



Community funding

The following funding schemes are available to groups in our community and funding rounds for all schemes open in September and March/April each year. The full criteria for each scheme can be found on our website and application forms will be available online or at Council offices when funding rounds are open, www.greydc.govt.nz/funding.

Creative Communities Scheme

Funding for arts and cultural projects that increase participation in arts and benefit local communities.

Recent recipients include:

Quiltwest Annual Weekend and Te Puawai Cooperative Society Limited

Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund

Grey District school and sport club teams can apply for Sport NZ Rural Travel funding. Applications are open to rural sports clubs and rural schools teams with young people aged between 5 – 19 years who require subsidies to help with transport expenses to local sporting competitions.

Recent recipients include:

Paroa Junior Soccer, Grey Main Football, Brunner Rugby League, Waro-Rakau Schoolboys Rugby League and Grey Valley Netball Club

DWC West Coast Amateur Sports Trust

This fund assists sports people in the Buller, Grey and Westland Districts who have been recognised by their sports body to have potential to reach national representative level.

The monies granted help our talented youth to participate in training and/or competition that will help them towards reaching a goal in line with the Trust's objectives.



Development West Coast Amateur Sports Trust



Mayor's Comment

At the completion of this term I will have served 21 years on the Grey District Council, 15 of those years as Mayor. In order for Council to have a succession plan, I am announcing my retirement at the completion of this current term.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the many challenges over the last 21 years and have no doubt that the huge infrastructure expenditure throughout the Grey District over the last 15 years will position Greymouth and the wider District for a bright future as our economy diversifies.

During my time on Council we have invested over \$130 million on new sewerage schemes throughout the District, drinking water upgrades, roading improvements, stormwater mitigation, refuse and recycling services, new

Aquatic Centre, new Westland Recreation Centre and started the Greymouth Town CBD renewal with the completion of the new Town Square and more improvements to come.

Council finances are in an excellent position. Council has recorded a cash operating surplus every year over the last 15 years. We have over \$10 million in cash reserves and our average rates are the eighth lowest of the 68 District Councils in New Zealand. During my time on Council we have added only \$15 million of debt but have gained over \$130 million of new infrastructure. For this I thank loyal staff and Councillors who have worked as a team for the benefit of ratepayers.

The last seven years have been extremely challenging due to the collapse of the coal mining industry, forcing a painful transition to more sustainable industry led by tourism, agriculture and expansion of the local fish processing facilities and the full roll out of

ultra-fast Broadband. Unemployment is 3.5%.

Since my election to Mayor in 2004, I have had no challenges for the position. Turning 65 a few months after my retirement in 2019 makes it a good time to move on from politics. I look forward to spending more time with my wife, Lynne, four children and grandchildren after many years of a job that demands commitment with a 24/7 timetable. My family's support has been unwavering.

I am still a member of many volunteer organisations and my fundraising for worthy projects will continue, but after 21 years it is time to pass the Mayoral Chains on and encourage the next Council to continue building a solid economic foundation for the residents of the Grey District and wider West Coast region.

Tony Kokshoorn



Building matters

Our Environmental Services team deal with lots of different matters, including building consents, resource consents, subdivisions, LIMs, swimming pool compliance, animal control and much more.

Please come in and see us if you are considering any building work – we look forward to working with you, as well as potentially save you time and money. Call on in or phone us on 03 769 8608.

Here's some information on recent topics of interest.

Ground conditions

There have been numerous requests for further information (RFIs) of late around 'good ground' soil conditions.

Based on the ground conditions listed in Grey District Council systems, which include our GIS mapping system (IntraMaps), Earthquake Ground Shake Zones and Liquefaction maps, as a minimum we request the following:

Zone 1, Zone 1a	Full geotechnical report - including IL1 buildings
Zone 2	Report from a suitably qualified professional (scala penetrometer tests as minimum) – not Licenced Building Practitioner (LBP) - including IL1 buildings
Zone 3	LBP scala penetrometer tests are required - these tests would not requested for IL1 buildings

Note: IL refers to importance level as per the building code.

By requesting the above information, we are protecting stakeholders, their assets and ensuring compliance with the Building Act

Law changes to the Residential Tenancies Act now in force

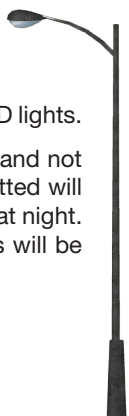
Changes to the Residential Tenancies Act have come into force and insulation regulations apply to any residential rental property covered by the Act. Ceiling and underfloor insulation must be installed, where it is reasonably practicable, by 1 July 2019. This insulation must meet standards set out in the regulations and be installed safely. Wall insulation is not compulsory.

