

Unite
against
COVID-19

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**MAYOR'S
REPORT**

29 April 2020

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COVID-19

MAYOR TRACEY COLLIS

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*"Let the winds of the Ruahine and Tararua give you strength and the waters of the Manawatu nourish you...
for we are the pounamu of Te Tapere nui o Whatonga!"*

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Mayor's Report

Mayor Tracey Collis

April 2020

The month of April has seen COVID-19 impact every aspect of how the Tararua District and the entire world live. Through these unprecedented times we have seen incredible positivity and resilience amongst our community with a strong focus on recovery and the future.



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1. COVID-19

COVID-19 has certainly changed the way we work and live and I would like to thank the community for the messages of kindness and remaining positive in these challenging times. It has been amazing to see our community work together to stay home and stay safe.

A special thank you to our essential services and health care workers who have faced many challenges over the last month.

The Tararua District is resilient and I am confident we can work together and support one another throughout our ever-changing circumstances.

Councils focus is on recovery of the region and we have launched the campaign #LoveLocal Tararua to encourage support toward our local businesses.

2. Drought

The team at council have done a fabulous job managing the district through the worst drought in recorded times. Many solid relationships have been formed and will continue to develop within the farming sector.

The pressures of the drought will continue to be felt and we are thankful to Rural Support Trust for supporting our district through these times.

Rural Support Trust can be contacted on 0800 787 254 (0800 RURAL HELP) or www.rural-support.org.nz

3. ANZAC

A sincere thanks to the Dannevirke and District RSA for putting together a virtual ANZAC service for us.

Many members of the public supported StandAtDawn and also showed their respect by creating tributes to family members and the fallen at their homes and businesses.

To view the virtual ANZAC service:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvML9DHDXMNqAn0jA7jiMFQ>



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4. Forestry

I was invited to a round table discussion with the Minister of Forestry, Shane Jones, Minister of Trade and Export Growth, David Parker, and the Minister for Climate Change, James Shaw.

We discussed the issues facing each organisation and were asked to submit solutions for the government to consider. A productive meeting, it was pleasing to see all those involved working together.

5. Regional Chiefs

Regional Chiefs was held on 28 April 2020 and the main discussion points were around a collaborative approach between regions as we work towards recovery from COVID-19.

The strategic look at recovery will be completed by the Manawatu-Wanganui Economic Recovery Task Force and will work across Maori, business, local and central government. These recovery efforts will compliment work being done by individual councils.

Mayor Grant Smith, Mayor Hamish McDoull and I are included in the initial membership with my role ensuring there is appropriate rural representation.


Horizons Regional Council will be providing a press release in the near future.

6. Letters of Support and Congratulations

10 April 2020	Waireka Rest Home Pahiatua
10 April 2020	Rahiri Rest Home Dannevirke
10 April 2020	Eileen Mary Rest Home
16 April 2020	Nick and Rose Bertram – Sharefarmer of the Year
16 April 2020	Barry and Carol McNeil – Sharefarmer of the Year (Property Owner)
16 April 2020	Matt Charlton and Renee Floyd- Teddy Bear display
21 April 2020	Stephanie McNair – Target Shooting Outdoor Nationals

7. Events Attended by the Mayor

3 Times Weekly	Mayor and Councillors catch up via ZOOM
Ongoing	Keeping up to date with the various Emergency Operations Centre, National Crisis Management Centre, Across All Government, Ministry of Health Updates
25 March 2020	LMG Community Response Meeting- Tararua REAP -ZOOM
30 March 2020	Horizons Update COVID-19 - Ongoing Twice Weekly -ZOOM
31 March 2020	Central FM Phone Interview- Ongoing Twice Weekly
1 April 2020	Infometrics Economy Webinar COVID-19 - ZOOM
3 April 2020	Women Who Make The Calls - ZOOM
3 April 2020	LMG Community Response Meeting- Tararua REAP -ZOOM
5 April 2020	MidCentral DHB Update Teleconference
6 April 2020	National Emergency Management Agency – Local Government Update – SKYPE
9 April 2020	Central Economic Development Agency – COVID-19 Communicating in a Crisis Webinar
9 April 2020	Minister for Infrastructure Shane Jones, Chair of Crown Infrastructure Partners Webinar
10 April 2020	Gallup – Trust in the Age of COVID-19 Webinar
15 April 2020	Infometrics Economy Webinar COVID-19 - ZOOM
16 April 2020	Accessing Central NZ Governance Group Meeting - ZOOM
16 April 2020	How can Councils Contribute to Local Economic Recovery - ZOOM
16 April 2020	Mayor's Taskforce For Jobs Core Group Meeting - ZOOM
16 April 2020	Infometrics Economy Webinar Manawatu- Whanganui - ZOOM
17 April 2020	Women Who Make The Calls – ZOOM
17 April 2020	Wellington Governance Group Meeting- ZOOM
17 April 2020	National Emergency Management Agency – Local Government Update - ZOOM
18 April 2020	Gallup – Sustaining Company Culture Through COVID -19 Webinar
20 April 2020	SOLGM – The 2020/21 Annual Plan and Rate-Setting Post COVID-19 – ZOOM
20 April 2020	MidCentral DHB Update Teleconference
21 April 2020	Wider Welfare Agencies within Tararua -ZOOM
22 April 2020	Infometrics Economy Webinar (Building Focus) - ZOOM
22 April 2020	Tararua REAP AGM - ZOOM



