



BULLER
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera O Kawatiri

Connect

Keeping you up-to-date with news from your Buller District Council

Hebe - *Veronica albicans*
Credit: Mike Thorsen via: nzpcn.org.nz

Connect 131 April 2025

Are you enrolled to vote?



District Licensing Committee positions

Are you community-minded and looking for a new challenge?

Buller District Council is calling for expressions of interest to fill two positions on its District Licensing Committee.

The District Licensing Committee (DLC) is responsible for determining all new alcohol licences and managers' certificates plus renewal applications throughout the Buller District.

The role of the licensing committee members is to provide a quality service to the council and its customers and exercise the DLC's powers and functions under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

Committee members serve a term of five years from their appointment date in a paid, part-time capacity.

You cannot apply if you are involved with the alcohol industry or are a constable, Medical Officer of Health, licensing inspector or an employee of the territorial authority.

Expressions of Interest close at 4:30 pm on Thursday 1 May 2025. Further information and application forms are available online on Council's website: bullerdc.govt.nz/licences-and-permits/alcohol-licensing/district-licensing-committee/ or in hard copy from Council's offices in Westport and Reefton.

To apply, please complete and submit your application via the online form, deliver your completed paper application form, CV and cover letter to Council in person or scan and email to DLApplications@bdc.govt.nz

The next local government elections are on Saturday 11 October 2025. Anyone who is currently enrolled can vote in local elections where they live and have a say on the people who will make decisions on what happens in your region over the next three years.

In New Zealand, all local body elections are held by postal vote. That means you need to fill in your voting form and post it back before midday on 11 October 2025.

Enrol to vote

If you are registered to vote in Parliamentary elections (a Parliamentary elector), you are automatically enrolled as a residential elector to vote in local authority elections. The address where you are registered as a Parliamentary elector will be in the council district for the local authority elections. You will receive a voting document in the mail so that you can vote by post.

Not on the roll?

Enrol by 1 August so you can vote. If you enrol after 1 August, you will need to cast a 'special vote'.

How to enrol for the first time

An application for registration as a parliamentary elector can be made online by clicking the link above. The identity verification needed is a New Zealand driver licence, New Zealand passport or RealMe verified identity.

If you are not able to enrol online, you can enrol or update your details in other ways, more information can be found on the Electoral Commission website vote.nz or you can call 0800 36 76 56 to arrange for forms to be sent to you directly.

General roll or Māori roll?

If you're of Māori descent and enrolling for the first time, you can decide which electoral roll you want to be on; the general roll or the Māori Roll. If you're on the Māori Roll and your local authority has a Māori ward or constituency, you'll vote for a candidate in the Māori ward.

Wherever you pay rates you can vote

Do you live in one area and pay rates on a property in another area? Did you know you may qualify to vote in both areas at the local authority elections in October 2025?

Voting is a way to have your say on what happens in your local community.

If you'd like to vote in this election, read on to find out if you're eligible, and how to enrol.

Electors fall into two categories:

Residential electors – If you are registered to vote on the electoral roll, you are automatically enrolled to vote in local authority elections.

You will receive a voting document so that you can vote by post.

Ratepayer electors – You may also be eligible to enrol as a non-resident ratepayer elector in a council district if both of the following apply:

- You are on the district valuation roll and pay rates in the council district
- The address where you are registered as a parliamentary

elector is outside that council district.

Your eligibility to enrol or be nominated as a ratepayer elector may also depend on your individual circumstances as determined by criteria in the Local Electoral Act 2001 and its regulations.

The Ratepayer Electoral Roll closes on 1 August 2025, so enrol now at www.ratepayer.co.nz

Want to connect with your Council face-to-face?

Looking for advice and guidance on Council processes?

[Click here to learn more](#)

Community Outreach days

Come along to our Community Outreach days held throughout the Buller District. These bimonthly drop-in sessions will provide an opportunity to meet council staff from different departments and seek advice on using our services.

Monday 19 May

Ikamatua - Ikamatua Hall
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Maruia - Maruia Hall
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Thursday 19 June

Ngakawau - Ngakawau Hall
9:00 am – 11:00 am

Karamea - Karamea RSA
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Buller's drinking water, stormwater and wastewater



Meetings March - April

The full meeting calendar can be found at bullerdc.govt.nz/your-council/meetings/

Please check the calendar for any updates and additional meetings.

