20 September 2023
2	20 December 2023
3	20 March 2024
4	20 June 2024

Any outstanding amount unpaid at the due dates will attract a 10% penalty.

You can choose to pay smaller amounts on a more regular basis as long as they add up the full instalment amount by the quarterly date. If you would like to pay regular small amounts, please contact our rates team to discuss the details.

You can pay your rates via direct debit (EasyPay), credit card, internet banking, online on our website, or in person at one of our offices.

Are you eligible for a rates rebate?

The Rates Rebate Scheme provides a partial rebate for eligible, low income ratepayers who pay rates on their home to the Council.

The maximum rebate you can receive is \$750 which is available as long as your gross (before tax) income is \$30,100 or less.

Even if your income exceeds the threshold, you may still be eligible, depending on the amount of rates you pay and number of dependants.

If you think you may be eligible please contact Council on 03 685 9010.

Swimming pools now open for the summer season

Strathconan Pool (Fairlie) and Twizel Community Pool are back in action for the 2023/2024 season.

Both pools are heated to a steady 27° and we have options for lap swimmers and kids who need to burn energy.

Like and follow the pools' Facebook pages for details of our inflatables' hours.

Hours are as follows:

	Fairlie	Twizel
School Term	Monday to Friday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00am to 8:30am (Lane Swimming) 9:30am to 3:00pm (Schools) 3:00pm to 6:00pm (Public) Weekends <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00pm to 6:00pm 	Monday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00am to 7:00pm Tuesday - Friday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00am to 6:00pm Weekends <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00am to 6:00pm
School Holidays	Monday to Friday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00am to 8:30am (Lane Swimming) 12:00pm to 6:00pm Weekends & Public Holidays* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00pm to 6:00pm *Closed Christmas Day	Monday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00am to 7:00pm Tuesday - Friday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00am to 6:00pm Weekends & Public Holidays <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00am to 6:00pm* Closed Christmas Day

The Pool Supervision policy, and pool conditions of use can be found at mackenzie.govt.nz

Do you need support for a community project?

The three community boards in the Mackenzie District have grant funding to encourage and support not-for-profit organisations with a positive impact on the community.

They can help local organisations pay for specific projects, events, or the maintenance of facilities that benefit the community.

It is preferable that the organisations applying for these grants are incorporated societies or trusts, but informal organisations and individuals may also apply.

How much are the grants?

Most grants are for less than \$500, although occasionally larger grants are approved.

What types of things are funded?

- Not-for-profit events and projects.
- Projects that benefit the wider community or a section of the community served by the community board.
- Projects that respond to a current or future community need.

What types of things are not funded?

- Projects or events that have already happened.
- Projects with the main purpose of promoting commercial, political or religious activity.
- Projects that are the core business of central government or another service provider.
- Debt servicing, gambling or prize money, travel costs, conference fees, or costs related to fines or disputes.
- Applications that are not complete, or do not specify an amount.



More information, and an application form is available at mackenzie.govt.nz > **Community** > **Grants and Scholarships** > **Community Board Grant**

Long Term Plan 2024-34

PRE-ENGAGEMENT

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

MORE INFORMATION:
WWW.LETSTALK.MACKENZIE.GOV.TZ

We are working on our next Long Term Plan and we would like to know what you think about some of the big issues that Council are considering. To read all about it, go to our Let's Talk page at letstalk.mackenzie.govt.nz > Long Term Plan Pre-Engagement 2023 where you can also fill in a survey.

You can also send us feedback on the topics by:

- Sending us an email to communications@mackenzie.govt.nz (put LONG TERM PLAN FEEDBACK in the subject line).
- Call in to one of our offices and leave your feedback with one of our Customer Services Team.



District Plan Review - Stage Three



Stage 3 of the Mackenzie District Plan Review was notified on 4 November 2023, being the following proposed plan changes:

- Plan Change 23 – Rural and Natural Environment
- Plan Change 24 – Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori
- Plan Change 25 – Rural Lifestyle Zones
- Plan Change 26 – Energy and Infrastructure
- Plan Change 27 – Subdivision, Earthworks, Public Access and Transport

The full public notice is at mackenzie.govt.nz > Proposed Plan Change 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27

The closing date for lodging a submission is 5.00pm Friday 26 January 2024.

Proposed plan changes in the EPlan and planning maps are at mackenzie.isoplan.co.nz/review

Proposed plan change amendments to the Operative Plan are at letstalk.mackenzie.govt.nz > District Plan Review Stage Three



Man Made Hill Mountain Bike Trail



The Twizel Mountain Bike Club recently worked with Mackenzie District Council, RideLine and Graded Earth to develop a bespoke mountain bike track on Man Made Hill.

The Man Made Hill track is an Advanced Blue Flow Trail, combining pump and jump features.

For information on event updates for this track, and to join the Twizel Mountain Bike Club page [scan the QR code above](#) or visit facebook.com/groups/twizelmountainbikeclub

Twizel Ring Main Project

Council's contractors are now well underway on the replacement of the Twizel ring main.

This project will run until Christmas and will see the replacement of the AC water pipe that rings Twizel (see map).

Contractors have been in touch with affected properties.

Traffic management will be on site and traffic will be reduced to a single lane at times.

Any questions, please email info@mackenzie.govt.nz.



Mackenzie Drive, Twizel Water main renewal project

Booking of Council Facilities

Are you planning an event, and would like to see if a hall within the Mackenzie District is available? Booking schedules for hall and event venues at Albury, Fairlie, Tekapo and Twizel are available at mackenzie.govt.nz > Services > Parks, Venues and Recreation > Halls & Event Venues



To book a facility, contact Council on 0800 685 8514 or email info@mackenzie.govt.nz

Public 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 cup-full 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.



Public Notice of right to demand a poll on Electoral System

Notice is given under section 28(1) of the Local Electoral Act 2001, that electors of the Mackenzie District Council have the right to demand a poll on the electoral system to be used at the next two triennial general elections (2025 and 2028) of the Mackenzie District Council.



The choice is between the First Past the Post (FPP) and the Single Transferable Vote (STV) electoral systems. Unless a poll determines otherwise, the First Past the Post (FPP) system will be used for the Mackenzie District Council.

A valid demand for a poll must be:

- Made in writing.
- Signed by at least five percent of eligible electors of the Mackenzie District Council. This will require a minimum of 170 elector signatures.
- Delivered to the office of the Mackenzie District Council, 51 Main Street, Fairlie by 5pm, 11 December 2023.

Every elector who signs a demand must also set out in it his or her full name and the address for which he or she is qualified as an elector of the Mackenzie District Council.

For further information, please contact Arlene Goss, Governance Advisor, phone (03) 685-9010.

Dated at Fairlie, this 28th day of August, 2023.

Rates Due

A reminder that Mackenzie District quarterly rates payments are due on December 20 2023.

Rates information, and online payment options are at mackenzie.govt.nz > Rates, Building and Property > Rates Information



Taking your pooch for a walk?

Taking your pooch for a walk? Unfortunately, there's no such thing as the dog poo fairy so please remember to pick up their poo.

If you are using our new dog park in Fairlie, we provide free bags and a wastebin – please use them. No-one likes treading in dog poo, and it's particularly hard to see when it's hidden in the grass. Your dog's poo is your responsibility – Thank you.



Did you know?

Updates covering current Road Closures, Water, and Civil Defence alerts are available on the mackenzie.govt.nz website, accessible from buttons on the homepage.

Updates are also placed up on the Mackenzie District Council Facebook page



Report an issue or problem?

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

