

Report To: Council



Meeting Date: 20 June 2025
Subject: **Hearing of Submitter to the Dog Control Policy and Dog Control Bylaw**
Type: Decision Required
Author(s): Michelle Higgle
Manager – Governance Support

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this business paper is for Council to hear a Submitter speak in support of their written submissions to the Dog Control Bylaw and Dog Control Policy.
- 1.2 Copies of all submissions received have been distributed separately and form part of this business paper.

2. Suggested Resolutions

2.1 The following are suggested resolutions only and do not represent Council policy until such time as they are adopted by formal resolution.

- 1 The business paper on Hearing of Submitters to the Dog Control Policy and Dog Control Bylaw be received.
- 2 Council note the verbal submissions made by the following Submitters:

Submitter Name	Submission Number
Stacey Brew	012

3 The verbal submission be noted for consideration at the Council Meeting on Monday 30 June 2025 as part of the submission deliberations process.

If any late submissions are received -

- 4 Council accept the late submission(s) and include them for consideration as part of the deliberations at the Council Meeting on Monday 30 June 2025.

3. Notes

- 3.1 The Submissions circulated to elected members are "Not for Public Circulation". The Submissions published on Council's website have personal information redacted (private addresses, personal phone numbers and personal email addresses).
- 3.2 This is a Hearing for the purposes of Section 82(1)(d) of the Local Government Act 2002 i.e. to provide the opportunity for submitters to present their views in a manner and format appropriate to the preferences and needs of those submitters. Members must not to enter into any debate with Submitters, but may ask questions for clarification purposes.
- 3.3 Elected Members must consider all submissions without any pre-determination and with an open mind. This does not mean that Members' cannot have an opinion – it simply means that as an elected member you must be prepared to listen to alternative views and to change your own views should you be convinced to do so.

4. Commentary

4.1 Consultation

4.2 The consultation period was undertaken from Thursday 1 May 2025 to Saturday 31 May 2025.

4.3 All submissions received up until the morning of Tuesday 3 June 2025 have been accepted as being received within the consultation period and not treated as late submissions.

4.4 Late Submissions

4.5 At the time of preparing this Agenda, no late submissions have been received.

4.6 In the event any late submissions are received, these will be circulated to the Council under separate cover and Council must decide whether or not to accept those late submissions and include them for consideration as part of its deliberations.

4.7 Historically, Council has accepted all late submissions received up until the time of the deliberations.

4.8 Hearings Process

4.9 One Submitter has requested to speak in support of their written submission.

4.10 Once Council has heard the Submitter speak in support of their written submission, a resolution is required to refer the verbal submission for deliberation at the Council Meeting on Monday 30 June 2025.

4.11 A business paper will be included in that Agenda which will include an analysis of all submissions received.

5. Attachments/Separate Enclosures

Separate Enclosures:

1 Submissions Booklet – Review of Dog Control Policy and Dog Control Bylaw

Report To: Council



Meeting Date: 10 June 2025

Subject: **Deliberation of Submissions to the Draft Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025**

Type: Decision Required

Author(s): Rajeshwari Mahadevappa
Graduate Policy Advisor

Charmaine Ellery
Manager Strategy and Policy

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this business paper is to present to Council the submissions received on the Draft Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 Consultation and provide analysis on these submissions to assist with Council's deliberations.

2. Suggested Resolutions

- 2.1 The following are suggested resolutions only and do not represent Council policy until such time as they are adopted by formal resolution.
- 1 The business paper on Deliberation of Submissions to the Draft Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 be received.
 - 2 That the Chief Executive be delegated the authority to ensure that Council directions arising from the consideration of submissions is reflected in the responses schedule and all changes are made to the final Annual Plan 2025-26 and Fees and Charges 2025-26 prior to adoption.
 - 3 Elected members and WDC staff would like to thank all the people who engaged in the Draft Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 Consultation and acknowledge the time and effort made by those who made written and verbal submissions.

3. Background

- 3.1 The fees for alcohol licences are currently set by the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013 (the Regulations) (this means the fees are not set by the Waitomo District Council).
- 3.2 The Regulations provide default fees that are payable by users of the licensing function under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 (the Act). The fees set by the Regulations have not increased since they came into force in 2013 and do not cover the full cost of the processes associated with licensing activities.
- 3.3 Ratepayers have been subsidising these costs and this is expected to grow year on year. Therefore, it is imperative to introduce the Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw (the Bylaw) to enable greater cost recovery.
- 3.4 On 25 March 2025 Council Meeting, Council passed a resolution proposing to set alcohol licensing fees and determined that a Draft Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw would therefore be required. Council adopted the Draft Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 Statement of Proposal which included Draft Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 for public consultation.
- 3.5 A letter to all the stakeholders in the district was emailed explaining the reasons for the proposed increase in alcohol licensing fees, proposed changes and the consultation process.

- 3.6 The consultation period was open from 28 March to 30 April 2025. No submitters wished to be heard. However, Council was presented with copies of all submissions on the Bylaw ahead of the Hearing on 14 May 2025.
- 3.7 Members of the public were able to submit using hardcopy forms (made available at three council locations), submit online via Council's website, or submit their feedback by their own preferred method (i.e. email).

4. Commentary

4.1 Public Consultation

4.2 Attached for Council's information is a copy of the Statement of Proposal as consulted on (**Attachment 1**).

4.3 The Statement of Proposal contained a focus on:

- Overview and proposed changes
- Key considerations
- Proposal and options
- Legislative framework

4.4 Public notice was made in the King Country News; information and links were prominent on WDC website; and posts were made to WDC Facebook page.

4.5 There were three public sessions during the consultation period that had good levels of engagement and provided an opportunity for members of the public to speak to WDC staff and Elected Members about the proposal.

- WDC stand at the Great NZ Muster held in Te Kuiti on 29 March 2025
- Legendary Te Kuiti on at Waitomo Club in Te Kuiti on 10 April 2025
- Mokau public meeting held at the Mokau Hall on 12 April 2025

4.6 Submissions On Proposal

4.7 Two options were presented to the community:

- Option 1 (Council preferred option): increase alcohol licensing fees by 35% in July 2025, followed by a further 35% in July 2026.
- Option 2 (status quo): do not adopt an Alcohol Fees Bylaw and continue to charge the alcohol licence fees set by fees regulations.

4.8 At the close of the submission period, two submissions were received, no submitters wanted to be heard at the Council Hearings.

4.9 Restaurant Association of New Zealand made a submission and chose option 2.

4.10 Aria Squash Club submitted their feedback on the alcohol licensing fees as part of their Fees and Charges 2025-26 submission, and did not specify a preference for options. The submission point was around subsidising the licensing fees for small clubs.

4.11 A summary of submissions and analysis is presented below.

Summary and Commentary on Submissions received to Draft Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 Consultation

Proposal: Proposing a new Alcohol Fees Bylaw to set fees and charges for alcohol licences in Waitomo District.

Question: Do you agree that Council should set alcohol licensing fees? If not, what reason do you have, or other suggestions/approach?

Option 1 (Council preferred option): increase alcohol licensing fees by 35% in July 2025, followed by a further 35% in July 2026.

Option 2 (Status Quo): do not adopt an Alcohol Fees Bylaw and continue to charge the alcohol licence fees set by fees regulations.

Sub.	Name and Organisation	Preferred Option	Submission Points (Summary)	Analysis
001	Marisa Bidois - Restaurant Association of New Zealand	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since 1972, the Restaurant Association has worked to offer advice, help and assistance in every facet of the vibrant and diverse hospitality industry, covering the length and breadth of the country. We're passionate about our vibrant industry, which is full of interesting, talented and entrepreneurial people. • While the Restaurant Association understands the Council's desire to introduce an alcohol licensing fees bylaw, we do not support the proposed method put forward by the Council. The Restaurant Association supports a staggered approach to increasing alcohol licensing fees, but we recommend that a cap on annual fee increases be adopted by the Council, limiting annual alcohol licensing fee increases to a maximum of no greater than 15%. We would also like to highlight our other priorities for local alcohol fee bylaws: • Where fee increases are proposed, ensuring they are phased in over a reasonable timeframe Ensuring Councils are transparent about the cost of alcohol licensing, including which types of licence incur greater costs to the council. Retaining a minimum 30% of alcohol licensing costs to be paid for through general rates, in recognition of the benefit of a thriving hospitality industry to local communities and advocating to Central Government for a review of risk ratings set out in legislation. • Phased fee increases While we recognise that licensing fees were set by legislation 11 years ago, and that Councils across the country need to recover costs, it is our position that businesses should not be hit with 	<p>While Council officers note the importance of a thriving hospitality sector to any District, it is considered that the proposed increase in fees is necessary to reduce the amount of subsidisation applied to this activity from the general rate.</p> <p>Council officers have based the fee increase on the staff time to process each application and tried to ensure that we are consistent with neighbouring Districts who have introduced an alcohol fees bylaw. This was set out in the determinations report (Table 1: Estimate of hours and costs associated with processing an alcohol licence application). To limit it to 15% annually would mean that cost recovery would not be achieved for some years to come.</p> <p>Where fee increases are proposed, ensuring they are phased in over a reasonable timeframe Council has undertaken this analysis as part of the determinations report. Council has considered the cost, benefits and social issues that alcohol sales generate and agreed that the benefits of selling alcohol are to the businesses making the sales and therefore should cover most of the licencing costs.</p> <p>Phased fee increases We have taken a phased approach where other Councils have gone with an immediate move to full cost recovery. This allows businesses time to adjust pricing (if they</p>

Sub.	Name and Organisation	Preferred Option	Submission Points (Summary)	Analysis
			<p>such drastic fee increases simply because their local council had not adopted an alcohol fees bylaw sooner.</p> <p>For that reason, we recommend that all councils take a more gradual approach to fee increases, by more evenly distributing the cumulative increase over a longer period. Further, we recommend that a cap on annual fee increases be adopted by the Council, limiting annual alcohol licensing fee increases to a maximum of no greater than 15%.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council transparency We are concerned that many Councils across the country use cost recovery as a blanket justification for increasing fees across the board, often without any transparency around actual costs incurred by the Council. <p>It is our position that Councils should provide evidence of the actual cost of processing licences as part of their consultation, so licencees can have confidence that the amount being recovered is accurate and fair. This breakdown should also include the difference in cost of processing on-licences compared to off-licences, with a view to recovering costs on a more proportionate basis in the future.</p> <p>Finally, we would like to see that Councils have sought to improve efficiencies or cut the internal cost of alcohol licences before passing these costs on to licencees. Businesses are not an endless source of funds that can withstand constant levying by local authorities, and we submit that there must be an attempt on behalf of regulatory bodies across the country to build confidence in their activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public benefit of hospitality The Restaurant Association submits that all Councils should retain a ratepayer contribution of 30% to alcohol licensing fees, to recognise the contribution of well-managed hospitality venues to the life and economy of communities, and the societal value of having facilities available where people can go to enjoy themselves while drinking safely and responsibly. 	<p>consider it necessary, as it is noted that the licence fees would only be a small portion of their operating costs), some fees are only charged every 3 years so this timeframe aligns with the cost recovery to our 3-yearly long term plan review cycle which considers delivery options of council activities.</p> <p>Council transparency Council have been very transparent through this process which has been discussed through public Council meetings that are live streamed and open to the public. The information on costings has been outlined during the determination process on whether an Alcohol Fees Bylaw would be required. A copy of this Council paper from 25 March Council Meeting is attached. Each year we assess the costs of each activity through our annual plan process. This activity was part of that process and efficiencies found incorporated in the budget setting process. We will continue to look for efficiencies in our day-to-day operations and with our contracted parties.</p> <p>Public benefit of hospitality WDC does recognise the wider benefits of hospitality, however the majority of the costs should be met by the business. We are aiming to have 90% cost recovery by year 2, Council will then need to consider whether it wishes to retain an approximate 10% funding through the general rate to recognise the wider benefit of hospitality to the district.</p>

Sub.	Name and Organisation	Preferred Option	Submission Points (Summary)	Analysis
			<p>Arguments against retaining a ratepayer contribution often cite the user-pays intention of the Act as justification for complete (or almost complete) cost recovery through licensing fees. We submit that ratepayers are part of the user-pays licensing system, and rather than relying on venues to increase prices to cover fee increases, the Council should support access to affordable hospitality for all through its setting of fees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of current risk ranking The Restaurant Association recognises the need to ensure the sale and supply of alcohol is undertaken safely and responsibly. However, we are concerned that the rigid risk rating formula contained in legislation is out of date and no longer matches the realities of modern hospitality environments. <p>It is important that legislation and bylaws recognise there is not only a difference between on- and off-licence venues, but that there is also a difference between types of on-licence venue: for example, both a night club and a restaurant are on-licence venues, but prima facie these businesses have two very different risk profiles.</p> <p>Our more than 2,500-strong membership is made up of hospitality businesses where food is the hero of their operations, with alcoholic beverages offered as a supplement to their culinary experience. We therefore believe that a more fulsome review of the risk rating of premises within the regulations to better reflect the actual risk of harm.</p> <p>We recognise that the setting of risk ratings is not within the control of this Council, and therefore recommend that the Council passes a resolution in support of a Ministry of Justice review of the risk ratings in legislation, to better reflect the risks of different types of licensed premises.</p>	<p>Review of current risk ranking It is considered that this is a matter that the hospitality industry should be promoting with central government.</p>
002	Tony Schrafft - Aria Squash Club (as part of Fees and Charges 2025-26 submission 03)	No preferred option	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishments where their business is to supply and sell alcohol should not be subsidised by Council. The increase to them is fair. Small sports clubs like the Aria Squash Club do not have their primary focus on selling alcohol. 	<p>The fee increases are necessary to cover the cost of administering the licencing activity.</p> <p>Council acknowledges there are differences between sports clubs and commercial businesses, we are supportive of these clubs and what they contribute to our communities.</p>

Sub.	Name and Organisation	Preferred Option	Submission Points (Summary)	Analysis
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small clubs provide a safe regulated environment in a social setting as an extension of our main role of engaging our community with sport. • Profit from bar takings currently do not cover the cost of liquor licensing, bar managers certificates. Further large increases as proposed would make small clubs opt out of having a liquor licence allowing persons to bring their own unlimited amount of alcohol to a venue with no controls or restrictions over amount consumed or age of persons. • Small clubs are the backbone of our communities with volunteers putting in the hours. Rate payers should continue to subsidise clubs. Not establishments where sole purpose is to make money from alcohol sales. 	<p>However, we are wanting to ensure that we are recovering the cost of the licencing activity, as regardless of whether it is a club or business it still incurs the same processing and admin time.</p> <p>Council has proposed a staggered fee increase to allow organisations an opportunity to incorporate the fees into the value of their sales if necessary to cover the increased cost. It is noted that over the 2 year period the total increase in annual fee for a club licence which is in the low category would be \$273.70 above what it is currently (i.e. \$391.00 is the current annual fee) and for renewal of their licence (which they are required to do every three years) this would be an increase of \$426.65 if renewed after year 2 of the proposed increase.</p> <p>Unlicenced premises create a higher risk of alcohol related harm in our communities as the control measures required for licenced premises mitigate these risks. NZ Police enforce alcohol laws related to premises. It is an offence for a person to allow their unlicensed premises to be used as a 'place of resort' for the consumption of alcohol. Police have a general duty to uphold the law and retains the discretion to take enforcement action if circumstances require.</p> <p>Sports clubs can apply for funding through our community and partnership fund for operational expenses where there is alignment to our community outcomes. Multi-year grants have been awarded to sports clubs through this process. Applications open on a 3-year cycle from 1 July to 1 August, the next round opens in 2027.</p>

5. Analysis of Options

5.1 The following options are available to the Council with regard to the deliberation of Draft Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 Consultation

5.2 OPTION 1

5.3 Council considers the submissions, deliberates and addresses the points raised by the submitters.

5.4 OPTION 2

5.5 Council does not receive submissions.

5.6 If Council does not receive and deliberate on the submissions, this poses a risk as there may be a perception that a genuine consultation process is not being followed. Hence Option 2 is not a preferred option.