Extraordinary Council Meeting

- 23 April starting 1:30 pm
Clocktower Chambers

Public Excluded Workshop: Development West Coast update

- 30 April starting 2:00 pm
Clocktower Chambers

Ordinary Council Meeting

- 30 April starting 3:30 pm
Clocktower Chambers

Inangahua Community Board Meeting

- 13 May starting 5:00 pm
Women's Institute Rooms, Reefton

Ordinary Council Meeting

- 28 May starting 3:30 pm
Clocktower Chambers

All Council meetings will be livestreamed to Council's YouTube channel:



There may be elements of the meeting that are public excluded. The meeting agenda will explain why the public is excluded under LGOIMA 1987.

A public forum session is available at the beginning of Ordinary Council meetings. If you want to address Council during the public forum session or have any questions about these meetings please contact:

Governance Assistant, phone **0800 807 239** or email **governance.assistant@bdc.govt.nz**

Water supplies

Council would like to remind all consumers to flush their taps by letting about a mugful of water run through in the morning, prior to use.

This applies to all supplies including rainwater. Visit Council's web page 'water - plumbosolvency' for details. There are different levels of water treatment in Buller.

A permanent boil water notice applies for Little Wanganui Subdivision, Mōkihinui, Ngakawau/Hector, South Granity and Waimangaroa.

Council is exploring options how to manage the district's drinking, storm and wastewater in the future as required under the Local Water Done Well legislation.

Local Water Done Well is the government's approach to reforming the way water services are delivered in New Zealand in the future. The aim is to address New Zealand's long-standing water infrastructure challenges.

Find out more about each water service to understand what it takes to deliver safe drinking water to your tap, flush your toilet and ensure rainwater goes down the drain when it's raining.

Enjoy a good podcast?

Tune into Council's podcast series about the Local Water Done Well legislation with staff from Buller District Council. Each podcast will cover relevant aspects of this significant legislation.

[Click here to find out more](#)

You can pick up this information from our libraries and service centres in Westport and Reefton, the Karamea Information Centre, and the Northern Buller Community Resource Centre.

We encourage you to keep up to date so you can make an informed decision when we ask you for feedback on the options for Local Water Done Well.

How to stay informed:

- Register on Let's talk Buller and choose drinking, waste, stormwater and Long-Term Plan as your topics of interest.
- Follow Buller District Council on Facebook.
- Sign up to Council's monthly Connect newsletter
- Read our monthly Connect newsletter in the West Coast Messenger.
- Listen to CoastFM

Your drinking water



8
Council owned water supplies delivering water to your tap



1
Council owned stock water supply keeping local stock well hydrated

189.6 km
of pipes delivering water to your house



4
Water treatment plants making your drinking water safe to consume



12
Water reservoirs collecting water pre and post treatment



39 years
is the average age of our drinking water infrastructure

\$32.4m
of investment is required over the coming nine years (2025 - 2034) to provide our communities with drinking water.



Your wastewater

3,307
Connections to our wastewater networks



3,307
Connections to our wastewater networks

95.9 km
of pipes from our houses to the treatment plant



95.9 km
of pipes from our houses to the treatment plant

3
Wastewater treatment plants to process wastewater safely



3
Wastewater treatment plants to process wastewater safely

49 years
is the average age of the wastewater pipe network



49 years
is the average age of the wastewater pipe network

16.9%
of the wastewater pipes are in poor or very poor condition



16.9%
of the wastewater pipes are in poor or very poor condition

2
Wastewater consents (Westport and Reefton), are due to expire



2
Wastewater consents (Westport and Reefton), are due to expire

Your stormwater

8
Stormwater catchments are managed by Council



8
Stormwater catchments are managed by Council

66.5 km
of stormwater pipes drain rainwater from properties and roads



66.5 km
of stormwater pipes drain rainwater from properties and roads

49 years
is the average age of the stormwater pipe network



49 years
is the average age of the stormwater pipe network

29.4%
of the stormwater pipes are in poor or very poor condition



29.4%
of the stormwater pipes are in poor or very poor condition

Westport office
6-8 Brougham Street, PO Box 21,
Westport 7866, New Zealand
Freephone 0800 807 239
Phone 03 788 9111

Reefton Visitor & Service Centre
67-69 Broadway, PO Box 75,
Reefton 7851, New Zealand
Phone 03 732 8821
Phone 03 732 8391

24 hr Noise & Animal Control Services
Phone 03 788 9115
After hours Operations emergencies
Phone 03 788 9119 Westport,
or 03 732 8821 Reefton



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