Visit the Tenancy Services website for more information, www.tenancy.govt.nz/maintenance-and-inspections/insulation/compulsory-insulation/.

New LED street lights

From the middle of August, we will be upgrading all of our street lights to LED lights.

Benefits of this upgrade include better lighting of our footpaths and roads and not as much ambient light shining on the surrounding properties. The light emitted will be concentrated onto the road surface, making the roads safer to travel on at night. There will also be cost savings on power with the new lights. These works will be carried from mid August until December.



Bridge works

The following bridge works have started or are about to start:

- **Slatey Creek Bridge replacement** - this started in July and the bridge construction is likely to take up to three months to complete.
- **Arnold Bridge No 2 deck replacement** - these works will be undertaken over the next couple of months.

These bridge works are required to enable the heavier trucks with HPMV loads to use these routes.

Long Term Plan

Grey District Council adopted the Final 2018-2028 Long Term Plan on 25 June 2018. As part of the development of this Plan, a Draft Plan was put out for public consultation in March/April 2018, highlighting the key issues affecting our District and community.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to make a submission on our Draft Plan. Eighty two submissions were received from individuals and organisations and Council heard and considered these on 29 May 2018. A summary of the key outcomes and approved projects include:

- The community agreed with Council's preferred options for starting to address deferred renewals in our Water Supply, Wastewater, Stormwater and Land Transport activities and this increased funding has been incorporated into the Plan.
- Council has allowed for increased capital funding of \$140,000 for the History House Museum. The final location will be considered by Council in September 2018.
- Rate funding into the Port activity will continue.
- Following consideration of submissions received, it was decided that an extension to the existing kerbside recycling collection service will not be happening at this stage.
- Council has budgeted \$191,000 for stormwater upgrades in Tasman Street.
- Improvements to the events area established at the Greymouth Aerodrome have been funded at an amount of \$100,000.
- \$30,000 has been allocated for working with the Greymouth Business & Promotions Association on projects to be agreed upon by Council.
- The proposed Croesus Road upgrade to provide vehicle access to the Blackball end of the Pike 29/ Paparoa Great Walk has been included provided Council can receive the necessary external funding for this project.

In the Draft Plan, Council forecast a 3.51% rates rise for year one of the Plan (2018/2019). Taking into account the decisions made after hearing submissions, the final rates rise is 3.55%. This rates rise takes into account the increase in inflation, allows Council to begin addressing some very important infrastructural issues affecting our District and keeps us on a steady path to decreasing debt and being prepared for the future.

The first year of the Long Term Plan will also serve as the 2018/2019 Annual Plan and came into effect on 1 July 2018.

Further information is available in the Final 2018-2028 Long Term Plan, which is on our website, www.greymouth.govt.nz.



Revaluation - important things you should know

All properties in the Grey District will be revalued later this year. People can expect to receive the revaluation notice for their property from around mid December. We have contracted QV New Zealand, our valuation service provider, to carry out the revaluations. We know that there will be a lot of interest in this process and the results, so here are some of the key things you need to know about revaluation.

What are rating valuations?

Revaluation is a legal requirement that every Council in New Zealand must carry out. Grey District Council carries out revaluations every three years and uses these rating valuations for the purposes of calculating the rates each property is to pay.

Revaluation doesn't mean that Council collects any more money from rates

Revaluation doesn't affect the total amount of rates collected by Council but it does help us work out everyone's share of rates.

Your rates are calculated using different charges to make up the annual levy, ie General Rates (calculated on land value), a Uniform Annual General Charge (set charge) and Targeted Rates (set charge for services such as refuse/recycling collection, sewer, stormwater etc). Your rateable land value is used to determine how much of the General Rate you pay in comparison to other properties in the District. What area of the District you live in and what the property is used for is also taken into account when calculating rates.

An increase in land value doesn't necessarily mean your rates will increase

It is important to note that an increase in land value does not automatically mean that there will be an increase in rates. Broadly speaking, what will affect the amount of General Rates you pay following a revaluation is how your valuation moves in comparison to others in the district, ie has it increased more or less than the average?

What to do if you don't agree with your new valuation

Once the revaluation notices have been issued, there will be an objection period where people who disagree with the new valuation can raise their concerns.

Revaluation won't affect rates until July 2019

The new valuations will be used to calculate rates for the 2019/2020 rating year. Your current rates will stay the same until then.

More information about the upcoming revaluation will be available on our website closer to the time.