6. Considerations

6.1 RISK

6.2 The Statement of Proposal was prepared as per the requirements of sections 83 and 87 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA). A consultation period of 1 month for public submissions was allowed to meet the legislative requirement. Hence, the level of risk involved is low.

6.3 CONSISTENCY WITH EXISTING PLANS AND POLICIES

6.4 There are no inconsistencies with Council's direction, existing plans, and policies.

6.5 SIGNIFICANCE AND COMMUNITY VIEWS

6.6 The Council's Significance and Engagement Policy requires the Council to assess the degree of significance of proposals and decisions, which informs the appropriate level of engagement.

6.7 The degree of significance was assessed to be of medium significance for the people of the district, which corresponds to the 'consult' level of engagement.

6.8 The public consultation was undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the LGA and its Significance and Engagement Policy.

7. Recommendation

7.1 The business paper on Deliberation of Draft Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 Consultation be received.

7.2 That the Chief Executive be delegated the authority to ensure that Council directions arising from the consideration of submissions is reflected in the responses schedule and all changes are made to the final Annual Plan 2025-26 and Fees and Charges 2025-26 prior to adoption.

7.3 Elected members and WDC staff would like to thank all the people who engaged in the Draft Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 Consultation and acknowledge the time and effort made by those who made written and verbal submissions.

8. Attachments/Separate Enclosures

Attachments:

- 1 Statement of Proposal - Draft Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 (823214)
- 2 Draft Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 (823217)
- 3 Copy of Business Paper - 25 March Council Meeting - Determinations of Draft Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw and Adoption of Statement of Proposal (823062)

Separate Enclosures:

- 1 Submissions (as circulated with Council Agenda of 14 May 2025)

REVIEW OF ALCOHOL FEES BYLAW 2025

Draft STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL

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*Council wants your feedback on this Bylaw.
Tell us what you think!*

OVERVIEW

Waitomo District Council (Council) is seeking feedback following the development of the Draft Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 (the Bylaw).

Council is proposing the new Bylaw to set fees and charges for alcohol licences in Waitomo District. Introducing this Bylaw would allow Council to set the amount it charges to alcohol licence holders (e.g. bars, alcohol stores and supermarkets), to help cover costs relating to alcohol licensing.

Council is proposing to increase alcohol licensing charges by 35% in July 2025, followed by a further 35% in July 2026 to bring the total cost recovery closer to 100%. After the initial and secondary increases, the Bylaw will be reviewed as part of review of Council's Fees and Charges Schedule, with the next review anticipated coming into effect on 1 July 2027.

If the Bylaw is adopted alcohol licensing fees would increase as shown in the Draft Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 (provided as part of this Statement of Proposal).

Key considerations

Council currently use the fees set by legislation; however, these fees have not increased since they came into force in 2013 and do not cover the full cost of the processes associated with licensing activities. This means every time Council processes an alcohol licence it costs more than the fee paid by the licensee.

Ratepayers have been subsidising these costs and this is expected to grow year on year. Therefore, it is imperative to introduce the Bylaw to enable greater cost recovery.

Costs are increasing due to inflation and an increase in alcohol licensing activities, including more District Licensing Committee hearings, education, monitoring, and enforcement. Costs are expected to continue to increase, in part because of legislative changes. The Bylaw would enable Council to set fees that would recover the costs of undertaking these licensing activities.

Consulting on these options provides an opportunity for the Council to discuss the intention of the draft Bylaw, hear community opinions, and consider feedback to the proposal.

1. OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Below is a summary of the options considered, and reasons given for the chosen option.

Option 1 (Council preferred option): increase alcohol licensing fees by 35% in July 2025, followed by a further 35% in July 2026.

Option 2 (status quo): do not adopt an Alcohol Fees Bylaw and continue to charge the alcohol licence fees set by fees regulations.

2. SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED CHANGES

Option 1 (preferred): Creating the Bylaw would mean:

- Council would increase the fees and charges for alcohol licences by 35% in 2025-26.
- Fees would increase another 35% in 2026-27.
- Cost recovery would increase from approximately 45% in the financial year 2025/26 to 60% in the financial year 2026/27 of the Bylaw.
- A portion of the costs would continue to be subsidised by ratepayers – but less than Option 2

Option 2 (status quo): Not adopting the Bylaw would mean:

- Fees and charges for alcohol licences would not increase.
- Council's cost recovery rate would decrease year-on-year.
- Alcohol licensing activities undertaken by Council would continue to be largely funded with ratepayer contributions.

LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

The development of the Draft Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 is in accordance with the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 (the Act), the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fee-setting Bylaws) Order 2013, Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013, and the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA 2002).

The Regulations specify the fees that can be charged and how fees are established for alcohol licensing related functions of territorial authorities. Section 405 of the Act provides the legal framework for the sale, supply and consumption of alcohol and the associated systems of control and licensing. This section permits making an alcohol fees bylaw to increase the fees and charges prescribed for alcohol licensing matters.

Bylaws do not have the authority to override primary legislation but rather seek to supplement and support national rules with local rules. Bylaws must focus on providing a remedy to the identified problem.

All bylaws must be reasonable. The requirement to be reasonable relates to the bylaw not unnecessarily impacting upon a person's freedoms and rights, as protected by the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (NZBORA). Our assessment of the proposed bylaw is that there are no implications under the NZBORA, and this assessment will be reviewed before a final bylaw is made.

In reviewing and developing bylaws, the Council must follow both the decision making and consultation requirements set out in the LGA. Each bylaw must be evaluated in terms of its costs and benefits to the community, as well as an assessment of the other options available to the Council to regulate or remedy the problem.

KEY DATES

WHEN	WHAT
28 March 2025	Submissions open
30 April 2025	Submissions close
15 May 2025	Hearings (should people wish to speak to their submissions)
10 June 2025	Deliberations – Council discusses feedback from the community and changes are agreed to if appropriate.
30 June 2025	Council adopts the final Bylaw

HAVE YOUR SAY

Please read this document and the proposed bylaw carefully and then have your say by 30 April 2025.

Submission Form

Draft Review of Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025

Submissions close 30 April 2025

You can share your views by:

- Visiting our website: waitomo.govt.nz/haveyoursay and complete an online Submission Form
- or
- Completing this Submission Form and returning it to us by:
 - Visiting our office on 160 Rora Street, Te Kuiti
 - Emailing it to: haveyoursay@waitomo.govt.nz (scan and pdf or take a photo)
 - Posting to: FREEPOST 112498, Waitomo District Council, PO Box 404, Te Kuiti 3941

Full Name:	
Organisation: <i>(if responding on behalf of)</i>	
Phone: (home/mobile)	
Address:	
Postcode:	
Email:	

The Local Government Act 2002 requires submissions to be made available to the public. Your name and/or organisation will be published with your submission and made available in a report to elected members and to the public. Other personal information supplied (such as address / email address) will be removed from the public copy.

I wish to speak to Council about my submission.

(Hearings are scheduled for 15 May 2025. We will contact you to arrange a time.)

Yes No

YOUR FEEDBACK

Do you agree that Council should set alcohol licensing fees?

YES NO

If not, what reason do you have, or other suggestions/approach?

Waitomo District Council

Draft Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025

Draft

Draft

First Adopted:	2025
Review History:	
Date of Next Review:	2030
Responsibility:	GM - Strategy and Environment
Adopted by:	2025
Associated Documents:	Waitomo District Council Local Alcohol Policy (716260)

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Draft

This Bylaw is made pursuant to the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012, the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fee-setting Bylaws) Order 2013, and the Local Government Act 2002.

TITLE | TAITARA

This Bylaw may be cited as the Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025.

COMMENCEMENT | TĪMATA

The initial resolution to make this Bylaw was passed by the Waitomo District Council at an ordinary meeting of the Council held on 2025 and was adopted following consideration of submissions received during the special consultative procedure, by a resolution at a meeting of the Council on 2025. The Bylaw came into force on 2025. The Bylaw was then publicly notified on 2025.

PURPOSE AND SCOPE | TE ARONGA ME TE KORAHĪ

1. The purpose of this Bylaw is to set fees for any matter for which fees payable to territorial authorities are prescribed in the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013.
2. This Bylaw applies to the district of Waitomo District Council.

DEFINITIONS | NGĀ WHAKAMĀRAMATANGA

Act	means the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.
Application fee	has the meaning given by the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013 and means the fee for any of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none">(a) an application for an on-licence, off-licence, or club licence:(b) an application to vary an on-licence, off-licence, or club licence:(c) an application to renew an on-licence, off-licence, or club licence
25/26 year	means the period commencing 1 July 2025 and ending 30 June 2026.
Subsequent years	means the period commencing 1 July 2026 onwards.
Council	means Waitomo District Council

BYLAW | PĀERO

Unless the context requires another meaning, a term of expression that is defined in the Act and used in this Bylaw, but not defined, has the meaning given by the Act.

Any guidance or explanatory notes do not form part of this Bylaw, and may be made, amended and revoked without formality.

To avoid doubt, the Legislation Act 2019 applies to this Bylaw.

1. Fees payable for premises in each fees category

- 1.1 The application fees and annual fees are:

- 1.2 Regulations 5 and 6 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013 provides information on how the Council must assign the cost/risk rating and fees category to any premises for which an on-licence, off licence or club licence (including renewals) is held or sought.

Period fee applies:	25/26 year		Subsequent years	
Fees category for premises	Application fee	Annual fee	Application fee	Annual fee
Very low	\$432.00	\$189.00	\$544.00	\$238.00
Low	\$715.50	\$459.00	\$901.00	\$578.00
Medium	\$958.50	\$742.50	\$1207.00	\$935.00
High	\$1201.50	\$1215.00	\$1513.00	\$1530.00
Very high	\$1417.50	\$1687.50	\$1785.00	\$2125.00

2. Fees payable for special licences

- 2.1 The fee payable to the Council for a special licence is as follows:

Period fee applies:	25/26 year	Subsequent years
Special Licence class	Fee	Fee
Class 1	\$675.00	\$850.00
Class 2	\$243.00	\$306.00
Class 3	\$74.25	\$93.50

Guidance note:

Regulation 9 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013 sets out how Council must assign classes for special licenses. Under this provision, every special licence issued by a territorial authority must be one of the following classes:

Special Licence class	Issued in respect of
Class 1	1 large event More than 3 medium events More than 12 small events
Class 2	3 to 12 small events 1 to 3 medium events
Class 3	1 or 2 small events

For this purpose:

- **Large event** means an event that the territorial authority believes on reasonable grounds will have patronage of more than 400 people.
- **Medium event** means an event that the territorial authority believes on reasonable grounds will have patronage of between 100 and 400 people.
- **Small event** means an event that the territorial authority believes on reasonable grounds will have patronage of fewer than 100 people.

3. Temporary Authority

3.1 The fee payable under section 136(2) of the Act for a temporary authority to carry on the sale and supply of alcohol is:

- (a) for the 25/26 year, \$348.30; and
- (b) for subsequent years, \$438.60.

4. Temporary Licence

4.1 A person applying under section 74 of the Act to sell alcohol pursuant to a licence from premises other than premises to which the licence relates must pay an application fee to the Council of:

- (a) for the 25/26 year, \$348.30; and
- (b) for subsequent years, \$438.60.

5. Permanent Club Charter

5.1 The holder of a permanent club charter (as described in section 414 of the Act) must, if the club's premises are located in the district of the Council, pay an annual fee to the Council of:

- (a) for the 25/26 year, \$742.50; and
- (b) for subsequent years, \$935.00.

6. Extract from Register

6.1 The fee payable to a licensing committee under section 66(2) of the Act for an extract from a register is:

- (a) for the 25/26 year, \$67.50; and
- (b) for subsequent years, \$85.00.

7. Goods and Services Tax Exclusive

7.1 The fees prescribed by this Bylaw are exclusive of goods and services tax.

This Bylaw was made by the WAITOMO DISTRICT COUNCIL, under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012, the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fee-setting Bylaws) Order 2013, and the Local Government Act 2002 at a meeting of the Council held on the XXXXXX 2025.

The Common Seal of the WAITOMO DISTRICT COUNCIL was hereunto affixed pursuant to a resolution of Council passed on the XXXXXX 2025.

The Common Seal of the Waitomo District Council was hereto affixed in the presence of:

Mayor

Chief Executive

Report To: Council Meeting



Meeting Date: 25 March 2025

Subject: **Determinations of Draft Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 and Adoption of Statement of Proposal for Consultation**

Author(s): Rajeshwari Mahadevappa
Graduate Policy Advisor

Charmaine Ellery
Manager – Strategy and Policy

Alex Bell
General Manager – Strategy and Environment

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this business paper is to seek Council's direction on setting alcohol licensing fees, thereby determining if a Draft Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw is required.
- 1.2 To seek Council's approval of the Statement of Proposal for Consultation on Draft Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025.

