

[View weather](#)

[View tide data](#)

- [Your Council](#)

- [News and Events](#)

The latest Council news and events

- [Meet the team](#)

Our staff and elected representatives

- [Meetings and Agendas](#)

Find out about upcoming meetings and read agendas

- [Community outcomes](#)

Social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing

- [Requests for Information](#)

How to request official information from the Council

- [Visit the Chatham Islands](#)

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- [Local elections 2022](#)

Information on the upcoming local election

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- [Previous newsletters](#)

- [Our submissions](#)

- [Services](#)

- [Primary Services](#)

[Infrastructure](#) [Waste Management](#) [Pest Management](#) [Biodiversity](#) [Emergency Management](#) [Resource Management](#)

- [Community and Culture](#)

[Animal Control](#) [Cemeteries](#) [Library Services](#) [Gambling Venues Policy](#) [Historic Places](#) [Heartlands](#)

- [Rates, Consents and Licensing](#)

[Your Rates](#) [Building and Resource Consents](#) [Food and Alcohol Licensing](#) [Council Dues & Charges](#)

- [Coastal Services](#)

[Port Charges](#) [Navigation Safety](#) [Swing Moorings](#) [Marine Pests](#)

- [Environmental Data](#)

[Rainfall Data](#) [River Flow and Water Level Data](#) [Soil Temperature Data](#) [Tide Predictions](#) [Water Quality Data](#) [Wind Data](#)

- [Essential Freshwater package](#)

[What are the new regulations?](#) [Freshwater Farm Plans](#) [Wetland management](#) [Stock exclusion](#) [Fish passage](#)

- [Documents](#)

- [Annual Plan](#)

Sets out our work and priorities for the next financial year

- [Long-Term Plan](#)

Our work and priorities for the next decade

- [Annual Report](#)

An overview of the Council's activity

- [Resource Management Document](#)

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[View tide data](#)

Resource management framework summary

- [Regional Land Transport Programme](#)

Transport priorities for 2021 - 2031

- [Dog Control Policy & Bylaw](#)

Dog Control Bylaw overview

- [Vehicles on Beaches Bylaw](#)

Waitangi Beach vehicle bylaw

- [Rates Remission Policy on Māori & Moriori Freehold Land](#)

- [Navigation Safety Bylaws](#)

Managing boating and other activities on water

- [CDEM Group Plan](#)

Understanding hazards and risks to build capability

- [Investment Strategy](#)

A report on the Chatham Islands economy

- [Annual Plan](#)

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- [Search all Documents](#)

- [Contact](#)

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- [View tide data](#)

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◻ [News and Events / 2022](#)

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- [Meet the team](#)
- [Meetings and Agendas](#)
- [Community outcomes](#)
- [Requests for Information](#)
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Predator Free Chathams update

- Last Updated 08 Dec 2022

Predator Free Chathams is a community-driven project to help restore our islands' natural gifts and gives islanders a chance to be involved in developing and delivering a project for their island and future generations. Hamish Chisholm tells us about what the group have been up to.

There has been a lot going on behind the scenes over the last couple of months.

Eradication Feasibility Study

The Eradication Feasibility Study has undergone several drafts and is currently being finalised into the final document.

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This report will be broken down into a more reader friendly document and made available to the community.

Please [get in touch](#) if you would like to find out more!

Local conservation initiatives

We had a visit from the Minister of Conservation, Hon Poto Williams, and were lucky enough to get a chance to meet and fill her in on local conservation initiatives and the benefits these projects can have for both the health of our island and our people.

It has been a refreshing change to get the opportunity to spend more time with our school children during Term 4. We built penguin boxes and potted up Chatham Island Lilies and Ake Ake with Kaingaroa and Te One schools. It was great to see how engaged the kids were and their enthusiasm is contagious.

Helping Te One with their beach clean up day was another highlight, and I am looking forward to heading to Taiko Town on Te One School camp to help guide the kids through the Tuku Nature Reserve and show them first-hand what a well-established trapping network looks like and what much of the island would have looked like before losing so much of our native bush.



DOC Community Fund

The DOC Community Fund has recently been announced. This is a nationally contestable fund with \$7.2million earmarked for work that protects our most vulnerable species and ecosystems, and \$2million earmarked for projects which protect our cultural heritage.

Applications are currently open and close on 31 January 2023.

For more [details check out the DOC website\(external link\)](#) or feel free to get in touch with me if you would like a hand with your funding application.

The Chathams Restoration Trust is community led and driven and would be happy to help develop projects and apply for funding to get your conservation aspirations up and running!

A reminder that we still have free rat traps and possum traps available, so please get in touch if you would like one of these.

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[News and Events](#)

[Meet the Team](#)

[Meetings and Agendas](#)

[Community Outcomes](#)

[Requests for Information](#)

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[Primary Services](#)

[Community and Culture](#)

[Rates, Consents and Licensing](#)

[Coastal Services](#)

[Environmental Data](#)

[Essential Freshwater](#)

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