



WEAVING THE
FUTURE, TOGETHER
KOTAHITANGA
ŌTOROHANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL

We recently held three open days to give our communities the opportunity to discuss their aspirations for the future of our district. We want to thank each and every one of you who came out and gave us your feedback. We were blown away by the level of engagement we received – what an awesome community we live in!

The feedback you gave us will help us form our future plans. We are currently working on the three following plans:

- The Long Term Plan 2024 – 2034
- The Rural Ōtorohanga Concept Plan
- The Kāwhia, Aotea and Ōpārau Concept Plan

While feedback for the early engagement phase of the Long Term Plan has now closed, you can still have your say on the two concept plans – just head to www.otodc.govt.nz/weaving-the-future and follow the links, these surveys will close on 8 October.

The next steps are to collate and analyse all the feedback received from the open days and the online surveys.

The two concept plan projects will be going back out to the relevant communities early in the new year, and Long Term Plan formal engagement will begin in the first quarter of 2024.

MEET THE TEAM

TONY QUICKFALL, GROUP MANAGER REGULATORY AND GROWTH

Tony is a fifth generation Taranakian with 30 years working in planning and local government across the South and North Island, both in the private sector and for district, regional and unitary councils. Before becoming a planner through Lincoln University, Tony horse mastered as a shepherd on a 2,000ha Northland sheep station, managed dairy farms in Taranaki and the Bay of Plenty, and worked in the former MI6 building for London Underground during an IRA bombing campaign. He lives in Cambridge with his 20-year-old son (studying music at WINTEC and in three bands), 16-year-old daughter (year 11 at Cambridge High), chooks, ducks and two spoodles. Tony's happy places are spending time outdoors; hitting mountain bike trails; and dabbling in music.



Ōtorohanga Library presents **Harry Potter and the Chamber of Crafts**

For primary school aged kids

LIBRARY – SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Join us in the library these school holidays for our Harry Potter and the Chamber of Crafts school holiday programme. Week one is wand making, pot decorating and label making. If you want to take part in these activities, register by phoning the library on (07) 873 7175 or email library@otodc.govt.nz. Be quick, places are filling fast!

During week two of the school holidays, we will be continuing the Harry Potter theme with four days of drop-in craft activities. Come along to the library anytime between 9am and 4.30pm, and have a go at making a Harry Potter bookmark, a howler, a marauders map and other paper crafts. No registrations needed for these activities, just turn up!

LIBRARY STRATEGY

A big thank you to everyone who responded in August for our request for feedback for our ten-year strategy. We received some constructive and useful feedback.

Did you know that 85% of you who responded were “happy” or “very happy” with the services you receive from the library? And only 2% ticked the “unhappy” box – but rest assured that we’ve listened to your feedback and will be implementing some of your ideas soon!

The pathway to the library at Kāwhia is being re-concreted, and a handrail will be installed to help folks get up the steep slope. This will be happening over the summer months – as it is weather dependent.

A shelter for mobility scooters will be installed outside the Ōtorohanga Library so scooters will be kept dry on those rainy days, and there are more great improvements to come!

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

Ōtorohanga Community Board	Mon, 2 October
Elected Member Workshop	Tues, 3 October
Kāwhia Community Board	Thu, 5 October
Ōtorohanga District Council	Tues, 17 October
Risk and Assurance Committee	Tues 24, October
Grants and Awards Committee	Wed, 25 October
Creative Communities Scheme Committee	Wed, 25 October

WE'RE GOING HYBRID!

We have started our journey to update the Council fleet with plugin hybrid vehicles where possible. We have almost completed installing four EV (electric vehicle) chargers, with plans to add a further two for our Council fleet to ensure we are able to make the most of our eight new hybrid vehicles.



ANNUAL RESIDENT SURVEY

Massive shout out to all the 115 residents that took time out of their day to complete our Annual Resident Survey! This was a massive improvement from our very first survey last year which only saw 46 people give us their feedback. The more of you that tell us what we are doing right and what we can improve on, the better we can serve our community. A report summarising what we've heard will be available soon.

Thanks to Ōtorohanga Health & Fitness for this photo!



TE WIKI O TE REO MĀORI – MĀORI LANGUAGE WEEK

Ōtorohanga District Council celebrated Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori with kai, kōrero and raranga (weaving). Amongst the office, many staff were sharing kiwaha/common phrases, and even their own whakapapa/geneological connections. We closed off the week with a weaving workshop making kono/small baskets. E mihi ana ki a koutou, thank you to all who made this celebration possible, especially Origin Coffee Ōtorohanga for providing kawhe/coffee in teo reo Māori. Mauri ora!



Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o
Ōtorohanga
District Council
Where kiwi can fly