2. Suggested Resolutions

- 2.1 The following are suggested resolutions only and do not represent Council policy until such time as they are adopted by formal resolution.
 - 1 The business paper on Determinations of Draft Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 and Adoption of Statement of Proposal for Consultation be received.
 - 2 Council proposes to set alcohol licensing fees and determines that a Draft Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw is therefore required.
 - 3 Council adopts the Statement of Proposal, which includes the Draft Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025, for public consultation.
 - 4 Council approves that the public consultation period begins on 28 March 2025 and concludes on 30 April 2025.
 - 5 Council authorises the Chief Executive to make any editorial or layout changes to the Statement of Proposal that may be necessary before it is made publicly available.

3. Background

- 3.1 The fees for alcohol licences are currently set by the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013 (the Regulations) (this means the fees are not set by the Waitomo District Council).
- 3.2 The Regulations provide default fees that are payable by users of the licensing function under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 (the Act). The fees set by the Regulations have not increased since they came into force in 2013 and do not cover the full cost of the processes associated with licensing activities.
- 3.3 Ratepayers have been subsidising these costs and this is expected to grow year on year. Therefore, it is imperative to introduce the Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw (the Bylaw) to enable greater cost recovery.

3.4 **LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT**

3.5 **Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013**

3.6 The Regulations specify the fees that can be charged and how fees are established for alcohol licensing related functions of territorial authorities.

3.7 **Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012**

3.8 Section 405 of the Act provides the legal framework for the sale, supply and consumption of alcohol and the associated systems of control and licensing. This section permits making an alcohol fees bylaw to increase the fees and charges prescribed for alcohol licensing matters.

3.9 Under section 405(4) of the Act, Council must consult with affected persons including the Council's licensees and relevant stakeholders.

3.10 **Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fee-setting Bylaws) Order 2013**

3.11 This allows local authorities to enact bylaws to prescribe their own alcohol licence fees. The Order does not apply to Manager Certificates. Because section 11 Regulations states that if fees for Manager's Certificate applications were to increase, they would need to change uniformly across the country. As Manager's Certificates can be issued by any District Licensing Committee and used anywhere in the country irrelevant of where they are issued.

4. Commentary

4.1 **DETERMINATIONS**

4.2 Under section 155 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA), the Council is required to determine whether a bylaw is the most appropriate way of addressing the perceived problem, determine whether the proposed bylaw is the most appropriate form of bylaw, and determine that the proposed bylaw is not inconsistent with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (NZBORA). The deliberations report fulfils the first requirement of section 155, an assessment against the NZBORA to be completed when a proposed draft bylaw is presented to the Council for consideration.

4.3 **PERCEIVED PROBLEM ANALYSIS**

4.4 Council staff have undertaken a comprehensive review of the current alcohol licencing costs. The current fees cover less than half of the total costs associated with the administration and monitoring of alcohol licences with the remainder of the shortfall being funded through rates.

4.5 It is proposed to increase the fees and charges prescribed for alcohol licensing matters by making an alcohol fees bylaw.

4.6 The Draft Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 is included as **Attachment 2**.

4.7 The proposed new Bylaw ensures that the Council can continue to provide essential services without as much reliance on the ratepayer.

4.8 Making a bylaw of this nature is permitted under section 405 of the Act and the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fee-setting Bylaws) Order 2013 (Order).

4.9 The alcohol licensing fees are comprised of two components:

- The application fee paid when obtaining or renewing an already issued licence; and
- The annual fee paid annually for premises licences.

4.10 The application fee/renewal fee is paid on the initial application, then the first renewal (after one year), then every three years after that. There are also application fees for special licences, temporary authorities and temporary licences.

4.11 The annual fee covers monitoring of the licence to make sure conditions set on the licence are being met.

- 4.12 Expenditure for alcohol licensing in the 2023-2024 financial year totalled approximately \$111,404.15¹. The Council received \$46,557.00 (including GST) through fees. This means the current fees cover less than 50% of the total cost of the administration and monitoring of alcohol licences.
- 4.13 The current fees cover less than half of the total cost of the administration and monitoring of alcohol licences. The purpose of introducing an alcohol fees bylaw is to reduce the current shortfall of processing alcohol licences, taking into consideration that some of this cost is considered a public good and so covered by rates.
- 4.14 The public good refers to Council assisting with the administration of alcohol licence hearings, enabling anyone to make their case for or against a licence application without cost creating a barrier to this process and responding to general complaints and enquiries outside of the application process. It is also recognised that there are efficiency improvements required.
- 4.15 The costs associated with the activities relate to employing the alcohol licensing inspectors, associated administration functions, the cost of reimbursing the expenses of the District Licencing Committee and overhead costs. The only exception to this is the fees for Managers' Certificates which cannot be changed and any cost shortfall for this area cannot be directly recovered from these applications certificate under section 11(2) of the Regulations.
- 4.16 The proposed bylaw will increase fees for alcohol premises annual and application fees as well as application fees for special licences and temporary authorities. The Bylaw will not impact Manager's Certificate fees.
- 4.17 Fees will be set in proportion to the costs to Council for each category of licence (on-licence, off-licence, or club licence). The proposed bylaw seeks to increase the current licence fees by 35% in 2025-26, followed by a further 35% in 2026-27, and then a review will be undertaken to determine what future increases are required to ensure appropriate cost recovery thereafter.
- 4.18 Introducing the Bylaw would ensure those who use the alcohol licensing services contribute an appropriate share of the costs of licensing, education, monitoring, and enforcement.
- 4.19 Below table shows the estimated worst-case costs associated with the processing of a licence application. The proposed fees increase is set at 35%. This is in line with the increase in labour market inflation since 2013 when the fees were set by the Regulations as well as taking into account the original fees not covering costs and the bylaw review period. The risk-based nature of the fees also fails to recognise that all licence applications follow the same process so use similar amounts of time. There is also no direct cost recovery, such as when hearings are required.

Table 1: Estimate of hours and costs associated with processing an alcohol licence application

Application	Initial Admin (hours)	Inspector (hours) Includes report, visit, review of application requiring very little effort, interview	Admin (hours)	DLC (hours)	Secretary (hours)	Total Hours	Approximate Cost
New licence	1.25	10	1.25	1	0.5	14	\$2243
Licence renewal	1	9	1.25	1	0.5	12.75	\$922
Special (large)	1	10	1.25	1	0.5	13.75	\$2215
Special (small)	0.75	4	1	1	0.25	7	\$500
Managers Certificate	0.75	2.5	1	1	0.25	5.5	\$400

4.20 Future cost recovery

- 4.21 If the Bylaw is adopted, it is anticipated to come into effect 1 July 2025. It is proposed to include a stepped approach to increases, meaning a further 35 percent increase of the fees

¹ This costing includes fees paid to the Alcohol Regulatory Licencing Authority, District Licencing Committee, Waipa District Council for providing the Licencing Inspector service, and Waitomo District Council staff time.

on 1 July 2026 to bring the total cost recovery closer to 100 per cent, taking into consideration a percentage of public good.

4.22 After the initial and secondary increases, it is intended that the Bylaw will be reviewed as part of any review of Council's Fees and Charges Schedule, with the next review anticipated coming into effect on 1 July 2027.

4.23 The tables below shows the application of proposed fee increases.

Table 2: Special licence fees (including GST)

Special Licence Class	Description	Current Fee	Proposed Fee From 1 July 2025 (+35%)	Proposed Fee From 1 July 2026 (+70%)
Class 1	1 large event*: more than 3 medium events**: more than 12 small events***	\$575.00	\$776.25	\$977.50
Class 2	3 to 12 small events: 1 to 3 medium events	\$207.00	\$279.45	\$351.90
Class 3	1 or 2 small events	\$63.25	\$85.38	\$107.53
<p>* large event means an event that the territorial authority believes on reasonable grounds will have patronage of more than 400 people</p> <p>** medium event means an event that the territorial authority believes on reasonable grounds will have patronage of between 100 and 400 people</p> <p>*** small event means an event that the territorial authority believes on reasonable grounds will have patronage of fewer than 100 people.</p>				

Table 3: On, off, and club licences (including renewals) (including GST)

Fees category for premises	Number of licences in category (April 2024)	Current Application Fee	Proposed Application Fee from 1 July 2025 (+35%)	Proposed Application Fee from 1 July 2026 (+70%)	Current Annual Fee	Proposed Annual Fee from 1 July 2025 (+35%)	Proposed Annual Fee from 1 July 2026 (+70%)
Very low	4	\$368.00	\$496.80	\$625.6	\$161.00	\$217.35	\$273.70
Low	14	\$609.50	\$822.82	\$1036.15	\$391.00	\$527.85	\$664.70
Medium	12	\$816.50	\$1102.27	\$1388.05	\$632.50	\$853.87	\$1075.25
High		\$1023.50	\$1381.72	\$1739.95	\$1035.50	\$1397.92	\$1760.35
Very High		\$1207.50	\$1630.12	\$2052.75	\$1437.50	\$1940.62	\$2443.75
<p>A territorial authority must assign a fees category (very low to very high) to any premises for which an on-licence, off-licence, or club licence is held or sought, based on the type of premises, its trading hours and its enforcement history.</p>							

Table 4: Other fees (including GST)

Type	Description	Current Fee	Proposed Fee From 1 July 2025 (+35%)	Proposed Fee From 1 July 2026 (+70%)
Temporary Authority	Section 136(2) of the Act for a temporary authority to carry on the sale and supply of alcohol	\$296.70	\$400.54	\$504.39
Temporary licence	Under section 74 of the Act to sell alcohol pursuant to a licence from premises other than the premises to which the licence relates during	\$258.00	\$348.30	\$438.60

	repairs etc.			
Permanent club charters	The holder of a permanent club charter (as described in section 414 of the Act)	\$550.00	\$742.50	\$935.00
Extract from register	Under section 66(2) of the Act for an extract from a register	\$50.00	\$67.50	\$85.00

4.24 The proposed new alcohol fee is not expected to result in substantial increase in revenue. Hence the impact on Revenue and Financing Policy is low.

4.25 **Consultation**

4.26 Council must consult with affected persons including the Council's licensees and relevant stakeholders. Under section 405(4) of the Act, Council must, to the extent that is reasonably practicable having regard to the circumstances of the particular case, consult the persons the authority has reason to believe are representative of interests likely to be substantially affected by the bylaw. Prior to public engagement, we will send a letter to all licensed premises to advise them that Council is consulting on the Bylaw and inviting them to submit.

4.27 **Other Councils**

4.28 **There are a number of other councils who either have, or are consulting on the introduction of an alcohol fees bylaw. These include:**

- (a) Waipa District Council is in the final stages of introducing an alcohol fees bylaw. If the Bylaw is adopted, it is anticipated to come into effect from 1 July 2025. It has proposed to increase 35 percent of the fees on 1 July 2025, 70 percent of the fees on 1 July 2026.
- (b) Hamilton City Council is currently consulting on an alcohol fees bylaw and are proposing to increase alcohol licensing charges by 34% in July 2025 to recover 95% of current costs. The remaining 5% would continue to be covered by rates.
- (c) Whangarei District Council introduced an alcohol fees bylaw in 2016, increasing fees in two stages. The application fees and annual fees were increased an average of more than 87 per cent from those specified by the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013. This brought their fees revenue up to recover 70 percent of incurred costs from alcohol licensing.
- (d) Hutt City Council adopted an alcohol fees bylaw in 2019, taking a stepped increase approach over three years. The steps increased the fees by roughly 23.5% each year. Before the bylaw was introduced Hutt City Council were running at a cost recovery rate of 41 percent and by 2023 it was running at a cost recovery rate of 93 percent.
- (e) Kapiti Coast District Council is in the process of developing a fees bylaw. They are proposing to take a stepped increase approach, bringing their total cost recovery to approximately 89 per cent by the end of year 5.

4.29 The Bylaw is the only way Council can change alcohol licensing fees, aligning the charges with the actual costs and inflation. Therefore, emphasising the importance of a new Bylaw as the most appropriate way to set alcohol licensing fees.

4.30 **STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL**

4.31 The special consultative procedure in section 86 of the LGA is required to be used when Council makes Bylaws under the LGA. Section 86(2) of the LGA requires a statement of proposal for a Bylaw to include:

- A draft of the bylaw as proposed to be made.
- The reasons for the proposal.

4.32 The statement of proposal in **Attachment 1** to this report complies with these requirements.

- 4.33 **Determinations under section 155 of the LGA.**
- 4.34 Before adopting a Draft Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw for consultation, Council must make the following determinations:
- That the draft Bylaw is the most appropriate way to address the perceived problem
 - That the draft Bylaw is the most appropriate form of Bylaw.
 - That the draft Bylaw does not give rise to implications under the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (NZBORA).
- 4.35 There are no other mechanisms to set the alcohol licensing fees other than introducing a new Bylaw. The Council has Bylaw-making powers that allow it to make Bylaws to address the perceived problems.
- 4.36 Staff do not consider the draft Bylaw gives rise to any implications under the NZBORA.

5. Analysis of Options

- 5.1 Should the Council choose not to set the alcohol licensing fees and retain the fees as set by the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013, ratepayers would continue to subsidise these costs, and this is expected to grow year on year.
- 5.2 If the Council proposes to set the alcohol licensing fees, thereby determining a Draft Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw as the most appropriate way to set alcohol licensing fees.

6. Considerations

- 6.1 **Risk**
- 6.2 There is very little risk involved in undertaking a Bylaw review. The Statement of Proposal has been prepared to fulfil the requirements of sections 83 and 87 of the LGA. A consultation period of 1 month allowing public submissions has been suggested which meets the legislative requirement.
- 6.3 **Consistency with existing plans and policies**
- 6.4 Adopting a Draft Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 for consultation retains consistency with the historical Council position to maintain a bylaw on this matter.
- 6.5 **Significance and Community Views**
- 6.6 The Council's Significance and Engagement Policy requires the Council to assess the degree of significance of proposals and decisions, which informs the appropriate level of engagement.
- 6.7 Based on the list of criteria for significance listed in the Significance and Engagement Policy, this draft Bylaw is considered to be of medium significance for the people of the District, which corresponds to the 'consult' level of engagement.
- 6.8 Additionally, the Significance and Engagement Policy states that Council will use the special consultative procedure set out in section 83 of the LGA for reviewing Bylaws.
- 6.9 Staff therefore recommend that Council undertake public consultation in accordance with the requirements of the LGA and its Significance and Engagement Policy.
- 6.10 Section 83 of the LGA requires the Council to make some specific decisions which are summarised as follows:
- Prepare and adopt a Statement of Proposal.
 - Ensure the Statement of Proposal is publicly available.

