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Council launches new website

Orange City Council has launched [a new website](#) allowing residents and visitors to more easily and quickly access information, make a request and give feedback.

Orange Mayor Reg Kidd said the new website, which has the same web address as the previous one, was far more sophisticated, yet accessible.

“It has been done completely in-house, which means Council has saved money,” Cr Kidd said.

“It has all the bells and whistles and better reflects Orange and its community.

“We’re aiming for an AA rating on accessibility for people with a vision impairment and the site can be translated into a range of languages at the click of a button.

“We wanted to get this site up and running as soon as possible, that means there will be a few bits and pieces which need a tweak over the coming weeks and months.

“We’ll be updating this website on a continuous basis and we’ll be using customer feedback and experiences to do this.

“So if you have a suggestion please let us know by submitting your feedback via the website.”

The new website is mobile-device friendly, is SSL secured, which means all data passed between the web server and browsers remains private, it has improved speed and page loading times and the navigation is clear.

The six main buttons on the front page were chosen based on the six most common pages people visited.

The menu was structured in a similar way, with priority given to how the user navigates the website and that structure can be changed as more user data is collected over the new few months.

Deputy Mayor Joanne McRae said the new website was a major improvement on the existing service and it was a transformation of the way in which council works with the community.

“The web service is a gateway to the Council and Orange, in the same way as the entrances to the city,” Cr McRae said.

“For many people it will be the only way in which they engage with the Council, so it is the only means through which we can represent what Council does and how it does it.”

Several new features of the website will be launched in the coming weeks.

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