MĀWHERA GREY DISTRICT COUNCIL
Heart of the West Coast

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2026

Mayor's Comment



This newsletter comes at a time when our district is looking ahead to a busy summer season while also delivering significant investment in our communities. Council is progressing a $51 million capital delivery programme, with projects underway across the district that will strengthen infrastructure, support growth, and improve services for residents and visitors alike.

As we move towards Christmas, I want to acknowledge the many people who have already contributed to the success of several fantastic community events. Agfest once again showcased the strength and innovation of our rural sector, while the motorcycle street racing brought excitement and visitors to our district.

These events don't happen without a huge amount of effort from organisers, volunteers, sponsors, businesses and participants. Thank you to everyone who played a part in making them such memorable occasions.

There is still plenty to look forward to in the months ahead. Spring Into Summer will bring another opportunity for our community to come together and celebrate the season. The Nelson Creek Fireworks event promises to be a highlight for families, and the Christmas Carnival will once again provide a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the festive spirit with friends and neighbours.

We are now into a recycling campaign. We have sent leaflets to households explaining what can, and can't, go in your bins. Watch out for updates across radio, newspapers, and social media. Contamination costs everyone money – it has to be sorted and removed from the recycling – so we are hoping to see an improvement.

As always, I encourage everyone to support local events, local businesses, and each other. The vibrancy of our district is built on the dedication and community spirit of the people who call it home. I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable lead-up to the holiday season.

Tania Gibson
Grey District Mayor

How Did We Do? Have Your Say!

How are we doing? We want to hear from you!

Our annual **How Did We Do Survey** is your opportunity to tell us what you think about Grey District Council's services, performance, facilities and how our Mayor and Councillors are doing.

Your feedback helps us understand what's working well, where we can improve and what matters most to our community. Complete the survey online at **Have Your Say Grey** by scanning the QR code or visiting our website, and you'll go in the draw to win a $300 Prezzy Card or one of two $100 Prezzy Cards.

Prefer pen and paper? Paper copies are available from:

- Grey District Council Office, 105 Tainui Street, Greymouth – Monday to Friday, 8.30am–4.30pm.
- Greymouth Library, 8 Boundary Street, Greymouth – Monday to Friday, 9.30am–5pm and Saturday, 10am – 2pm.

Completed paper surveys can be returned to either location.
The survey closes Wednesday 2 December 2026.
Take a few minutes to have your say. Your feedback makes a difference!

Do it online

https://haveyoursay.greydc.govt.nz/survey-

Mayors Taskforce for Jobs Grey District exceeds targets; encourages employers to get in touch

The Mayors Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ) Grey District supported 44 young people into employment in the year to June and is encouraging more local employers to get in touch.

MTFJ is a nationwide network of New Zealand mayors and co-ordinators working alongside the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) with a shared vision of ensuring all young people aged 16 – 24 are engaged in employment, education, training, or other positive activity within their communities.

In the year ending 30 June, the Grey District programme supported 44 young people into employment across a range of industries.

Participants included young people referred through MSD as well as NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training), with each receiving tailored support to overcome barriers and secure sustainable employment.

Of the 44, 17 began apprenticeships. A further 5 participants transitioned into further education at polytechnics and universities, while many others secured full-time and part-time employment across the region.

Grey District Mayor Tania Gibson encouraged more employers to reach out before beginning their recruitment process.

"We work with many supportive local employers. While times are challenging, we can provide support not only to young people entering employment, but also to businesses willing to give them an opportunity.

"This support can include assistance with driver licensing and essential tools, as well as access to government funding and incentives for eligible employers."

Staff have worked alongside many businesses for years, helping them fill vacancies while supporting young people to successfully enter the workforce.

"Many of our young people are not yet work-ready and need support and encouragement as they take their first steps into employment. Through the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs, we have the opportunity to help them build confidence, develop workplace skills, and connect with meaningful employment," Mrs Gibson said.

"One of the greatest privileges of my time as Mayor has been supporting these young people on their journey. Watching them secure employment, grow in confidence, and flourish in their chosen careers has been incredibly rewarding.