- Ensure a description of how the Council will provide persons interested in the Proposal with an opportunity to present their views is publicly available.
- Ensure a statement of the period (not less than 1 month) within which views on the Proposal may be provided to the Council is publicly available.
- Provide an opportunity for persons to present their views to the Council in a manner that enables spoken interaction between the person and Elected Members (or delegated representatives) and ensure that any such person is informed about how and when they may take up that opportunity.

6.11 The proposed timetable for consultation and the adoption process is:

Key Milestone	Planned timeframe
Council Meeting – adoption of the proposed Bylaw for public consultation	25 March 2025
Letter to current license holders	26 March – 27 March 2025
Consultation Period	28 March to 30 April 2025
Hearing of submitters who wish to speak to their submissions	15 May 2025
Deliberations Council discusses feedback from the community and changes are agreed to if appropriate	10 June 2025
Council Meeting – adoption of a final bylaw	30 June 2025

7. Recommendation

7.1 It is recommended that:

- 1 The business paper on Determinations of Draft Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 and Adoption of Statement of Proposal for Consultation be received.
- 2 Council proposes to set alcohol licensing fees and determines that a Draft Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw is therefore required.
- 3 Council adopts the Statement of Proposal, which includes the Draft Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025, for public consultation.
- 4 Council approves that the public consultation period begins on 28 March 2025 and concludes on 30 April 2025.
- 5 Council authorises the Chief Executive to make any editorial or layout changes to the Statement of Proposal that may be necessary before it is made publicly available.

8. Attachments

- 1 Draft Statement of Proposal – Draft Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 (821536)
- 2 Draft Waitomo District Alcohol Fees Bylaw 2025 (818822)

Report To: Council



Meeting Date: 10 June 2025

Subject: **Deliberation of Submissions to Water Services Consultation 2025**

Type: Decision Required

Author(s): Rajeshwari Mahadevappa
Graduate Policy Advisor

Charmaine Ellery
Manager Strategy and Policy

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this business paper is to present to Council the submissions received on the Water Services Consultation 2025 and provide analysis on these submissions to assist with Council's deliberations.

2. Suggested Resolutions

- 2.1 The following are suggested resolutions only and do not represent Council policy until such time as they are adopted by formal resolution.
- 1 The business paper on Deliberation of Submissions to Water Services Consultation 2025 Submissions be received.
 - 2 The Chief Executive be delegated the authority to ensure that Council directions arising from the consideration of submissions is reflected in the responses schedule and all changes are made to the final Annual Plan 2025-26 and any policies prior to adoption.
 - 3 Elected members and WDC staff would like to thank all the people who engaged in the Water Services Consultation 2025 and acknowledge the time and effort made by those who made written and verbal submissions.

3. Background

- 3.1 Water Services Delivery Plans are a one-off, transitional requirement under the Local Government Water Services Preliminary Arrangements Act 2024 (the Act). The Act sets out the content, timeframe and process for developing and accepting Plans.
- 3.2 Councils are required to prepare Plans, either individually or with other councils, by 3 September 2025. Councils are not required to consult on their draft or final Plan, however they are required to consult on their proposed arrangements/model for delivering water services.
- 3.3 On 25 March 2025, Council adopted the Water Services Consultation Document (CD) for public consultation, which outlined the Council's preferred option, being part of the establishment of, and then joining, a Waikato Council Controlled Organisation to deliver water and wastewater services and own water and wastewater assets. A transition date of 1 July 2026 is planned for Waitomo District Council should it proceed with the preferred option.
- 3.4 The consultation period was open from 28 March to 30 April 2025, a Hearing was held on 14 May 2025.
- 3.5 Members of the public were able to submit using hardcopy forms (made available at three council locations), submit online via Council's website, or submit their feedback by their own preferred method (i.e. email).

4. Commentary

4.1 **Public Consultation**

4.2 Attached for Council's information is a copy of the CD as consulted on (**Attachment 1**).

4.3 The CD titled 'Are We Better Together' contained a focus on:

- Setting the scene and why the need to change
- Timeline
- Waitomo water statistics
- Proposal and options
- Comparing the options
- Financial summary and explaining the finances

4.4 Public notice was made in the King Country News; information and links were prominent on WDC website; and posts were made to WDC Facebook page.

4.5 There were three public sessions during the consultation period that had good levels of engagement and provided an opportunity for members of the public to speak to WDC staff and Elected Members about the proposals.

- WDC stand at the Great NZ Muster held in Te Kuiti on 29 March 2025
- Legendary Te Kuiti on at Waitomo Club in Te Kuiti on 10 April 2025
- Mokau public meeting held at the Mokau Hall on 12 April 2025

4.6 The WDC muster stand was well received comments made such as 'good to see you here' approximately 20 individuals stopped at the WDC muster stand to discuss the topics and approximately 30 consultation documents picked up. Responses were generally positive; some were strongly opposed to Council and the high rates being charged and felt they were being over-charged for services received.

4.7 In discussion with those who had interest in the water services proposal majority were positive towards the idea of forming a CCO with other Waikato councils that it 'made sense' to combine and be more efficient and effective. Generally, there was not a strong desire to submit on the proposal. Concern was raised by one local person that the larger Councils would have more say in spending and priority decisions.

4.8 The evening meeting hosted by LTK had approximately 30 attendees with a formal presentation from Mayor John Robertson and Council staff. There was a good Q&A session with the group followed by one on one discussions with Elected members and staff. An approach to water service delivery that would save money was seen as positive, there was some general concern over water metering and future charges. Most attendees took copies of the consultation documents with them.

4.9 At the Mokau public meeting approximately 55 people attended, the main topic was the Mokau Seawall proposal, a brief overview of the water services proposal was covered at the beginning by Mayor John Roberston. Many of the attendees took a copy of the Water Services Consultation Document.

4.10 Te Raangai Whakakaupapa Koorero held a hui on 6 April 2025 with Whare representatives and interested parties. The water services proposal and Annual Plan 2025/26 proposals were discussed in detail. Submissions were received from some of the attendees at this hui. The Whare representatives were very appreciative of Council's willingness to communicate on this topic.

4.11 The discussion on the Water Services proposal was robust with both options pros and cons debated. Issues such as cost of transitioning, building up local capacity and retaining knowledge. The impact or provisions for local suppliers and how local voice would be heard.

4.12 There was concern around discharging into the awa and what upgrades might be in the future with national standards being implemented.

4.13 During the month long engagement hard copies of the Consultation Document were available in Te Kuiti, Waitomo Caves, Piopio, Maniaiti/Benneydale and Mokau, this combined with the in-person public engagements, online content and promotion through media channels and flyers included in books borrowed from Te Kuiti District Library has given plenty of coverage and opportunity for the community to have their say and be informed on this proposal.

4.14 **Submissions On Proposal**

4.15 Council proposed combining with other councils to deliver water services as a Council Controlled Organisation.

4.16 Two options were presented to the community:

- Option 1: Yes – I support Council's preference to form a CCO
- Option 2: No – I do not support the CCO option. I prefer the Stand-alone option.

4.17 At the close of the submission period, 18 submissions were received, four asking to speak to Council at the Hearing, and two submitters presented, a two others put in an apology. By population this is a high response rate compared to other Waikato Councils consulting around the same time.

4.18 The following table shows preferences of the 18 submission responses to this proposal.

Topic/Issue	Total Submissions	Submitters
Option 1: Yes – I support Council's preference to form a CCO.	10	001, 002, 003, 009, 010, 012, 013, 014, 017, 018
Option 2: No – I do not support the CCO option. I prefer the Stand-alone option.	7	004, 005, 006, 007, 008, 015, 016
Did not specify a preference (no option chosen)	1	011

4.19 A summary of submissions and analysis is presented below. Full submissions are also made available (**Attachment 2**).

Summary and Commentary on Submissions received to Water Services Consultation 2025

Proposal: WDC combines with other councils to deliver water services as a Council Controlled Organisation

Question: Do you support Council's proposal to form a Council Controlled Organisation (CCO) to own and operate water services?

Option 1: Yes – I support Council's preference to form a CCO

Option 2: No – I do not support the CCO option. I prefer the Stand-alone option.

Sub.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
2	Andreas Senger	Option 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Huge benefit to remove the maintenance of the water services from WDC control, as little to no proper maintenance has been conducted, specifically for water mains leaks, stormwater ingress into the sewer system and proper stormwater maintenance, like root removal from pipes. Essential Services, like potable water provision, should be out of the hands of politicians and administration people. There is a serious lack of basic maintenance in the 3 Waters discipline in Waitomo (and other councils) that impact services. Flooding occurs due to the stormwater pipes being neglected and blocked up. Sewer pipes have gaps and manholes that allow ingress stormwater ingress that cause issues that the wastewater plant. Water mains leak and require urgent replacement. This is basic knowledge that staff do not take care of. Combining with other councils will remove some of these issues from local areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CCO model will combine the Asset Management of water supply and wastewater networks to ensure consistency of maintenance and improved efficiencies. Council's annual maintenance/renewals budget is limited so addresses the most critical issues, there is some level of deferred maintenance/renewals that would require significant budget and therefore rate increases to address. Ability to pay and sufficient maintenance have to be considered together, improved purchasing power of the CCO is one way of making the current maintenance budget go further without increasing rates. In the CCO model Councils will set Statements of Expectations for the CCO to deliver on. How this is achieved will be the responsibility of the CCO Board which will include members with waters expertise. The Waikato Water CCO will be able to attract the range of expertise and have the structure in place that can deliver the right solutions. The delivery approach for stormwater is yet to be confirmed, however the overall management and actual assets will remain with WDC, day to day operations may be out-sourced. Stormwater improvements have been addressed in the short-term, longer term improvements are still being assessed. Investigations addressing illegal gully traps and ingress were carried out in priority areas.

Sub.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
4	Tania Cecelia Payne – Māori Tangata Whenua Humans	Option 2	In all my 62 years we never drank from the river we know the names of all our creeks why are we drinking out of rivers and pumped into tanks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the Waitomo District rivers provide the most reliable and cost-efficient water supply. Council has undertaken projects in the past for alternative water sources such as groundwater. These sources have proved insufficient for town supply or too high in elements such as Iron and Manganese which are cost prohibitive to remove for town supply. Properties not connected to Council water supply will not be impacted by these changes.
7	Chudleigh Haggett	Option 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The country voted NOT to have Three Waters! And yet here we are with Local authorities pushing the SAME agenda under a different name. The only thing that will happen as a result of Councils preferred option, is private ownership of an essential service, run for profit of the shareholders and once again ratepayers shut out from an essential service. The formation of a CCO will enable that to happen and MUST NOT become the preference. Why is there so much fear about future costs? Every Local authority in the country has been updating its water supply as it can over the last 50 years the system has improved markedly. Developers are invested in the future and are upgrading as we go. They took the co-governance portion of three waters out of it and hope no one is looking! Whilst they take the biggest asset and most essential service of the ratepayers away from them and hand it over to a commercial operation, whether private or CCO. I expect The Waitomo District Council and its staff to reject this nationwide scam and protect their ratepayers from the crippling costs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There has been no central government referendum/vote on 3 Waters Reform, both current and previous governments have progressed with the water reforms. The current legislation requires Councils to meet compliance and financial sustainability by July 2028 for waters service delivery, so WDC must decide on how best to achieve this either stand alone or another model. Stand alone could include a shared service arrangement however this would not deliver the same efficiency gains or address debt limits faced by other Councils. Stand alone option would not guarantee water expertise at the decision-making table, the CCO's would be required to have a qualified water expert/s on the Board. There are safeguards for the operation and governance of the Water CCO's including any surplus must be spent on investing in water networks or reducing water charges. Statements of Expectations (what needs to happen) will be set by a Shareholder Representative Forum (The Mayor of each member Council will form this group). Water Services legislation prevents privatisation of Water CCO's, for the Waikato CCO model the shareholders will be the Local Authorities so the assets will continue to be publicly owned, there is no private ownership avenue. Pricing and investment will be regulated under the Commerce Commission. WDC has invested in the water and wastewater network however the pipe network requires significant upgrading, ever increasing costs due to inflation and a limited number of specialist contractors means WDC must consider the most cost-effective and sustainable delivery approach over the long term. The modelling shows to

Sub.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
				<p>deliver the same outcomes less expenditure is required under the CCO option after the initial investment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WDC has a good level of confidence in the information that is the basis of the consultation and proposal put forward to the community.
8	Phil Brodie	Option 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In view of the time that has elapsed since the Three Waters proposal was first floated, how confident is Council that the currently proposed timeline will be met, and what contingencies are in place should that timeline not be met? In the 2023/24 Annual Plan the 'Two waters' rates for Te Kuiti and Piopio were \$1725 & \$2004 respectively. In the 2024/25 AP those numbers had increased to \$1967 & \$2313 respectively, about 15%. I don't have the 2025/26 numbers, but the proposed 'CCO' number for 2026/27 is \$3525, which is a \$1558 (79%) increase (over two years) for Te Kuiti and a \$1212 (52%) for Piopio, and ,I guess, for Mokau and Benneydale. Are those levels of increase being clearly spelled out for those residents, as they make a mockery of your proposed 2.93% Rate increase for the coming year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The formation of the Waikato CCO is staggered to allow for a relatively rapid standup of the CCO once council decisions are made. Some areas of the waters service delivery and administration will remain with councils through a transition phase. The estimated connected water and wastewater rates for a Te Kuiti property for 2025/26 is \$2,261 and for a rural connected property is \$2,651, which is a 15% increase on the prior year. Comparing 2025/26 proposed rates to rate examples under the CCO model is difficult due to differences in inflation applied and RFP considerations such as harmonisation, district benefit rates and trade waste contribution rates and serviceable properties. The 2.93% is the forecast increase in the total rates requirement over the current year for all properties located in the district (including properties not connected to water and wastewater). The actual forecast increase or decrease for an individual property varies depending on the services provided, the value of the property for rates charged based on capital value and also the change in valuation of the property from the district revaluation. The estimated 2025/26 annual rates per property was made available on the website during the consultation period and in the supporting information which illustrated a range of increases and decreases for different property types.
10	John Ash	Option 1	It makes collective, economic sense	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are a number of benefits due to scale of the CCO including reduced costs over time, which has been modelled at a very conservative level, more economic benefit could be realised.

