

Ngā pārongo hou

Latest council news

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Kaikohe more resilient with plant upgrade

A major upgrade to Kaikohe's water treatment plant is set to strengthen the town's resilience to future droughts, with a new 1.5 million-litre storage reservoir significantly increasing treated water storage capacity.

The new reservoir has a lifespan of 100 years and supplies Kaikohe and Ngāwhā. The project includes construction of a pretreatment plant to provide improved treatment and resilience for Kaikohe's water supply (see photo insert).

Now nearing completion, the project will also improve the water takes feeding the treatment plant and enhance the treatment process, helping to deliver a more reliable water supply.

The upgrade will help future-proof Kaikohe's water network for growth and deliver long-term benefits for local residents and businesses.

Once construction is complete, the project will move into testing and commissioning from June to July 2026. Some planned disruption to water services will be needed to bring the upgraded plant online and affected residents will be notified in advance of these water outages.

Work on the water treatment plant began in late July 2025 and is separate from upgrades to



The new 1.5 million-litre storage reservoir has a lifespan of 100 years and supplies Kaikohe and Ngāwhā.

Kaikohe's wider water and wastewater network. Both workstreams, however, are backed by multi-million-dollar investment through the government's Infrastructure Acceleration Fund (IAF). Managed by National Infrastructure Funding and Financing, the

IAF supports the delivery of critical infrastructure needed to enable new housing in high-growth areas.

For the full story go to fndc.govt.nz

FNDC joins Northland waters



Northland's councils will work together to establish the CCO.

Far North District Council has joined Whangārei and Kaipara district councils in setting up an organisation to deliver drinking water and wastewater services across Northland.

During an Extraordinary Council Meeting on 20 May, the council decided to become an equal shareholder in Northland Waters Limited, the final step in setting up a Northland-wide council-controlled organisation that will take over drinking water and wastewater services on behalf of all three councils next year.

The decision is a response to the Coalition Government's Local Water Done Well reforms, which aim to address New Zealand's long-standing drinking, wastewater and stormwater challenges.

In supporting the proposal, Mayor Moko Tepania told the meeting it would likely be the biggest council decision elected members would ever make.

Air we go again Kaitāia Airport



Drone footage of the upgraded airport runway in Kaitāia.

Kaitāia Airport has officially reopened following the successful completion of a runway reseal with the first flight landing just hours after work wrapped up.

The work took 10 days and was completed at 3.30pm on Monday 27 April. Operations resumed the same evening with the first aircraft touching down at 7pm.

Far North Holdings Limited is project managing the contract, with Downer's undertaking the main works.

Project Manager Andrew Bere-Adams says, "Favourable weather conditions played a critical role in ensuring the reseal was delivered within a tight timeframe. The ideal weather window allowed crews to carry out the work efficiently and safely, avoiding delays and enabling a smooth transition back to normal operations."

Council staff acknowledged commercial operators for their cooperation during the suspension of flights.

Joinery turns focus in at Kaikohe hub build



The multi-purpose hub is on schedule and within budget.

Aluminium joinery, now installed throughout the new Kaikohe Library and Civic Hub building, will be followed by a number of exciting interior elements.

Windows will be completed in the coming weeks.

With internal services such as ducting, wiring and pipework completed, the fitting of the interior lining is now in progress. Local contractor Riparia (Riverwood) is supplying recycled native timber for wall panelling, skirting boards and some furniture.

More exciting news is around the corner regarding design and artistic elements being developed, including a series of timber pou. Outside, the installation of cladding continues and the carpark area is next on the schedule.

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