

# NEWSLETTER

Grey District Council - February 2025



## Mayor's comment

I hope you all had a lovely break, spent time with family during the festive season, and were able to get out over the summer period to enjoy what our district has to offer.

Moana, Punakaiki, and Nelson Creek are some of the favourite spots my kids and family enjoy visiting. These locations provide fun, opportunities for picnics in the sun, and swimming, all at little cost while making great family memories.

As we move into 2025, exciting opportunities are arising for the West Coast and our district. Predicted growth in industry, employment, and population signals a bright future, and our central business district is evolving in ways that will enhance our community. However, both the Council and I are aware of and concerned about the challenges we face regarding infrastructure upgrades and the cost of providing services to ratepayers already struggling with high living costs.

Entering a year with new QV valuations is always challenging due to the impact on rates. We are currently assessing these valuations to gauge how property prices in our district have risen. While an increase in property value is positive as it enhances the value of your asset, it does not equate to money in the bank. The way rates are calculated is complex, and it is preferable if property values rise

evenly across the district. This ensures any increase in rates is distributed more evenly. However, if property values rise substantially more in one area than others, that area sees a spike in rates. The pool of rates remains the same, but the differentials across various areas in the district are based on those values. For instance, the 2022 QV valuations showed a significant 238% rise in property values in Blackball.

We are also addressing properties that still need to complete the separation of wastewater. Over the past 20 years, many properties have completed this work, but there are still around 1265 properties, from an original 2977, yet to separate. Council understands the financial hardship this may cause for many homeowners and has encouraged them to undertake this work in their own time. However, this cannot be delayed indefinitely. Council has obligations to meet the consents issued by the Regional Council, and the crunch time is approaching. Non-compliance could result in significant penalties for Council, ultimately impacting ratepayers. Therefore, a plan has been put in place to enforce stricter action for those who

still need to complete the separation. Staff have been working with various property owners to clarify their status, and some properties are proving more challenging to determine whether the work has been completed. I emphasise that we cannot continue with the status quo, and we must acknowledge factors such as the environmental impact on our waterways.

The challenges mentioned above are just some of what we will face this year. Council wants to work with our communities and do the best we can for them. We would like to hear your views and concerns when we head out in April to discuss the Long-Term Plan and the direction our district is heading. We are working with the Government and with Mayors, Chairs, and Iwi on the Regional Infrastructure Fund in hopes of achieving funding for our port projects. We have also made the Government aware that the West Coast seeks to work with them to achieve a Regional Deal. With new opportunities in industry emerging as we speak, there is much to look forward to in 2025.

Tania Gibson  
Mayor

MĀWHERA  
**GREY**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL





# Community Funding

The Grey District Council (GDC) proudly administers several funding schemes to support community groups throughout the year. These include the Contestable Fund, the Creative Communities New Zealand Scheme, and the Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund.

## Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund

Applications for round two 2024/2025 will open on Saturday 1 February 2025 and closes Friday 28 February 2025. Full details can be found on our website or at the Council Office.

GDC administers this fund on behalf of Sport NZ to help reduce travel barriers for rural sports clubs and school teams. The fund provides subsidies for players aged 5 to 18 years to assist with transport expenses for local sporting competitions within our district.

Sport NZ's Rural Travel Fund (RTF) supports young people to take part in regular sporting competition.

## Creative Communities New Zealand Scheme

Funding round two of the 2024/2025 Creative Communities Fund will open Tuesday 1 April 2025 and closes on Wednesday 30 April 2025. Full details can be found on our website or at Council Office.

The scheme supports and encourages communities throughout New Zealand to create and present diverse opportunities for accessing and participating in local arts activities. All projects eligible for funding must be arts and cultural projects that:

- Increase participation in the arts at a local level or increase the range and diversity of the arts available to local communities
- Take place within the Grey District and/or produce benefits that are largely experienced within the Grey District
- Benefit local communities.

For detailed information on each funding opportunity, including application criteria and remaining openings, visit our website.



# LONG TERM PLANNING

## The 2025-2034 Long Term Plan will soon be out for consultation

All Councils must produce a Long Term Plan (LTP) every three years which lays out their expected levels of service and how these will be paid for and planned out over the next ten years.

Council is currently working on its Long Term Plan 2025-2034 which will outline our goals for delivering the various activities we are involved in and how we see the activities of Council contributing to the overall wellbeing of the District.

The Consultation Document for the LTP is a key document, published in April, that will clearly outline the key issues the district is facing and how Council proposes to manage these. We will be seeking your feedback on these issues to ensure you are informed and have a voice in our decision making.