Sub.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
11	Annika Hamilton – Waikato Regional Council	No option chosen	<p>Introduction</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WRC appreciates the opportunity to make a submission to Waitomo District Council's Water Services Consultation. 2. WRC acknowledges the close collegial working relationship shared between our two councils, as well as our councils' shared economic and infrastructure goals, which we seek to achieve through ongoing collaboration with the region's other local authorities, iwi, the private sector, and central government. Collaboration on regional solutions will enable growth and strengthen economic resilience, paying dividends in a manner that seamlessly disregards administrative boundaries. 3. Significant growth pressures, and a changing climate are also necessitating collaboration in how we allocate our resources to optimise the wellbeing of our communities. As we respond to these challenges and changes, we look forward to exploring further opportunities for synergies to improve outcomes for our region. <p>Future for waters</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. WRC recognises the importance of addressing the key challenges behind New Zealand water infrastructure and local government funding. We support an approach to water services that is safe, compliant, reliable, environmentally resilient, and cost efficient. 5. We also support a solution that will enable growth and development within the region, whilst addressing the critical need for future-focused infrastructure. 6. Through our strategic direction, we are prioritising work to achieve clean water and healthy ecosystems that meet iwi aspirations and community needs within environmental limits. This recognises our obligations under Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato – the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River. We advocate for Waikato territorial authorities to implement water services delivery plans that will support our work in improving the health of our region's waterbodies and freshwater ecosystems, for future generations. 	<p>Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional solutions are preferable to ensure ratepayers money is achieving better outcomes for communities and the environment. Growth and changing climate solutions that are consistent across the region could offer more cost-effective solutions. WDC has utilised tools such as the WRC coastal inundation tool and associated sea level rise data for our long term planning and supports working collaboratively in this space. <p>Future for waters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are significant challenges for water infrastructure investment, rates affordability and long-term funding. WDC has had central government funding for previous treatment plant upgrades reducing the amount of loan funding though significant debt was still incurred. Future upgrades to maintain compliance are likely to present funding issues with central government no longer offering funding and Councils not having the ability to access higher debt loading which Water Entities will be able to. • WDC is also committed to providing clean water and protecting our environment. The obligations of the Joint Management Agreement for the Waipa River catchment will continue to be met by WDC, and therefore any future Water CCO. • WDC does not maintain any specific flood protection assets (i.e. stop banks etc). The stormwater network and roading drainage will continue to be managed by WDC with priority work for maintaining compliance with consent conditions.

Sub.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
			7. We also encourage continued collaboration between our councils to ensure alignment with our council's integrated catchment management activities and our responsibilities to provide sustainable flood protection and drainage services to the Waikato region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The management of catchments will benefit by working together for example catchment based consenting would offer cost effective and pragmatic solutions based on national standards.
13	Ronald Takerei	Option 1	This is based on what is provided in the Water Services Consultation - named "Are We Better Together"? To establish a water service Company.	
14	Ronald Takerei – Te Whare Hauaaaru ki Uta	Option 1	We support based on the information provided in Water Services Consultation - Are we better together. To establishing a Water Services.	
15	Moepatu Borell	Option 2	CCO would represent all regions. It would therefore drown many out the voice of those chosen to represent the Waitomo region. No, I do not support the proposal to form a CCO to own and operate water services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The option currently is to join a Waikato CCO with five other Waikato Councils, additional Councils may join in the future, the CCO would only represent those Councils that have joined. The CCO will have mechanisms in place to ensure the smaller Councils/shareholders do have their voice and priorities heard and considered fairly. Statements of Expectations (what needs to happen) will be set by a Shareholder Reference Forum (The Mayor of each member Council will form this group). Customers of the CCO will have the ability to voice concerns for their area, give feedback to Annual and Long Term Plans and access a service request/complaints process for day-to-day issues.
16	Kevin O Sullivan	Option 2	Our assets are paid for by rate payers making a bigger group means more people more higher salaries more non-productive action.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There will be creation of some roles and other roles that are duplicated across Councils will be reduced, overtime the CCO will have a more efficient ratio of staff to asset base. This contributes to the efficiency gain shown in the modelling. Initially there will be setup costs however over time these will be recouped by the efficiencies gained.

5. Analysis of Options

- 5.1 The following options are available to the Council with regard to the deliberation of Water Services Consultation 2025.
- Option 1 - Council considers the submissions, deliberates and addresses the points raised by the submitters.
 - Option 2 - Council does not receive submissions.
- 5.2 If Council does not receive and deliberate on the submissions, this poses a risk as there may be a perception that a genuine consultation process is not being followed. Hence option 2 is not a preferred option.

6. Considerations

- 6.1 **RISK**
- 6.2 Council is required to submit the Water Services Delivery Plan to the Secretary for Local Government by 3 September 2025. Consultation must be completed before Plans are submitted to the Secretary for Local Government. Failure to do so would create a risk that could result in infrastructure failures and penalties for non-compliance with national water regulations.
- 6.3 **CONSISTENCY WITH EXISTING PLANS AND POLICIES**
- 6.4 The consultation and submission process is in line with Council's direction, existing plans, and policies.
- 6.5 **SIGNIFICANCE AND COMMUNITY VIEWS**
- 6.6 The consultation was undertaken in accordance with the consultation and decision-making requirements set out in section 61-64 of the Act (the 'alternative requirements' to the requirements set out in the Local Government Act 2002).

7. Recommendation

- 7.1 The business paper on Deliberation of Water Services Consultation 2025 Submissions be received.
- 7.2 That the Chief Executive be delegated the authority to ensure that Council directions arising from the consideration of submissions is reflected in the responses schedule and all changes are made to the final Annual Plan 2025-26 and any policies prior to adoption.
- 7.3 Elected members and WDC staff would like to thank all the people who engaged with the Water Services Consultation 2025 and acknowledge the time and effort made by those who made written and verbal submissions.

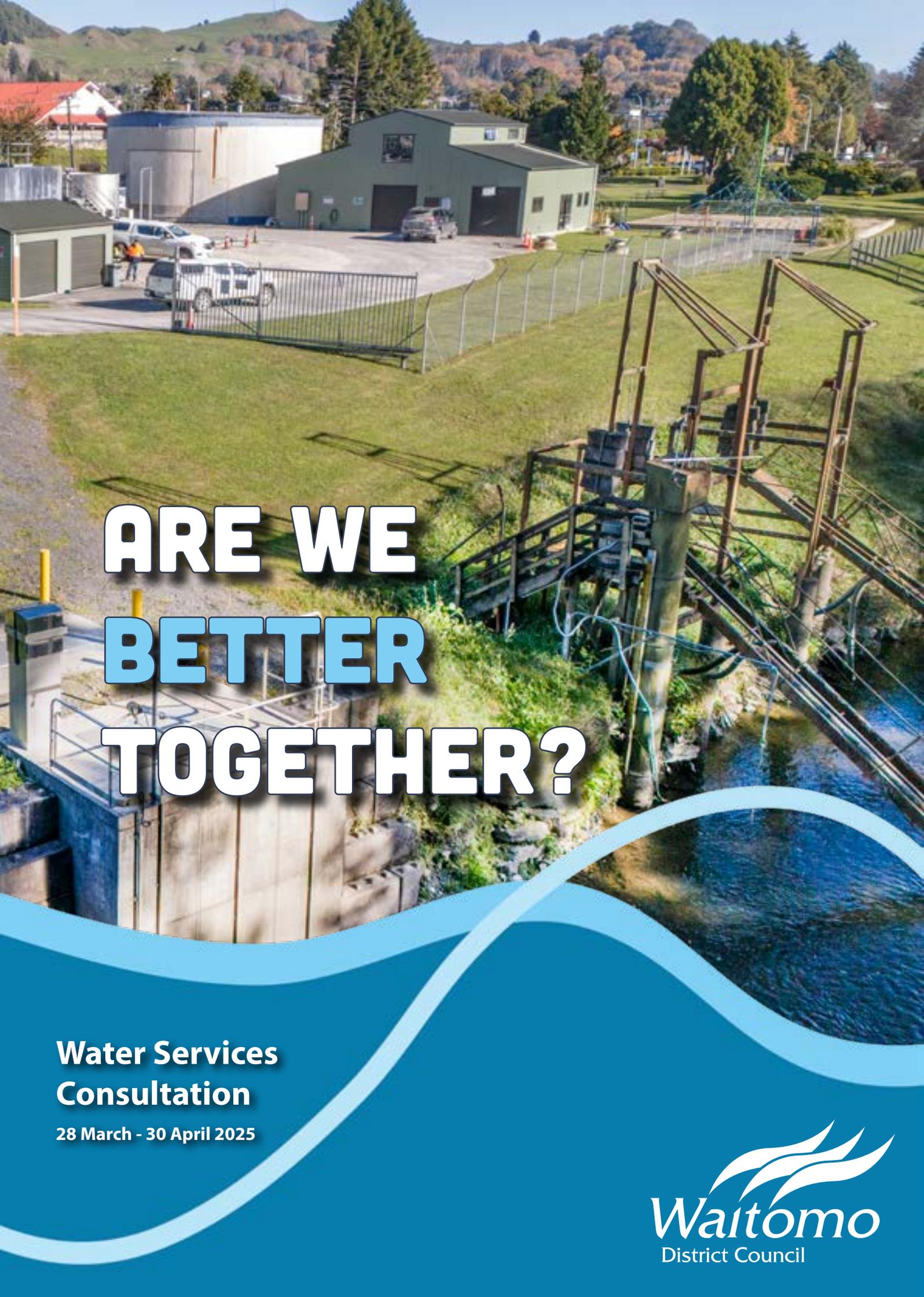
8. Attachments/Separate Enclosures

Attachments:

- 1 Water Services Consultation 2025 Consultation Document (851096)

Separate Enclosures:

- 1 Submissions (circulated with Council Agenda of 14 May 2025)



ARE WE BETTER TOGETHER?

**Water Services
Consultation**

28 March - 30 April 2025



Waitomo
District Council

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INTRODUCTION

As a community, we have a big decision to make about how water and wastewater services are delivered. It is important more than ever to keep things affordable while also looking after the environment.

The Government has told every council across the country to look at the options for their water delivery services and to make sure everyone is getting a high-quality service that is affordable for the future.

Over the past decade, our council has spent a considerable amount on upgrading our wastewater infrastructure and water treatment plants. However, significant investment is needed to continue upgrading and repairing aging watermains and pipes, and to meet new legislation and increased compliance.

We are inviting submissions on two options for delivering water services:

- Stand-alone (existing arrangements)
- Creating a joint Council-Controlled Organisation (CCO) with other Waikato councils.

We have done a lot of work to determine what is best for our district, and the CCO proposal – currently called ‘Waikato Water Done Well’ – has emerged as Council’s preferred option.

Regardless of the chosen option for each council, water service delivery will look different to how it is delivered now, and communities are encouraged to participate in this decision making process because of its far-reaching future impact.



SETTING THE SCENE

Local Water Done Well (LWDW) has replaced the previous government's Three Waters reform programme.

The aim is:

- Fit-for-purpose service delivery models and financing tools
- Ensuring water services are financially sustainable
- Introducing greater central government oversight, economic and quality regulation.

All councils need to develop a water services delivery plan (WSDP) by 3 September 2025.

A WSDP must describe the current state of council's water assets and services and also describe the future arrangements for the delivery of water services.

It also must demonstrate how the water services will be financially sustainable by June 2028. Financial sustainability means water services revenue is sufficient to meet the costs of delivering water services.

If council's preferred option is a joint arrangement, before adopting the model that best meets their [future] needs councils must:

- assess the advantages and disadvantages of the two options
 - one of these must be the existing arrangement but restructured to meet the new regulations for water and wastewater services
 - one of these must be the joint arrangement
- compare the options against each other based on impacts on rates, debt, levels of service and water charges
- identify a PREFERRED option and consult the community on this (information on the other option that was considered needs to also be made publicly available)
- take into account the feedback received and make a decision on the final model.



WHY THE NEED TO CHANGE?

Councils in our region are facing significant challenges.

Aging infrastructure - many water systems need replacing or upgrading.

Population growth - demand for water services is growing faster than the national average, with population increases ranging from 3% to 10.2% in the last five years.

Rising costs - the cost of building sewage systems has risen 30% over the past three years, while water supply systems are up 27%.

New regulations - new regulations are being introduced that will bring additional standards and further cost increases.

Limited funding options - councils have few ways to raise the funds needed, and many communities are already stretched financially.

TIMELINE

2024 – 2025



2026 – 2031

Quarter 1/2 - 2026

Regional Waikato Waters CCO implementation.

Two layers of activity:
1. Stage 1 councils – Service Level Agreement for functional services.

2. Share 2 shares issues. Assets and liabilities transferred.

People and change processes occur

Quarter 3/4 - 2026

Waikato Waters responsible for delivery of water services for Stage 1 and Stage 2 councils which have decided this option.

Quarter 1/2 - 2031

All councils to be at stage 2

WATER IN WAITOMO DISTRICT

In the year to 30 June 2024

Provided drinking water to

2659
properties



Supplied **1.55**
million cubic metres of
water to households

..... THAT'S
 **622** Olympic
size pools

Provided wastewater
connections to



2269
properties

Treated **1.27** million cubic
metres of
wastewater

THAT'S
508 Olympic
size pools



89.5KM
of water network

70.4KM
of wastewater network

44.3KM of stormwater pipes

**COUNCIL ALSO
MAINTAINED
THESE ASSETS**





WHAT ARE THE OPTIONS?

Delivery Model Options

Option 1: Stand-alone - WDC continues to deliver water services

Under legislation, councils can continue managing and delivering water services directly.

This involves preparing and adopting a Water Services Delivery Plan that outlines how they will sustain their existing water services infrastructure and operations. However, the 'Stand-alone' option is not status quo. If delivery remains internal there needs to be separation as a business unit from other council activities.

The economic and water standards regulators will impose additional costs and resource requirements, irrespective of who is the provider of that service.

The level of resource to manage these new regulatory requirements and what the changes we will be required to undertake are not absolutely known because the new legislation that details this is still in the process of being developed.

Option 2: WDC combines with other Councils to deliver water services

Multiple independent reports have said that managing water services regionally would save money and improve infrastructure by leveraging scale.

The Waikato Water Done Well initiative is one of the options that several Waikato councils are exploring.

Under Waikato Water Done Well, participating councils would transfer their assets and related loans and the operation of their water services to the new organisation (a CCO).

These councils will collectively own and have a say in its strategic priorities of this CCO.

The CCO would be established in July or August 2025, following community consultation.

Following this there will be an implementation period that will support the safe transition of council's water services. It is planned that it will become operational by mid-2026.



Preferred option

Option 2 continued...