23 April 2020	Wellington Governance Group Meeting - ZOOM
24 April 2020	Wairarapa Regional Skills Leadership Group Meeting - ZOOM
25 April 2020	Stand at Dawn for ANZAC day
26 April 2020	MidCentral DHB Update Teleconference
28 April 2020	Regional Chiefs Check-In

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8. Councillor's Portfolio Reports

Erana Peeti-Webber (Deputy Mayor)

3 Times Weekly	Mayor & Councillors catch up via ZOOM
Once or Twice Weekly	Community board group emails and phone calls to the chair
Ongoing	Phone calls to members of the Community
Ongoing	Keeping up to date with the various Emergency Operations Centre/ National Crisis Management Centre
20 April 2020	SOLGM annual plan and rate setting post Covid-19 webinar
25 April 2020	Stand at Dawn for ANZAC DAY

This month I've been keeping up to date with the Covid-19 changes in government decisions and rules.

This includes reading information and action points from other Councils during the Covid-19 pandemic, recovery and what we could be doing.

I have been supporting Mayor Tracey with any matters that crop up that need attending to, as well as spreading the COVID-19 message stay safe, stay home.

Carole Isaacson

3 Times Weekly	Mayor & Councillors catch up via ZOOM
Daily	Communication with Tina at Bupa Rahiri Care Home and Retirement Village
Ongoing	Phone calls to members of the Community
Ongoing	Keeping up to date with the various Emergency Operations Centre/ National Crisis Management Centre
9 April 2020	Minister for Infrastructure Shane Jones, Chair of Crown Infrastructure Partners Webinar
25 April 2020	Stand at Dawn for ANZAC DAY

This month the Norsewood community has supported members well with Ngati Kahungunu supplying Easter eggs for Easter Sunday delivery.

While Norsewood Store has been well supported, there was also some unrest with an attempted break in at Mathew Park.

Noise complaint issues have been resolved, neighbours are happy and life has been going pretty good. In place of attending an ANZAC ceremony this year I placed a large ANZAC poppy up at my gate.

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Kerry Sutherland

3 Times Weekly	Mayor & Councillors catch up via ZOOM
Early April 2020	Contacting over 200 tenants, landlords, and other people on their circumstances during lockdown
Ongoing	Phone calls to members of the Community
Ongoing	Keeping up to date with the various Emergency Operations Centre/ National Crisis Management Centre
Ongoing	Firewood deliveries to households in need
25 April 2020	Stand at Dawn for ANZAC DAY

With help from work staff, over 200 tenants, landlords, and others were contacted to check in on their circumstances during Lockdown. This communication has continued to occur, including to business owners.

There have been numerous Council meetings held via video link handling matters and keeping up to date with the Emergency Operation Centre (EOC), along with many conversations with locals just wanting to chat during their confinement.

Sharon Wards

3 Times Weekly	Mayor & Councillors catch up via ZOOM
Ongoing	Phone calls to members of the Community
Ongoing	Liaising with over 30 agencies including health, aged care, food banks, social service providers and church groups
30 March 2020	Seconded to act as Welfare Manager in the Tararua District Council Emergency Operations Centre (EOC)
Ongoing	Keeping up to date with the various Emergency Operations Centre/ National Crisis Management Centre
25 April 2020	Stand at Dawn for ANZAC DAY

To support the Tararua district I began a full time role as Welfare Manager in the Tararua District Council Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) 20 March 2020.

Leading the welfare program I have been responsible for facilitating numerous activities to ensure the emergency provision of food, household goods and temporary accommodation are available to those in need. This also includes assisting the vulnerable and elderly with groceries and access to essential services. To achieve this I have been in regular contact with upwards of 30 agencies including health, aged care, food banks, social service providers and church groups.

