

Press Release

Wednesday 05 December 2012

Council Takes Action On Non-Payers

Kaipara District Council has advised more than 400 ratepayers it will take action to recover unpaid rates unless payment is received by 18 December 2012.

The letter has gone to most ratepayers who have rates owing from prior to the 2012/2013 year. These arrears amount to nearly \$450,000.

Chair of Commissioners John Robertson said Commissioners were not prepared to turn a blind eye to habitual non-payers.

“We are talking about a reasonably small group of people; some of whom have not paid for some time. It’s gone on for long enough and we need to deal to it.”

Unless the rates are paid, or a payment schedule agreed, Council would seek to recover the debt from mortgagees (usually banks) or through the Courts, he said.

A reminder letter would also start going out this week to those ratepayers who had not yet paid this year’s rates. In the last month, 197 ratepayers who had not paid their 2012/2013 rates on time had since paid in full.

“That’s pleasing. Most people understand that if they are going to use the services and facilities that Council provides, it’s only fair they pull their weight and help pay for them,” Mr Robertson said.

Commissioners had not yet discussed what penalties might be imposed on those who had not yet paid their 2012/2013 rates.

Media: For further information please contact: Barbara Ware on 439 3123.