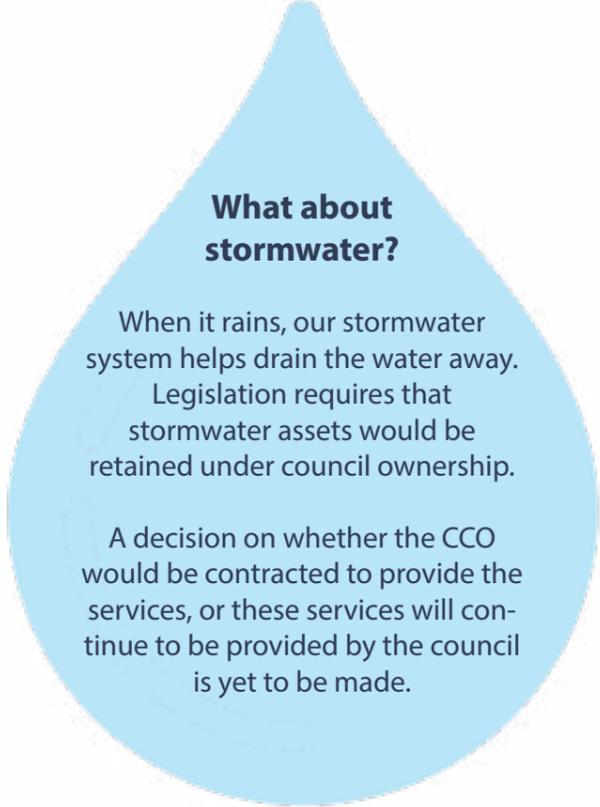
A key requirement is that this is seamless from a customer experience perspective. Not all council operations relating to waters would transfer immediately.

For example it is likely that WDC would continue to provide services such as customer services, finance, rates and information systems for Waitomo District's customers to the new CCO for a period of time.

The outcome of the community consultation and subsequent decisions by each council will determine which councils formally adopt the Waikato Water Done Well model and become a shareholder in the new water CCO.

If this option is approved it is planned that WDC would move its water and wastewater assets, liabilities and operations in mid 2026.

If we do join a CCO then the Council support functions that remain would need to be evaluated. This will create opportunities for resource to be allocated where there are currently shortfalls.



What about stormwater?

When it rains, our stormwater system helps drain the water away. Legislation requires that stormwater assets would be retained under council ownership.

A decision on whether the CCO would be contracted to provide the services, or these services will continue to be provided by the council is yet to be made.

Other options considered

WDC has considered a number of delivery options over the past year which included joining together the water services of a smaller group of councils close to ours.

While this option had different advantages and disadvantages there was not enough firm commitment from these councils to develop this option further.

This left our Council with two options to consider, with the CCO our preferred delivery model.

THE PROPOSAL:

A Waikato Water Council Controlled Organisation

The proposed model is establishing a water services company/Council Controlled Organisation (CCO)

The CCO would:

- be owned and controlled by the shareholding councils (each participating council would be a shareholder)
- be the employer of the waters workforce and manager of the related processes and systems
- be the 'regulated' party under new regulation/s
- be operational by July 2026*
- be responsible for delivery of councils' drinking water and wastewater services including seamless service delivery for customers
- provide stormwater management services for those councils who choose this option (responsibility for stormwater will otherwise remain with each council)
- be accountable to its shareholders (each council) via a Shareholder Representative Forum and adhere to an agreed shareholder decision-making framework
- report regularly to shareholding councils
- comply with the new economic regulatory regime that will be progressively introduced by the Government from January 2026

The Board of the Waikato CCO would:

- operate under governing legislation, a Constitution and Shareholders Agreement
- have regard to Shareholders' expectations
- have independent directors appointed by the shareholding councils (ie they cannot be elected members or staff of those councils)

Note: nominal directors may need to be appointed for a very short period pending the professional Board being in place and it is possible that these people may need to be staff or elected members

There will be an agreed process for other councils to join the CCO as shareholders, subject to approval of the existing shareholding councils.

* The Waikato Councils would transfer their water services at different times - with all Councils having transferred by 1 July 2028. The earliest date any Council would transfer its business into the CCO would be 1 July 2026.

COMPARING THE TWO OPTIONS:

Six evaluation criteria have been selected to help determine which of these two options are best for the Waitomo community in the long term.

Customer focussed	
Stand-alone Option	Combined CCO Option
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedicated to being responsive • New technology to support customers • Build customer awareness and understanding of water systems and the value of water 	
<p>Local councils may not always have the ability to deliver financially or operationally on the expectations of their community because of limited resources.</p> 	<p>Increased investment in systems will improve the delivery of information and responsiveness to customers. There will still be local staff delivering the operational services (running the treatment plants).</p> <p>Council will still have oversight for the community and council can field concerns if things are not right.</p> 
Ensure local voice	
Stand-alone Option	Combined CCO Option
<p>Our district residents can have a say in the operations and future planning of our water services through the WDC by having elected representation.</p> <p>There is transparency and accountability through the Council.</p> 	<p>Combining services into one organisation may reduce the ability to have a local voice.</p> <p>The Board and management of the new CCO will make the decisions.</p> <p>A shareholder group (which we will be part of) will provide input to the CCO and indicate priority works. The CCO will form strong relationships with iwi and mana whenua. It is critical that our treaty settlements, Joint Management Agreements and other partnership responsibilities are recognised and protected.</p> 
Key stakeholder expectations	
Stand-alone Option	Combined CCO Option
<p>Individual councils can only work within the boundaries of their district when looking at resource consenting and other opportunities.</p> <p>Central government has indicated that small councils who retain water services will be closely monitored to ensure they meet all the legislative requirements and ensure they are financially sustainable.</p> 	<p>A multi council CCO can have large-scale planning and possibly combined consenting options over wider areas and river catchments. This should have improved financial and environmental outcomes.</p> <p>Working as one with our neighbours will provide synergies for working with iwi, mana whenua, Māori, government agencies and other regional entities. Scale is likely to translate into more creative solutions.</p> 

The ability to create scale and community affordability

- Service affordability through efficiency
- Future proof development
- Ability to manage environmental, reporting and economic regulation

Stand-alone Option

- WDC's water charges will continue to increase.
- If the percentage of household income spent on water rates is over 2%, it is considered unaffordable. WDC is at 3% and is currently the highest in the Waikato region.
 - Cost of compliance for environmental, reporting and economic regulations is largely unknown but won't be insignificant.
 - WDC does not fully rate-fund the replacement of water assets, so those costs will increase over time to allow this to happen.
 - WDC will likely pay above market rates to retain staff and contractors.
 - No scale to negotiate better supply deals



WDC will continue to use current staff and existing systems to provide the services so there is less disruption and cost to change.

Waters activities compete with other council activities so prioritising expenditure while keeping rates affordable is challenging and can result in underinvestment.

Combined CCO Option

- Joining with other councils to create "scale" which will have a number of benefits:
- Cost efficiency
 - Procurement advantages (bulk buying/large contracts)
 - Averaged pricing – Waitomo users could pay less if prices are averaged across councils
 - A bigger team to meet compliance for environmental, reporting and economic regulation.
 - More expertise in asset management
 - More innovation (better ways of doing things)
 - More ability to navigate changing weather patterns



Conservative savings are modelled in the CCO and will be achieved in the medium to long term.

The initial set-up costs to establish the new CCO will be spread across all councils in the CCO and recovered over time.

Council will need to downsize the organisation given wastewater and water will no longer be provided.

AGGREGATED ACROSS ALL PARTICIPATING COUNCILS



The graph compares the forecast operating revenue of the individual councils combined and the proposed results of the CCO option. It shows that operating revenue from water and wastewater users, is estimated to be significantly lower by 2034 under the CCO option.

Also on the same graph are lines that show the percentage change in operating revenue under both options. The percentage increase in estimated operating revenue is more for the seven councils operating individually. New legislation will mean that increases in revenue and review of costs will be undertaken by the Commerce Commission.

WAITOMO – COMPARISON OF STAND-ALONE AND CCO



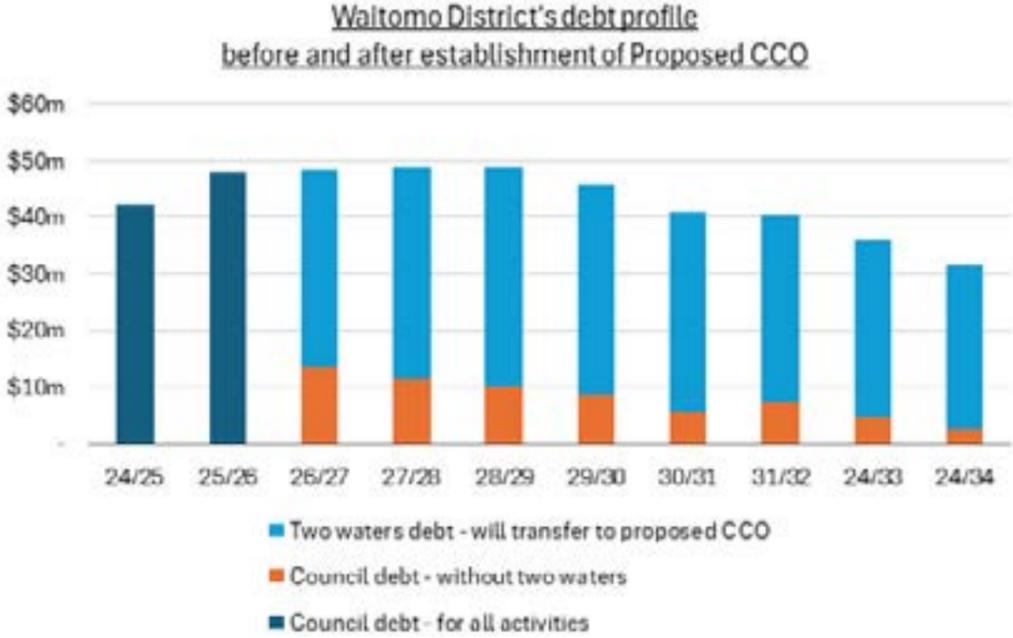
The graph shows Waitomo's operating revenue under the stand-alone option compared to Waitomo's share of operating revenue under the proposed CCO option. Under the stand-alone option, more money needs to be collected from users compared to the proposed CCO option from 2028/29 onwards.

In the early years while the CCO is being set up, customer charges are expected to be more for the CCO option. In the stand alone option WDC will have to compete for resources with larger CCOs which would increase costs even further.



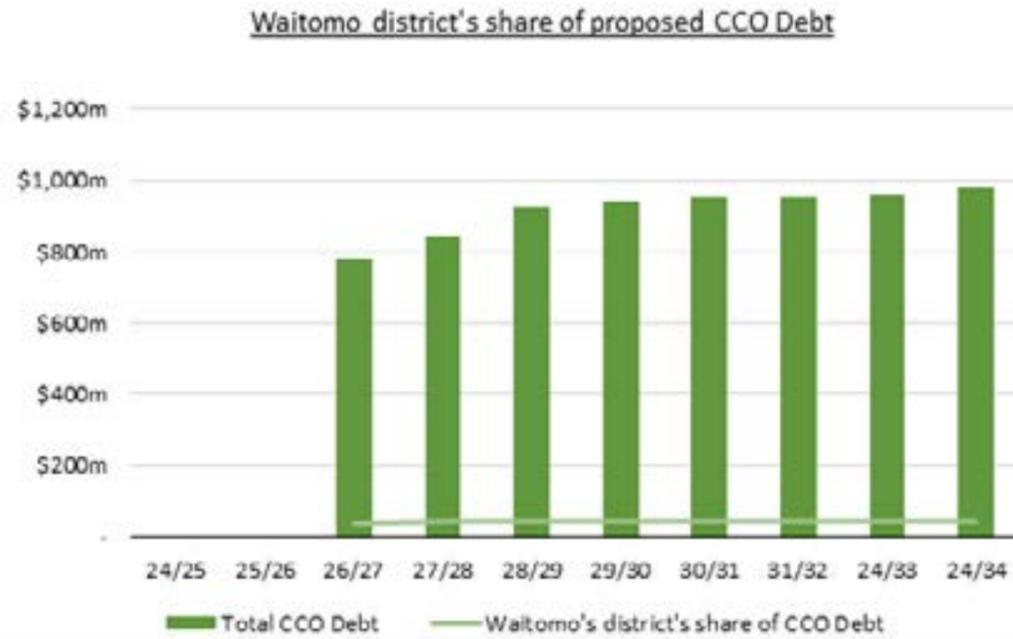
Ability to borrow funds for development	
Ability to borrow funds from the Council borrowing agency Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA).	
Stand-alone Option	Combined CCO Option
<p>WDC's loan levels are relatively low, so this is not an immediate problem but could be in the future.</p> <p>WDC can borrow 1.75 times our revenue.</p>	<p>The combined CCO will be able to borrow more money for future development.</p> <p>CCOs will be able to borrow up to 5 times the CCO's revenue.</p>
Workforce availibilty and development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain a highly skilled and innovative workforce. Create a stable and competitive contractor environment 	
Stand-alone Option	Combined CCO Option
<p>WDC has a small, dedicated team but we struggle to recruit and retain qualified and experienced staff which creates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> uncertainty with long term management of our assets (pipes and treatment plants) issues for capital works delivery difficulty with complex consenting, planning and design, procurement. minimal risk management and performance optimisation. additional outside resource often required which can be hard to find and costly. <p>A larger CCO is likely to attract staff and contractors with better conditions and opportunities, making it even more difficult for WDC.</p>	<p>A larger entity has the ability to attract and retain higher skilled and specialised staff.</p> <p>This allows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> more innovative approaches efficient operations capacity to plan and deliver large capital works. staff dedicated to providing good asset data. more attractive for staff and contractors to work. long term capital works pipeline will provide more certainty and better pricing within the industry.

WAITOMO'S DEBT PROFILE BEFORE AND AFTER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CCO



The graph shows Council's debt based on stand-alone. The first two years show total debt for all council activities (dark blue bars). Under the CCO option waters debt will transfer to the CCO in mid 2026 (light blue bars). The transfer of water and wastewater debt to the CCO will see the remaining council debt reduce significantly (orange bars on the graph).

WAIKATO CCO – AGGREGATED ACROSS ALL PARTICIPATING COUNCILS



The graph shows the forecast debt profile of the proposed CCO after the transfer of all councils' water and wastewater activities to the CCO. Waitomo's share of the CCO's debt is indicated by the line on the graph.