Your rates

By now you should have received your first rates bill for the 2018/2019 rating year. Your rates are made up of **General Rates** (to fund activities such as roading, refuse disposal sites, stormwater, parks, community services, district planning, flood protection and much more) and **Targeted Rates** (to pay for services such as refuse/recycling collection, water and sewer, or to fund specific activities, ie economic development).

Your rateable land value, the area of the District you live in and what the property is used for helps determine how much rates you pay towards Council services and activities.

If you have any questions about your rates, you can visit our website, www.greycdc.govt.nz/rates or call 03 769 8605 and talk to our friendly Rates staff.

Paying rates

There are many easy ways to pay your rates, including:

- **In person:** cash, cheque, EFTPOS and Visa or Mastercard.
- **Other methods:** cheque, direct debit, telebanking, internet banking, automatic payment or by credit card over the internet.

Rates rebates

The Rates Rebate Scheme provides for a rebate on rates of up to \$630 to low income home owners.

Applications for the current rating year (1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019) can be made from 1 August.

Head on into Council offices to collect an application form.

Senior citizen gym special

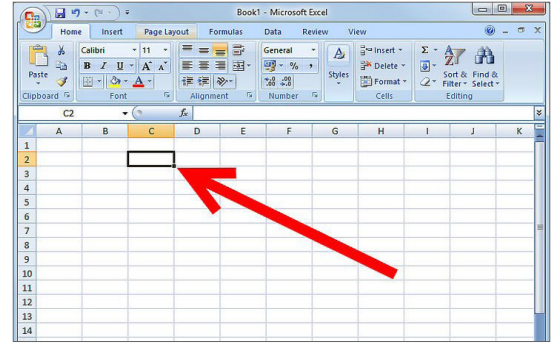
We have a great special deal for our senior citizens (65 years plus).

From Monday to Friday between 10am and 2pm, seniors can use the gym at the Westland Recreation Centre for just \$5 per session!



Free computer classes!

The Grey District Library has partnered with the 2020 Communications Trust to deliver free digital literacy classes to the community as part of the Stepping Up programme. Previous classes have proved very popular and here is the schedule for Term 3.



DATE	TOPIC
Thursday 2 August	Reading newspapers and magazines online
Thursday 9 August	Digital photos
Thursday 16 August	Computer basics
Thursday 23 August	Google and the internet
Thursday 30 August	Google Drive
Thursday 6 September	YouTube
Thursday 13 September	Introduction to tablets
Thursday 20 September	Introduction to spreadsheets
Thursday 27 September	Trade Me

All classes are held in the West Coast Room at the Library and run from 2pm to 4pm.

Classes are open to ALL AGES and registration is easy - either phone the Library on 03 768 5597 or go to <https://2020.arlo.co/upcoming-courses> and select 'West Coast Region'. You'll need to register for each class you wish to take.

For further information about the Stepping Up programme, please visit <http://steppingup.nz/>.

Nominations are now OPEN!

It is time to put forward your nomination for the

2018 Design Windows West Coast Sports Awards

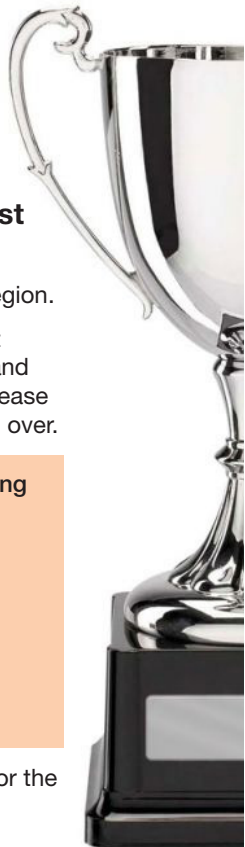
which recognise sporting excellence in our region.

The 2018 awards evening will be held at Shantytown on Saturday 6 October 2018 and tables are currently available to purchase. Please note that this event is for people aged 18 and over.

Nominations can be made for the following categories:

- Sports Person of the Year
- Referee or Umpire of the Year
- Coach of the Year
- Administrator of the Year
- Team of the Year
- Achievement in Sport (Male & Female)

For more information or to purchase a table for the awards evening, please contact Sarah Conroy on 03 769 8600 or email sarah.conroy@greydc.govt.nz



Stay up to date with Council news

You can stay up to date with all Council news on our website or Facebook page, which are updated regularly.

You can also find details of issues Council is currently consulting on and how you can have your say.

If you've got a question or some feedback for us, please feel free to use the easy online contact form on our website - we're here to help.

 www.greydc.govt.nz

 www.facebook.com/GreyDC

Have Your Say!