

Ngā pārongo hou

Latest council news

Pipiri June 2026 | Putanga Issue 96

Update on local government reform

Following the Coalition Government's announcement about its plan to change how councils work in New Zealand, you might be wondering what the Head Start pathway means for people in the Far North.

Right now, Northland has four councils.

In the Far North, we also have three community boards that help make sure local people are heard.

Some Northland councils are already working together to figure out what this reform could look like, although no decisions have yet been made.

Unfortunately, we haven't been given much time, so even though we can't do a full public consultation as we usually would, it's still important that we hear from you.

So, what happens next? Far North District Council will continue to work with other councils over the next few weeks to develop a plan.

At the same time, we want to hear what you think, which is why we're asking you to participate in a brief survey where you can share your whakaaro/ideas. We've also developed a webpage where you can learn more about the government's plans.

We know that having a strong local voice in the Far North is important to you – so please take a few minutes to fill out the survey and share your thoughts. Your voice matters!

The NZ Government says councils have two choices:

Head Start pathway

Work together to make a joint plan for Northland over the next three months and send it to the Government by 9 August 2026, *or*

Back stop

Do nothing and let the Government decide later what will happen.



Mayor Moko Tepania is asking Far North residents to have their say about local government reform.

Your views will help us understand more deeply what matters most to our communities, and will help us speak up for the Far North.

For the full story go to fndc.govt.nz

Property valuations released



Revaluation objections can be lodged directly with QV by the owner.

Most Far North property owners should have now received updated property valuation notices from Quotable Value (QV) Limited, following a district-wide revaluation made on behalf of Far North District Council (FNDC).

The revised valuations reflect property market values as of 1 September 2025 and are required to be undertaken every three years by the Rating Valuations Act 1998. Local authorities like FNDC use revaluations to help ensure its rates are fairly distributed among all property owners. This revaluation will be used to help set rates for the upcoming 2026/2027 financial year, which begins on 1 July 2026.

Haven't received your revaluation notice? You can search for your property in the rating information database (RID) on the council website or on the QV website. Objections to new valuations must be made in writing to QV by Friday 5 June 2026. Go to the FNDC website to find out more.

Seawall works near Hokianga



A rock seawall is being constructed from just past the ferry ramp.

Road users travelling through Kohukohu are being advised to allow extra travel time due to seawall construction and rehabilitation works near the Hokianga ferry terminal, which are expected to continue through to mid-September.

Around 1km of rock seawall along West Coast Road is being constructed and rehabilitated, from just past the ferry ramp to approximately 114 West Coast Road.

Traffic management will be in place throughout the project, with alternating stop/go lane closures operating along approximately 200m of road at a time.

To reduce disruption for ferry users, priority will be given to traffic travelling east towards Kohukohu to help motorists avoid missing ferry crossings. Work hours are scheduled Monday to Friday between 6am and 7pm, with some Saturday work possible if required.

Roads get a 'hole' lot better



More than 2700 potholes were filled in the rehab and reseal season.

FNDC contractors are proving to be smooth operators, repairing more than 2700 potholes on both sealed and unsealed roads in March.

Fulton Hogan filled in a total of 2046 holes in the north of the district while in the south, Ventia repaired 668 potholes. Across both areas, a total of 371km of roads were also graded during March.

At the end of the rehabilitation and reseal season, both contractors had made great progress. Fulton Hogan had around 8.8km of reseal works left, which were delayed by bad weather. Ventia had one site remaining, also delayed by a recent weather event.

Drainage work in March included Fulton Hogan clearing 180 cesspits, replacing 169m of culvert pipes, clearing 70 culvert ends, and replacing 59 culvert markers. About 3km of surface water channels were also cleared during March.

Stay informed about your district with a monthly email summary of news and updates delivered directly to your inbox. **Scan this QR code** to subscribe to our newsletter or **click the link** on our news stories webpage at fndc.govt.nz