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The financial summary provided in the tables show the forecast for 2026/27, midway through (2030/31) and after seven years of operation (2033/34).

The stand-alone and CCO options are modelled with updated inflation assumptions from the forecast in the LTP 2024-34.

Under Stand-alone Model

Water and Wastewater Estimated Cost of Service Statement
\$000's

	2026/27	2030/31	2033/34
Revenue			
Rates Revenue	8,170	11,074	11,949
Other Revenue	886	995	1,068
Total Revenue	9,056	12,069	13,017
Expenditure			
Operating expenditure	6,608	7,475	8,002
Finance costs and depreciation	3,499	4,318	4,137
Total Expenditure	10,107	11,793	12,139
Net surplus/(deficit)	- 1,051	276	878
Capital Expenditure	1,371	1,456	2,204
Net Debt	34,804	35,560	29,403

Under Proposed CCO (Waitomo's share)

Water and Wastewater Estimated Cost of Service Statement
\$000's

	2026/27	2030/31	2033/34
Revenue			
Rates Revenue	8,413	10,220	11,497
Other Revenue	949	1,153	1,297
Total Revenue	9,362	11,373	12,794
Expenditure			
Operating expenditure	6,703	7,141	7,308
Finance costs and depreciation	4,156	4,553	4,316
Total Expenditure	10,859	11,694	11,624
Net surplus/(deficit)	- 1,497	- 321	1,170
Capital Expenditure	1,423	1,412	2,087
Net Debt	36,765	41,839	40,373

Financial figures are based on modelling prepared for the Waikato CCO participating Councils to show trends and indicative figures only

EXPLAINING THE FINANCES

A comparison of the two options shows that initially forecast revenue will be more for the proposed CCO option, however in subsequent years this reduces, meaning lower user charges and rates.

Waitomo's share of operating expenses is forecast to be less under the proposed CCO option, largely due to expected efficiencies and savings. This is after the CCO initial set up process has been completed. It is expected that the scale created by councils coming together will realise savings in the capital works programme and day to day operations over the medium and longer term.

Waitomo's share of debt, and therefore the finance costs, is estimated to be greater under the CCO option due to higher levels of debt under the proposed CCO option. The forecast debt will be used to finance the initial spend to set up the CCO, get the right infrastructure in place for the CCO, fund expenditure needed to identify and deliver savings for the future, and maintain water services revenue at a comparatively low and stable level.

In addition to this, depreciation assumptions differ

between the two options.

A forecast deficit in 2026/27 for the stand-alone option is due to reserve funding being used for wastewater sludge removal costs. In later years this turns to a surplus as additional rate funding for asset replacement is received to make good the under-funding of asset replacement in the previous years.

Deficit in the CCO option for 2026/27 relates to the smoothing of user charges / rates. This turns into surpluses in future years as these deficits are funded.

What does this mean for future rates?

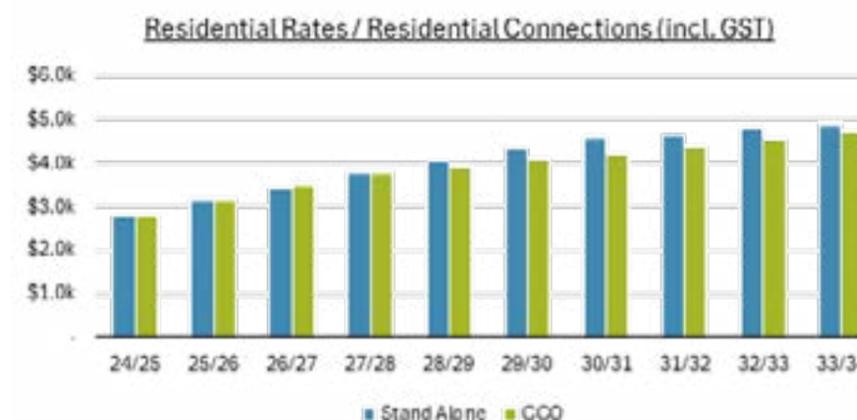
The following table provides an estimate of the combined water and wastewater residential rates per residential connection under the stand-alone and CCO options.

In the initial years, estimated residential rates are lower under the stand alone option, however in the later years, residential rates per connection are estimated to be more in the stand-alone model compared to the CCO model.

Estimate of Residential Rates Revenue/Average Residential Connections (incl GST)

Residential property based on estimated residential rates revenue/average residential connections

	2026/27	2030/31	2033/34
Under stand-alone model	\$3,423	\$4,585	\$4,907
Under Waikato water CCO	\$3,525	\$4,231	\$4,721
Comparison	\$102	-\$354	-\$186



The graph is an estimate of the rating impact for a residential connection on average under the stand alone and proposed CCO options for both water and wastewater.

It shows on average rates will be lower under the proposed CCO option. This is achieved from expected efficiencies and savings under the CCO option.

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MORE INFO

Visit our website to learn more about
Local Water Done Well and
Waikato Water Done Well
www.waitomo.govt.nz



SUB NO: _____

Waitomo District Council - Water Services Consultation 2025



SUBMISSION FORM

You can share your views by:

- Completing this feedback form and returning it to us by:
 - o Visiting our Customer Service Centre at 160 Rora Street, Te Kūiti
 - o Emailing it to: haveyoursay@waitomo.govt.nz (scan and pdf or take a photo)
 - o Posting to: FREEPOST 112498, Waitomo District Council, PO Box 404, Te Kūiti 3941
- Submissions are due by 5pm on Wednesday 30 April 2025

FULL NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

Proposal: WDC combines with other councils to deliver water services as a Council Controlled Organisation

Do you support Council's proposal to form a Council Controlled Organisation (CCO) to own and operate water services?

- YES** - I support Council's preference to form a CCO.
- NO** - I do not support the CCO option. I prefer the Stand-alone option.

Feedback or comments:

The Local Government Act 2002 requires submissions to be made available to the public. Your name and/or organisation will be published with your submission and made available in a report to elected members and to the public. Other personal information supplied (such as address/email addresses) will be removed from the public copy.



Report To: Council



Meeting Date: 10 June 2025

Subject: **Deliberation of Submissions to Draft Annual Plan 2025-26 and Proposed Fees and Charges 2025-26**

Type: Decision Required

Author(s): Rajeshwari Mahadevappa
Graduate Policy Advisor

Charmaine Ellery
Manager Strategy and Policy

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this business paper is to present to the Council the submissions received on the Draft Annual Plan 2025-26 and Proposed Fees and Charges 2025-26 and provide analysis on these submissions to assist with Council's deliberations.

2. Suggested Resolutions

- 2.1 The following are suggested resolutions only and do not represent Council policy until such time as they are adopted by formal resolution.
- 1 The business paper on Deliberation of Submissions to Draft Annual Plan 2025-26 and Proposed Fees and Charges 2025-26 be received.
 - 2 The Chief Executive be delegated the authority to ensure that Council directions arising from the consideration of submissions are reflected in the Responses Schedule and all changes are made to the final Annual Plan 2025/26, final Fees and Charges 2025/26 and any policies prior to adoption.
 - 3 Elected members and WDC staff would like to thank everyone who engaged in the Draft Annual Plan 2025/26 and Proposed Fees and Charges 2025/26 consultation and acknowledge the time and effort made by those individuals and organisations who made written and verbal submissions.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) requires local authorities to prepare and adopt an Annual Plan (AP) for each financial year. An AP is an exceptions focused document, which addresses any changes between the Long Term Plan (LTP) and the proposed Annual Plan.
- 3.2 On 25 March 2025, Council adopted the Consultation Document (CD) which outlined the changes proposed to the AP and invited the community to make submissions to Council. At the same time, submissions were open for changes to proposed Fees and Charges for 2025-26.
- 3.3 The consultation period was open from 28 March to 30 April 2025. A public hearing was held on 14 May 2025. Council heard from eight submitters who spoke to their written submissions at the Council hearing and three submitters put in an apology.
- 3.4 Members of the public were able to submit using hardcopy forms (made available at three council locations), submit online via Council's website, or submit their feedback by their own preferred method (i.e. email).

4. Commentary

4.1 Public Consultation

4.2 Enclosed as Attachment 1 is a copy of the CD that was consulted on for your information.

4.3 The CD contained a focus on:

- The average rate increase for the district proposed at 2.93%
- Key projects for 2025/26
- Proposal and options
- Policies update
- General Revaluations
- Rates Affordability
- Fees and Charges

4.4 A public notice was published in the King Country News; information and links were prominent on the WDC website; and posts were made to the WDC Facebook page.

4.5 There were three public sessions during the consultation period that had good levels of engagement and provided an opportunity for members of the public to speak to WDC staff and Elected Members about the proposals.

- WDC stand at the Great NZ Muster held in Te Kūiti on 29 March 2025
- Legendary Te Kūiti on at Waitomo Club in Te Kūiti on 10 April 2025
- Mōkau public meeting held at the Mōkau Hall on 12 April 2025

4.6 The WDC muster stand was well received comments made such as 'good to see you here' approximately 20 individuals stopped at the WDC muster stand to discuss the topics and approximately 30 consultation documents picked up. Responses were generally positive; some were strongly opposed to Council and the high rates being charged and felt they were being over-charged for services received.

4.7 The evening meeting hosted by Legendary Te Kūiti (LTK) had approximately 30 attendees with a formal presentation from Mayor John Robertson and WDC staff. There was a good Q&A session with the group followed by one-on-one discussions with elected members and staff. Most attendees took copies of the consultation documents with them.

4.8 At the Mōkau public meeting, approximately 55 people attended, the main topic was the Mōkau Seawall proposal. Elected members and WDC staff attended, the main presentation was made by Mayor John Robertson. Discussion both for and against the proposal to rebuild the seawall was had during and after the meeting. Concerns about what would be gained or lost were raised and how much should or should not be spent. The history of the area was discussed and locals shared their accounts of the changes that they witnessed.

4.9 Te Raangai Whakakaupapa Koorero held a hui on 6 April 2025 with Whare representatives and interested parties. The water services proposal and Annual Plan 2025-26 proposals were discussed in detail. Submissions were received from some of the attendees at this hui.

4.10 During the month long engagement hard copies of the CD were available in Te Kūiti, Waitomo Caves, Piopio, Maniaiti/Benneydale and Mōkau, this combined with the in-person public engagements, online content and promotion through media channels and flyers included in books borrowed from Te Kūiti District Library has given plenty of coverage and opportunity for the community to have their say and be informed on this proposal.

4.11 Submissions - Draft Annual Plan 2025-26

4.12 Three consultation topics were presented to the community and feedback on Rates Remission and Revenue and Financing Polices were sought, as shown in Table 1.

4.13 At the close of the submission period, 46 submissions and two late submissions were received for Draft Annual Plan 2025-26.

Table 1 - Consultation Topic and Options

Consultation Topic	Options
The future of Waitomo District Landfill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 1 - Continued disposal of waste, and expansion of the Landfill • Option 2 - Disposing waste outside the district? (Council's Preferred Option)
The future of the Council Owned seawall at Mōkau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option A - Rate Option 1 - Renew the Mōkau seawall with a 50:50 rating split (Council's Preferred Option) • Option A - Rate Option 2 - Renew the Mōkau seawall with General Rate/UAGC District Wide • Option A - Rate Option 3 - Renew the Mōkau seawall with Targeted Fixed Rate to 'Urban Mōkau' • Option B - Rate Option 4 - Not replace the Mōkau seawall with General Rate/UAGC District Wide • Option B - Rate Option 5 - Not replace the Mōkau seawall with Targeted Fixed Rate to 'Urban Mōkau'
District Wide Benefit Rates for water and wastewater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 1 - Reduce the District Wide Benefit Rates (Council's Preferred Option) • Option 2 - Status Quo – Continue to charge the District Wide Benefit Rates
Feedback Sought	Do you have any feedback on the amendments to the Rates Remission Policy and Revenue and Financing Policy?

4.14 Submissions - Proposed Fees and Charges 2025-26

4.15 Feedback was sought on the following:

- Do you have any feedback on the overall increase to our fees and charges by 3%
- Do you have feedback on fees and charges that have increased by more than 3%?
- Do you have any other feedback on the fees and charges?

4.16 At the close of the submission period, five submissions were received for Proposed Fees and Charges 2025-26.

4.17 Analysis of Submissions - Draft Annual Plan 2025-26

4.18 The following tables show preferences of the submission responses to the topics consulted.

4.19 Consultation Topic 1 - The future of Waitomo District Landfill

Table 2 - The future of Waitomo District Landfill

Topic	Total Submissions	Submitters (dAP Submission)
Option 1: Continued disposal of waste, and expansion of the landfill	13	6, 11, 18, 22, 25 27, 28, 33, 35, 37 41, 46, Late 01
Option 2: Disposing waste outside the district (Council's Preferred Option)	20	2, 4, 5, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 20 21, 24, 26, 29, 34 38, 39, 43, 44, 45
Did not specify a preference/option (none of the proposed options chosen)	4	3, 30, 32, 36

4.20 The following themes were identified in the submission responses.

Table 3 – Themes - Waitomo District Landfill

Option	Submission Points - Summary	Analysis summary
Option 1: Continued disposal of waste, and expansion of the landfill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saves unnecessary cartage, transportation and resources costs. We need to future proof our local landfill and keep it. The quarry land is already there. Landfill should be kept for future use, eg - sewer waste etc. Waste management is a core community service, not a profit-making venture. Council should encourage further sorting and resource recovery at the weighbridge. It should be kept local for employment reasons and that local people should be involved. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Option 1 does have the lowest transport cost, however the overall cost and lowest risk option is currently transport out of the district. A contracted price will be sought to keep transport costs down. The Waitomo District Landfill(WDL) in Te Kūiti is future proofed with a consent to 2054. This is not seen as a profit making activity - WDC is looking to minimise the cost of rates and reduce risk for its community. WDC staff direct waste sorting and recycling as much as possible. The development of a Transfer Station with Option 2 may create local employment opportunities.
Option 2: Disposing waste outside the district (Council's Preferred Option)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The landfill will be full in the near future. The cliff face is a hazard that will add to the cost of any future capacity increase development. It is also a hazard in terms of fires that can start which are difficult to extinguish and that add to the pollution. It also generates gasses that have resulted in poor living quality for residents downwind. Environmentally friendly. The more recycling we can achieve through a transfer station the better off we are. While I don't agree with shipping our rubbish out of town I feel this is the best short to medium option term option. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The old quarry highwall does contribute a considerable amount to the development costs (approx. \$4 million) and is an on-going safety risk. The Waitomo District Landfill is being operated within the consent conditions on air quality as required by Waikato Regional Council and operational procedures in place for dealing with leachate and fires. Transporting waste out of the district will increase the focus on reducing waste and recycling as this will benefit the environment and costs. Part of the transport out option is to invest in the transfer station (rather than the landfill) creating a covered waste sorting area that will reduce waste sent to landfill.