"Seeing many of them graduate in their chosen pathways and go on to build successful futures is always an honour, and a reminder of the difference that investing in our young people can make."

If you are an employer or young person who would like to learn more about the programme, please email mtfj@greydc.govt.nz or visit the Grey District Council website and follow the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs link.



PICTURE: Morgan Burrows started working at Total Glass in Greymouth six months ago. "The people are really nice and supportive, and every day I am learning new stuff." Morgan is pictured with MTFJ youth facilitator Megan Prendergast, and Mayor Tania Gibson.

Did you know we only check the snap send solve app during working hours? **At weekends and after hours, if you have an urgent matter, please call our after-hours line on 03 769 8600 – this is answered during weekends and overnight.**



Driveway access and maintenance – who's responsible?

Whether your driveway is on private property, crosses Council-owned land or is shared with neighbouring properties, responsibility for its maintenance and upkeep rests with the property owner or owners who use it for access to their property.

This includes the cost of repairs, resurfacing and general maintenance. Where a driveway is shared, property owners are responsible for agreeing on maintenance arrangements and how costs are divided.

Grey District Council does not fund or maintain private driveway accessways, even where they cross Council-owned land. These responsibilities and associated costs sit with the property owners.





Changes to how we manage earthquake-prone buildings

The Government has updated the Building Act 2004 to change the way earthquake-prone buildings (EPBs) are identified, managed and remediated.

The current system for managing EPBs in Grey District Council remains in place until 30 June 2027.

From 1 July 2027, council will begin notifying owners of current EPBs of their proposed status under the new system. Many buildings will either no longer be EPBs under the Building Act, or have fewer requirements for remediation. No EPBs will be subject to more requirements than the current system.

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) has more information about the changes: www.building.govt.nz/about-building-performance/all-news-and-updates/changes-for-earthquake-prone-buildings

MBIE will be publishing a map that provides information about the upcoming changes, searchable by address: www.building.govt.nz/EPBMap

New vessel commissioned at Port of Greymouth

A new 7.5m sounding vessel, GP7, has been officially commissioned at the Port of Greymouth as part of the wider investment to revitalise the port.

Attending the commissioning was Associate Regional Development Minister Mark Patterson.

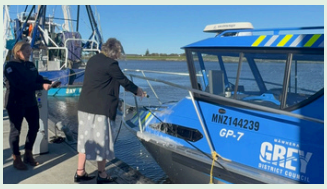
The multi-purpose vessel will be operated by qualified port staff and used primarily to carry out regular soundings of the bar entrance and lagoon depths, helping improve port operations and reduce the need for contracted services. It can also assist with piloting and crew transfers.

GP7 was delivered on budget, with funding support from the Government's Regional Infrastructure Fund and Development West Coast.

The wider port development also includes plans for additional floating jetties and an amenities block, helping provide improved facilities and services for mariners.

Photo: Heath Milne, Chief Executive, Development West Coast; Mayor Tania Gibson and Hon Mark Patterson, Minister for Rural Communities and Associate Minister of Agriculture.









Upcoming Events





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facebook.com/WhatsOnGreymouthEvents

Heart of the West Coast

Grey District Council
105 Tainui Street
PO Box 382 Greymouth 7805
Phone 03 769 8600
Email info@greydc.govt.nz
Facebook.com/GreyDC
Web greydc.govt.nz

MĀWHERA GREY DISTRICT COUNCIL

Rethink Waste & Recycling Grey District

www.greydc.govt.nz/recycling

These can go in your recycling bin





Clean plastic containers, bottles and trays numbers **1, 2, 5** only (lids off, max size 4 litres)



Clean tins and cans



Clean flat paper and cardboard (bigger than an envelope)

Only these in your glass crate

Clean, unbroken glass jars and bottles (no lids)



Examples of what can't go in your recycling bin



Food scraps



Soft plastics



Aluminium foil



Coffee cups





No lids of any type



Polystyrene



Aerosol cans





Plastics numbered