I have also kept a community lens on the local issues close to my 'bubble.

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Alison Franklin

3 Times Weekly	Mayor & Councillors catch up via ZOOM
Ongoing	Phone calls to members of the Community
Ongoing	Supermarket and essential services assistance for the vulnerable and elderly
Ongoing	Keeping up to date with the various Emergency Operations Centre/ National Crisis Management Centre
25 April 2020	Stand at Dawn for ANZAC DAY

Over the last month I have been keeping in touch with local businesses.

Paul, the owner of New World Pahiatua, has been working tirelessly on addressing the increased demand. We discussed the discrepancies between the amounts of produce ordered versus the receipt from Food Stuff. He commended the staff for their dedication, enthusiasm and hard work over the last few weeks.

Trevor Jackson from Jackson Enterprises discussed his meticulous organisation prior to lockdown. They will be waiting for orders to come in when the alert levels change as they are all up to date. This is a contrast to many other local businesses, especially hospitality that will be exceptionally busy as they prepare to re-open.

I am looking forward to other services in our community gradually reopening such as general postal services. I am sure we will have a new found appreciation when this occurs.

In November 2019 Councillor Carole Isaacson and I attended a Safe Communities Foundation NZ Huia to start the process of accreditation. We have revisited this process over the last month, and are awaiting National Government decisions as they work through a Caring for Communities framework.

Shirley Hull

3 Times Weekly	Mayor & Councillors catch up via ZOOM
Ongoing	Promoting 'Phone Family, Phone A Friend' via social media
Ongoing	Promoting Tararua District Council and COVID-19 information via social media
Ongoing	Phone calls and FaceTime to members of the Community
Ongoing	Keeping up to date with the various Emergency Operations Centre/ National Crisis Management Centre
25 April 2020	Stand at Dawn for ANZAC day

Whilst on Lockdown, this month has flown by and I have been busy staying engaged with the Community.

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I have continued to maintain a strong presence on social media and guide the community to the resources they need, keeping them well informed.

I have advocated for those suffering from social isolation in our district and in doing so have promoted the 'Phone Family, Phone A Friend' campaign.

Peter Johns

3 Times Weekly	Mayor & Councillors catch up via ZOOM
Ongoing	Phone calls to members of the Community
Early April 2020	Instigated Woodville Lions Club – Over 70's Contact Call
Early April 2020	Worked with EOC to provide intel to Food bank services in Woodville
Ongoing	Keeping up to date with the various Emergency Operations Centre/ National Crisis Management Centre
25 April 2020	ANZAC day commemorations

This month I have kept in contact with the Woodville community and liaised information to the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) based in Dannevirke. I advised the EOC of two 'food bank' operations, contact was made and support provided to those services.

I instigated the Woodville Lions Club to ring all over 70 year olds in the Woodville district and ensure they were and are all ok. Six Lions including myself have made regular calls to those on our lists.


Raylene Treder

3 Times Weekly	Mayor & Councillors catch up via ZOOM
3 to 4 Times Weekly	Communicating with Charlie Death - Eketahuna Community Board
Ongoing	Promoting Tararua District Council and COVID-19 information via social media
Ongoing	Phone calls to members of the Community
Ongoing	Keeping up to date with the various Emergency Operations Centre/ National Crisis Management Centre
25 April 2020	Stand at Dawn for ANZAC day

Tena koutou Katoa

Firstly I would like to thank everyone for staying home and saving lives, a huge thanks must also go to all the essentials workers who have been providing services to our District whilst being in lockdown.

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You may not have seen me out and about but behind the scenes the Mayor and Councillors have been meeting regularly on ZOOM meetings to connect with each other to establish the needs and concerns in the Tararua District. Each Councillor provides an update for the areas they look after in the District.

My area of focus during Lockdown Alert is the Eketahuna Community. You may ask how I have been looking after your community? I have been in regular phone contact (three or four times a week) with Charlie Death Chairperson of the Eketahuna Community Board to address any issues that he has been made aware of by the community that have arisen whilst in lockdown by providing solutions or passing on the information to the correct channels.

A huge thanks must go to Leanne from the Eketahuna Health Centre for the tireless work she has been completing by providing food, ringing individuals and families checking to see how they are going and meeting the health requirements of the community.

A heartfelt thanks must also go to Tanmay from Four Square who has gone above and beyond to meet the needs of the community. Both of your commitment to the community is much appreciated, we are so lucky to live in a community with so many caring people.

Look forward to being back out and about “stay strong, stay home.”

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