



BULLER
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera O Kawatiri

Connect

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

West Coast Bush wētā - *Hemideina broughi*
Credit: Zhaoxuan Li - www.gbif.org

Connect 136 September 2025



August 2025

Digi-Coach on hand at Buller District Libraries



Buller District Libraries is excited to offer free, friendly digital support through a new Digi-Coach programme run by the Digital Inclusion Alliance Aotearoa (DIAA) and the Ministry of Social Development (MSD).

From 9 September until the end of November, Digi-Coach Shirley will be on hand weekdays, 10 am–2 pm at the Sue Thomson Casey Memorial Library in Westport. The service works like the libraries' popular 'Device Advice' sessions – simply drop in, no appointment needed. Look for the Digi-Coach flag and bright blue vests.

Shirley can help with setting up new devices or apps, accessing the libraries' online resources, or solving everyday smartphone, tablet, laptop and other tech issues. She will also visit Inangahua County Library in Reefton and other council outreach locations over the next three months to extend support across Buller.

Library Manager Nicky Meadowcroft says the initiative meets high demand for digital help locally, expanding assistance for the community over the next 12 weeks.

The Digi-Coach scheme is also a work-experience opportunity for jobseekers. DIAA's Laurence Zwimpher encourages local employers to meet the Digi-Coaches, test their skills, and potentially find their next tech-savvy employee.

GET HELP FROM A DIGI-COACH!

Sue Thomson Casey Memorial Library
Monday – Friday
10 am – 2 pm

Friendly, local trainers

One-on-one support

- Smartphone Basics
- Using Apps
- Online Safety
- Using Email
- Skinny Jump Internet
- Any digital queries!

IT'S FREE!

For more info
P: 03 788 8030



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Compliance Team on the ground in Reefton

Do you have questions about Council compliance issues such as freedom camping, dog registration or noise control?

Buller District Council's friendly compliance team will be visiting Reefton on a regular basis to answer residents' questions and concerns, providing in-person compliance-related advice and information.

Drop in to the Reefton Visitor and Service Centre for a face-to-face chat with one of Council's Compliance Team on Fridays between:

- 10:00 am – 11:00 am
- 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Click here to see when the team is next in town and keep an eye out for the Animal Management signs!



BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

Dog microchipping

Dog microchipping will also be offered at these sessions, subject to demand.

The charge for this service is \$25 per dog.

To book your canine companion in for microchipping, contact the Reefton Visitor and Service Centre:

Phone

03 732 8821 or 03 732 8391

Email:

reeftonsc@bdc.govt.nz



Reefton Visitor & Service Centre 67-69 Broadway, Reefton.

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

Looking for advice and guidance on Council processes?

[Click here to find out 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.

Thursday 18 September

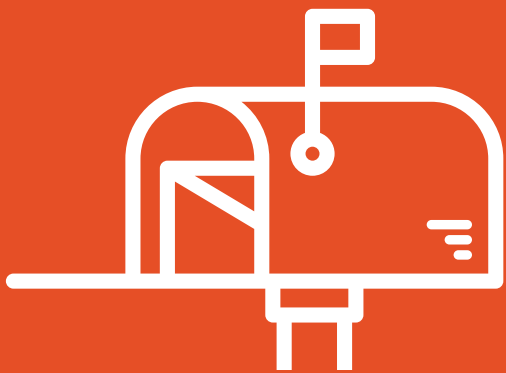
Karamea – Karamea RSA
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Ngakawau – Ngakawau Community Centre
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Monday 20 October

Punakaiki – Punakaiki Café
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Charleston – Charleston Hall
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm



VOTING PAPERS ARE ON THE WAY

Voting papers for the 2025 local elections will be delivered between 9 and 22 September if you are registered to vote.

You can vote any time from when you receive your voting pack until 12 noon on Saturday 11 October 2025.

If you are not enrolled to vote:

It is not too late. You must enrol by Friday 10 October 2025 to cast a special vote.

What is a Special Vote?

A special vote is required if you:

- Haven't received your voting papers by 22 September
- Have lost or damaged your papers
- Have recently moved or your address is out of date
- Are on the unpublished (confidential) roll
- Will be away during the voting period
- Forgot to enrol before 1 August

How to cast a special vote:

1. Check you are enrolled to vote by visiting vote.nz
2. Complete a Special Vote Request Form [Click here to complete form online](#)

Once you receive your special voting papers, remember to deposit in the vote bins to cast your vote.

For further information or assistance:

- Call 0800 36 76 56
- Email elections@bdc.govt.nz
- Visit Council's service centres.

Your vote is your voice.
Make sure you are enrolled and your voting papers are returned on time.



HOW TO VOTE

Use a vote bin

This is the quickest and most reliable way to make sure your vote is counted.

Simply complete your voting paper, seal it in the envelope provided, and drop it into a vote bin near you right up until noon on Saturday 11 October.

Vote Bin Locations:

Buller District Council
6-8 Brougham Street, Westport

Reefton Visitor & Service Centre
67-69 Broadway, Reefton

New World Westport
144 Palmerston St, Westport

FreshChoice Westport
18 Fonblanque St, Westport

Punangairi Visitor Centre
4294 Coast Road, Punakaiki

Four Square Karamea
103 Bridge St, Karamea

Post your vote

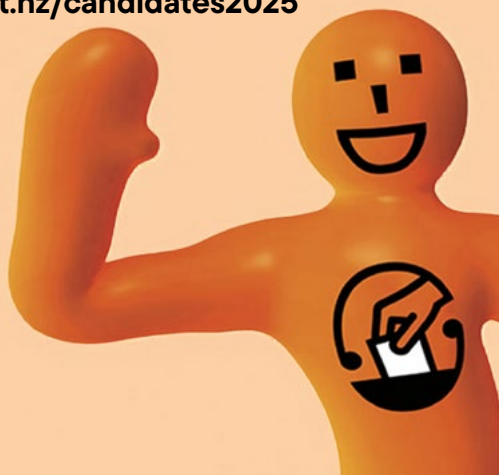
You can also return your voting paper by post in the freepost envelope provided.

Remember to post it by Tuesday 7 October to ensure it arrives before 12 noon, Saturday 11 October 2025.



Get to know your local candidates

To learn more about who's standing for Buller District Council, please visit:
bullerdc.govt.nz/candidates2025



Meetings September 2025

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

Please check the calendar for any updates and additional meetings.

Risk and Audit Committee Meeting
• 17 September, starting 3:30 pm
Clocktower Chambers

Ordinary Council Meeting
• 24 September, starting 3:30 pm
Clocktower Chambers

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



Buller District Council

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 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 website '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.



Round 2 of 3 (FY 25/26)
Closes 06/10/2025



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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