Please keep an eye out for the Consultation Document, and we look forward to hearing your thoughts in due course.

**Snap  
Send  
Solve**

# See something, Snap something



## Snap a photo

Open the app, select 'Snap' and add your photo



## Confirm Snap location

Confirm your Snap's location using the map pin or address bar



## Select incident type

Select the relevant incident type for your Snap



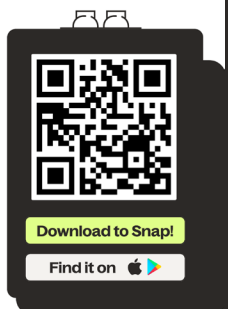
## Send your Snap

Select 'Send Snap' to send your Snap off to be solved



## Solve

The relevant Solver will receive your Snap so it can be solved.



## Snap Send Solve

The Snap Send Solve app helps you to report things like dumped rubbish, footpath problems, water leaks and other issues in seconds.

There are just four simple steps:

1. Take a picture of the issue (this is optional)
2. Confirm the location of the issue
3. Select the type of issue (Snap, Send, Solve uses the location and type of issue to send the report to the correct authority).
4. Fill out the details on the form and press "submit".

That's it!

We'll get onto the issue and let you know what we've done.

Download the app for free from the App Store or Google Play using the QR code and get snapping.

You can still report issues by calling our Customer Service team on 03 769 8600 or filling out the service request form on our website: [greydc.govt.nz](http://greydc.govt.nz).



## BOOK-A-LIBRARIAN

for FREE help with:

- Smartphones & devices
- Internet
- Social media
- Emails
- eBooks & eAudiobooks
- Computer basics
- CVs & job applications
- Family history research
- Government websites
- & much more!



**GREY** DISTRICT  
**LIBRARY**

Ask at the service desk,  
or, call 03 768 5597

## Book a librarian

New phone? Need to scan? Post those holiday photos from Acapulco on Facebook?

The Library is here to help!

Free one-on-one sessions to assist with:

- 📖 Smartphones & devices
- 📖 Internet
- 📖 Social media
- 📖 Emails and scanning
- 📖 eBooks & eAudiobooks
- 📖 Computer basics
- 📖 Government websites and forms and much more!

Ask at the library front desk or call 03 768 5597 to make an appointment.



## RESIDENT SATISFACTION SURVEY

TELL US HOW WE'RE DOING

MĀWHĒRA  
**GREY**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL  
*Heart of the West Coast*

## Resident Satisfaction Survey

We want to know what you think about our services, performance, facilities (like the library, Westland Recreation Centre, refuse collection and centres), and how our Mayor and Councillors are doing.

If you want it to count, pop through and share your thoughts via our Have your say Grey page.

You must be over 18 years of age and a resident of the Grey District to take part.

The survey takes around 10-15 minutes to complete, and if you do share your thoughts with us, you could win a \$200 Prezzi card.

MAWHERA GREY DISTRICT COUNCIL EVENTS

**THE Adventure Land**

SATURDAY, 22 MARCH | 11.00AM - 2.00 PM | TOWN SQUARE GREYMOUTH



Stall registration  
Kate.Dumitru@greydc.govt.nz

MAWHERA GREY DISTRICT COUNCIL EVENTS

Please join us for a

**Valentine's Day Street Eats**

Town Square, Greymouth

**14 February**  
5.00PM till 7.00PM

Local Delicious Food

Stall registration  
Kate.Dumitru@greydc.govt.nz



MAWHERA GREY DISTRICT COUNCIL EVENTS

**Easter MARKET**

Saturday 12 April  
11.00AM-2.00PM  
Town Square, Greymouth



Stall registration  
Kate.Dumitru@greydc.govt.nz

Heart of the West Coast

**Waitangi Day 2025**

facebook.com/tukahaevents

KIDS ACTIVITIES - FREE HĀNGĪ & BBQ - MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT - TE TIRITI O WAITANGI MATAURANGA & HISTORY

**February 6th** DIXON PARK - 11AM - 3PM



Grey District creative COMMUNITIES nz

**ART in the PARK**

ART · MUSIC · OBJECTS · FOOD

GREYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL  
Shakespeare Street entry

ENTRY FEE \$2 UNDER 12 FREE  
Sat 26th April 10am - 4pm & Sun 27th April 10am to 3pm

**SAT 26 & SUN 27 APRIL 2025**

artinthepark.nz  
f artintheparkgreymouth

# Upcoming Events

Grey District Council  
105 Tainui Street  
PO Box 382 Greymouth 7805  
Phone: 03 769 8600  
Email: info@greydc.govt.nz  
Facebook.com/GreyDC  
Web: greydc.govt.nz