



BULLER
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera O Kawatiri

Connect

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

Powelliphanta snail - *Powelliphanta superba*
Credit: Kath Walker, Department of Conservation

Connect 132 May 2025

Library 'Night Mode' popular with youth

Staff at the Sue Thomson Casey Memorial Library in Westport have been exploring ways to better support young adults in our communities.

As a smaller rural library, we need to be considerate and strategic about delivering programs that meet community needs while working within our team's capacity and budget. To ensure our approach aligns with what young people want and need, we engaged with high school students, Tai Poutini Polytechnic, and Youth Voice Kawatiri to design a programme that works for them.

One of our recent, successful initiatives is Night Mode — a dedicated late-night library session for youth, offering study spaces and social activities like games, and soon-to-be Dungeons & Dragons. While navigating challenges such as avoiding conflicts with other local events, we've used these evenings to engage directly with young library users.

In the next few months, we hope to engage with youth in Reefton to help us create activities for them, based on their needs. This will be facilitated by Buller District Libraries in Reefton.

Feedback from Kawatiri youth has been invaluable, and as a result, we're now developing a larger, dedicated Young Adult (YA) area at the library. This space will house the YA collection alongside study and social areas tailored to the needs of our young people.



Making the most of Night Mode - Buller High School students: Rachael Craddock, Zabeel Scanlon and Hemione Richards



Dog registration

2025/2026 dog registration is approaching - update your dog's details now.

If you own a dog, now is a great time to check that your four-legged friend's paperwork is up to date.

- Do you have a new dog?
- Has your dog recently been microchipped or desexed?
- Did your dog pass away in the last year?
- Are the contact details we hold for you up to date, including an email address?
- Have you moved house recently?

Making these changes now will make your dog registration paperwork super simple to complete later.

For more information go to:

www.bullerdc.govt.nz/dogs-and-animal-control/dog-registration/



Email
info@bdc.govt.nz with the subject line 'Dog registration change of details'

Call
Call the Animal Management team on 03 788 9647

Talk to us
Drop in to the BDC Customer Services desk in Westport or Reefton.

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.

Thursday 19 June
Ngakawau - Ngakawau Hall
9:00 am - 11:00 am

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

Tuesday 15 July
Charleston - Venue TBC
9:00 am - 11:00 am

Punakaiki - Pancake Rocks Cafe
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

PLAN TO VOTE.

STEP 1: REGISTER.

REGISTER AT [VOTE.NZ](https://vote.nz)



2025 Local body elections

Every three years, elections are held across New Zealand to elect mayors, councillors and community boards across the motu. This is a chance to make your voice heard and have your say in the future of the Buller District.

The next local body elections will be held in October 2025. Election day is Saturday 11 October, and voting will take place between 9 September – 11 October.

Have you thought about standing for the Buller District? If elected, you could play a crucial role in our district’s future through the decisions you help make over the following three years.

Any New Zealand citizen over the age of 18 who is enrolled on the parliamentary roll can stand for election and our community needs representatives from all backgrounds and walks of life. Will you answer the call and make a difference in Buller?

Key dates for the 2025 local elections:

Friday 4 July	Nominations open. Electoral roll opens for inspection.
Friday 1 August	Nominations close at 12 noon. Electoral roll closes.
By 6 August	Public notice of candidate names and special voting places.
9 – 22 September	Delivery of voting documents (will occur between these dates).
9 September – 11 October	Voting and special voting period. Early processing period.
Saturday 11 October	Election Day (voting closes at 12 noon) Progress / preliminary results will be announced as soon as practicable.
11 – 16 October	Official count and processing of special votes.
16 – 19 October	Declaration of final result and public notice of results.

Enrolment

If you are already enrolled as a parliamentary elector, you will automatically be placed on Council’s electoral roll. If you need to enrol or update your name or address details, you can:

- Visit vote.nz and use your New Zealand driver licence, New Zealand passport or RealMe verified identity to enrol online
- Free call 0800 36 76 56 and ask for a form to be sent to you

If you’d like help with the enrolment forms or checking your details online, please call in to one of our service centres, where staff are available to assist.

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

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.

The Cape Foulwind water supply (Wilsons Lead Road and Bulls Rd) is for stock use only and is not intended for human consumption.

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

Wastewater

Council operates sewerage treatment plants in Little Wanganui, Reefton and Westport.

Please don’t flush any wipes, including those labelled as flushable, or paper towels into the toilet.

People who have a connection to the Orowaiti sewerage scheme are reminded that they should no longer be using septic tanks and should be connected to the reticulation.

Stormwater

Please consider stormwater and wastewater separation. Stormwater that enters the sewer must be treated as sewage. This can cause sewer capacity problems during prolonged and heavy rain.

The majority of the stormwater is discharged untreated into the district’s rivers. Please consider this when discharging fluids into the stormwater system. If you wouldn’t want to swim in it, it shouldn’t be going into the stormwater and needs to be disposed of as wastewater.

Meetings May – June 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.

ElectionNZ Elected Member Protocols Workshop

- 28 May, starting 2:00 pm
Clocktower Chambers

Ordinary Council Meeting

- 28 May, starting 3:30 pm
Clocktower Chambers

Long-Term Plan hearings

- 9–10 June, starting 9:00 am
Clocktower Chambers

Long-Term Plan deliberations

- 11–12 June, starting 9:00 am
Clocktower Chambers

Ordinary Council Meeting

- 25 June, starting 3:30 pm
Clocktower Chambers

Extraordinary Council Meeting – Local Water Done Well hearings and deliberations

- 30 June – 3 July, starting 9:00 am
Clocktower Chambers

Extraordinary Council Meeting – Final Long-Term Plan adoption

- 30 June, 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**

Join the conversation now!



Click here to learn more

letstalk.bullerdc.govt.nz

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