Option	Submission Points - Summary	Analysis summary
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This option makes sense given the potential for improved sorting and recycling and overall reduction in waste to landfill. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There may be future opportunities to expand and increase the resource recovery centre if it proceeds in the future, this may also create local employment opportunities.

4.21 Consultation Topic 2: The future of the Council Owned seawall at Mōkau

Table 4 – The future of the Council Owned seawall at Mōkau

Topic/Issue	Total Submissions	Submitters (dAP Submission)
Option A - Rate Option 1 Renew the Mōkau seawall with a 50:50 rating split (Council's Preferred Option)	10	2, 12, 20, 21, 28 29, 31, 35, 37, 46
Option A - Rate Option 2 Renew the Mōkau seawall with General Rate/UAGC District Wide	9	6, 11, 14, 15, 27 33, 39, 44, 45
Option A - Rate Option 3 Renew the Mōkau seawall with Targeted Fixed Rate to 'Urban Mōkau'	1	13
Option B - Rate Option 4 Not replace the Mōkau seawall with General Rate/UAGC District Wide	8	4, 7, 8, 10, 24 25, 26, 41
Option B - Rate Option 5 Not replace the Mōkau seawall with Targeted Fixed Rate to 'Urban Mōkau'	4	16,17, 23, 38
Did not specify a preference/option (none of the proposed options chosen)	6	9, 18, 32, 36, 40 Late 02

4.22 The following themes were identified in the submission responses.

Table 5 – Themes - Council Owned seawall at Mōkau

Option	Submission Points - Summary	Analysis summary
Option A - Rate Option 1 Renew the Mōkau seawall with a 50:50 rating split (Council's Preferred Option)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We understand the benefit the seawall brings to the district which justifies district wide contribution for its replacement. However, this should be shared with those residents nearby who have more significant benefit. I do not think it is fair that only Mōkau ratepayers deal with this problem and am therefore Ok with it being shared 50:50. The wall should be built upon the rocks (what is already there). Everybody (out of towners) come to Mōkau to use the facilities so the cost should be 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primarily the seawall is to protect the road and beach access, on balance Council see the Mōkau residents using and gaining more benefit from the seawall than the rest of the district (even if used by people from out of town/district). Therefore, a split rating model is considered appropriate. Council considers there is an urban benefit with the Point Road attracting visitors who spend in the town supporting local businesses. For this reason a 50/50 split of the new urban area on Mōkau and general rate is preferred.

Option	Submission Points - Summary	Analysis summary
	<p>shared. Right around the world rock walls are used against the encroaching sea.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expert advice from Beca Ltd is part of the decision making process and considering the best solution for the type of coastal environment.
<p>Option A - Rate Option 2 Renew the Mōkau seawall with General Rate/UAGC District Wide</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is fair to spread cost over a greater number rather than tiny few. To lump 50% on to the Mōkau rating area is too much as most locals use the other options for beach access, i.e. surf track and flowerpot. The permanent residents of this area, some of whom are elderly, do not access the beach at all. The entire rock wall needs maintenance from the point to the end of the existing wall, otherwise it will continue to fail. The entire district gains benefit from this seawall including tourists and as such, this should be a district wide cost. Most of the properties at Mōkau are holiday homes and not permanent residents. So, benefits of the Mōkau ratepayers are not significantly higher than others in the district. Mōkau ratepayers have contributed to other initiatives in our district which have had no benefit for us e.g., Benneydale Sewerage, TK emissions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It would put a larger burden on a small number of ratepayers if there was no general rate funding for the seawall. Council considers there is a benefit to urban residents with the Point Road area attracting visitors who spend in the town supporting local businesses. The proposal is for the area at the end of Point Road, the seawalls in front of the properties on seaward side of Point Road are the responsibility of the individual property owners. Depending on the type and location of erosion control structure the property owners wished to pursue to combat erosion, they would need to ensure that they comply with the relevant regulatory standards (i.e. Waikato Regional Coastal Plan, Waitomo District Plan and the Building Act 2004). Urban Mōkau residents benefit from out of town visitors bringing patronage to various hospitality and service businesses, the stairs are still a locally used access point utilised by those in the urban Mōkau area. Districtwide benefit rates are paid for by all ratepayers, for wastewater (sewerage) and solid waste (including emission costs) achieving public health standards and reducing environmental pollution benefit all residents in the District.
<p>Option B - Rate Option 4 Not replace the Mōkau seawall with General Rate/UAGC District Wide</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is not certain if any resource consent will be granted for the building of the seawall. It is my opinion to let the sea claim back the spit. The time has come to activate the planned, managed retreat that was agreed in 2008 after extensive public consultation. If a seawall is rebuilt/repared, knowledgeable Mana Whenua should be engaged as professional consultants to guide the process and be present during all works as cultural monitors. There is no 'District wide' benefit that the seawall provides to users. The benefit primarily is only to erosion threatened residents. Waitomo District has far more important requirements that could use \$900,000 of borrowing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Waikato Regional Coastal Plan and the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement do make provision for seawalls. However, consent would need to be obtained from the appropriate consenting authority if required. In 2017 Council decided not to develop a formal managed retreat strategy for Mokau and considered it should be incorporated into the District Plan Review. The Proposed Waitomo District Plan has made specific provision for the maintenance of consented or compliant seawalls and the relocation of dwellings on-site to safer locations. WDC will continue to engage with mana whenua on this decision. If a consent is required for the seawall construction and conditions set by WRC would be adhered to such as accidental discovery protocols.

Option	Submission Points - Summary	Analysis summary
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primarily the seawall is to protect the public road and beach access for visitors and locals. Council's preferred options has been presented as the proposed direction for the district, community feedback has been also taken into account to confirm if the options are right for the community.
<p>Option B - Rate Option 5</p> <p>Not replace the Mōkau seawall with Targeted Fixed Rate to 'Urban Mōkau'</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As Mana Whenua of the area, we support the option to NOT replace the Mōkau seawall. We do recommend that the council consider the installation of bollards, after the removal of the existing sea wall, to restrict vehicular access to the beach. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council acknowledges the history and significance of Te Naunau and the importance to Te Whare Mōkau ki Runga, local marae and whanau connections to this area. There is awareness that the environment also plays a significant part in this decision making process and consideration of allowing these natural processes to occur. If the seawall is not rebuilt the site would require some remediation, some material would remain. Monitoring of the stability of the bank, road and stair access would be done at regular intervals and after storm events. As soon as any safety concerns become apparent these areas would be closed off for public access.

4.23 Consultation Topic 3: District Wide Benefit Rates for water and wastewater

Table 6 District Wide Benefit Rates for water and wastewater

Topic/Issue	Total Submissions	Submitters (dAP Submission)
<p>Option 1:</p> <p>Reduce the District Wide Benefit Rates (Council's Preferred Option)</p>	29	2, 4, 6, 10, 12, 13 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 20, 21, 24, 25, 26 28, 29, 30, 31, 33 34, 35, 38, 39, 41 43, 45, 46
<p>Option 2:</p> <p>Status Quo – Continue to charge the District Wide Benefit Rates</p>	4	11, 27, 37, 44
<p>Did not specify a preference/option</p> <p>(none of the proposed options chosen)</p>	1	36

4.24 The following themes were identified in the submission responses.

Table 7 Themes District Wide Benefit Rates for water and wastewater

Option	Submission Points - Summary	Analysis summary
<p>Option 1: Reduce the District Wide Benefit Rates (Council's Preferred Option)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It should be User Pays. Some rate payers throughout the Waitomo region are not utilising the clean and wastewater services but are still paying for it. Please organise the water department. Rates paid on water is extremely high. The 'Benefit' has run its course in view of the impending installation of water meters and the transfer of 'water assets' and operations to the CCO entity. Support transition to a user pays approach for funding wastewater. We agree that those properties connected should be responsible its financing. Why should rural rate payers subsidise Urban water and wastewater? I have to supply my own water. Why should I subsidise others? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Going forward user pays is considered the fairest approach to water and wastewater charging. User pays approach will help reduce water use and costs. Note the water services consultation and the proposal on how to deliver water services and potential efficiency gains. Council assessed that there was districtwide benefit for urban areas being supplied with drinking water and treating wastewater in creating housing, employment, and protecting the environment, meeting public health standards so all ratepayers contributed through the District Wide Benefit Rate.
<p>Option 2: Status Quo – Continue to charge the District Wide Benefit Rates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the preferred option goes through, do septic tank owners still get a discount for disposal at wastewater plant? Movement from status quo could become prohibitive for smaller communities if significant coastal projects are needed in future sharing of costs across the entire district will lessen this burden. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Septic tank waste from within Waitomo District fee for 2025/26 is proposed at \$275 per 1000L (compared to \$355 for out of District) Cost sharing is appropriate where there is districtwide benefit, this is assessed for coastal projects as they arise. There is no general rate funding currently for future coastal projects.

4.25 Consultation Topic 4: Amendments to the Rates Remission Policy and Revenue and Financing Policy

Table 8 Rates Remission Policy and Revenue and Financing Policy

Topic/Issue	Total Submissions	Submitters (dAP Submission)
Do you agree with our amendments to the Rates Remission Policy? Yes	16	2, 4, 6, 10, 11, 12 13, 16, 24, 26, 29 30, 34, 35, 37, 38
No	2	17, 33
Do you agree with our amendments to the Revenue and Financing Policy? Yes	13	2, 4, 10, 11, 12 13, 24, 29, 31, 34 35, 37, 38
No	3	16, 17, 33
Did not specify a preference/option (none of the proposed options chosen)	4	18, 19, 27, 36

4.26 The following themes were identified in the submission responses.

Table 9 Themes Rates Remission Policy and Revenue and Financing Policy

Policy	Submission Points - Summary	Analysis summary
Rates Remission Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What may happen to the ' remission for the Piopio Retirement Trust Board' under the new waters entity, 'Waikato Waters Done Well' ? • We have whaanau who have used the facility at Hillview. • We should assist those that cannot afford the basic services to ease the burden. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If waters transitioned to a CCO, rates remission for remaining rates with WDC would continue. The CCO will determine the pricing for waters that customers are charged and any criteria for discounts/reduced fees etc., this will be monitored through the Commerce Commission. • Offering rates remission to retirement units associated with a retirement facility is consistent with our current Policy and community feedback.
Revenue and Financing Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The term 'User Pays' is appearing more frequently as a justification for fee increases to reduce Rates burden, so will that be shortly applied to the Library and Swimming Pool. • Pleased to see only a slight increase to average rates this year compared to the steep increases we have seen in other districts. This is positive for rural ratepayers and is a credit to Council's ongoing commitment to good financial decision making. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council assesses the district, community and user benefits of all services through the Revenue and Financing Policy. Both the library and Te Kūiti Aquatic centre are recognised as beneficial services to the community as outlined in the RFP. It is highly unlikely this assessment would change significantly and move to a user pays model. • The proposals presented are all aimed at finding the right balance between rates required and services delivered to make sure ratepayers are funding the right things at the right time.

4.27 Proposed Fees and Charges 2025-26

Table 10 Proposed Fees and Charges 2025-26

Topic/Issue	Total Submissions	Submitters (F&C Submission)
Do you have feedback on fees and charges that have increased by more than 3%?	1	5
Do you have any other feedback on the fees and charges?	4	1, 2, 3, dAP 019

4.28 The following themes were identified in the submission responses.

Table 11 Themes Rates Fees and Charges

Submission number	Submission Points - Summary	Analysis summary
001 005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why should Council insist on a 'Council-approved' contractor? If I do not agree who is on the approval list . I would rather use someone else that I have confidence in, then someone I do not with regards to proven outcomes and quality workmanship. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any contractor with the necessary qualifications to work on the mains network supply can apply to be on the Council Approved Contractor list. Specifications and workmanship are critical to the integrity and public safety of the water networks. WDC needs to ensure these are assessed for each connection to the network, as an approved contractor WDC has the ability to monitor and maintain documentation for this.
002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am writing as a staff member involved in venue bookings. I am proposing minor adjustments to the proposed 2025–2026 fees for the Les Munro Centre (LMC) and Piopio Hall, to better align with our online booking system, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend the fees are rounded to align with the booking system and hourly rates for ease of administration. Les Munro fee \$992.00 full day hire Les Munro fee \$496.00 full day hire - community group Piopio Hall fee \$168.00 full day
003 Refer to Alcohol Bylaw for full submission details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small sports clubs like the Aria squash club do not have there primary focus on selling alcohol. Small clubs provide a safe regulated environment in a social setting as an extension of our main role of engaging our community with sport. Profit from bar takings currently do not cover the cost of liquor licensing, bar managers certificates. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The fee increases are necessary to cover the cost of administering the alcohol licencing activity. Council acknowledges there are differences between sports clubs and commercial businesses, we are supportive of these clubs and what they contribute to our communities. However, we need to ensure that we are recovering the cost of the alcohol licencing activity, as regardless of whether it is a club or private business it still incurs the same processing and administration time. Sports clubs can apply for funding through our community and partnership fund
004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We also acknowledge that for those services for which there is an increase and are limited to less than 3% i.e., streets stalls and mobile shops, hall hire (Les Munro Centre and community halls) parks and reserves (community group hire) library rentals and equipment hireage. These services enable economic development, social connectedness and cohesion. Any fees imposed must be offset by these benefits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where possible fees have been retained at the current level and discounts for community groups where possible such as hall hire and community events such as the Great NZ Muster.
006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> some inspection costs unnecessary eg fireplace, LIM reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regarding building inspections, these are a legislative requirement under the Building Act 2004. The fees we charge are to cover the actual cost of delivering this service.

Submission number	Submission Points - Summary	Analysis summary
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The fee for LIM Reports is based on staff time to prepare the LIM. Some of the information contained in LIM Reports is able to be obtained from the Council website such as the location of services (if available) and zoning. Customers are also able to view property files free of charge.

4.29 The following table shows the submissions received for topics not directly related to the proposals under consultation.

Table 11 submissions not related to consultation topics

Submission number	Submission points	Analysis - Summary
dAP 19 - Dr. Jeremy Mayall - Creative Waikato	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council's activities Strategic initiatives Importance of soft infrastructure - people and services Investing in communities and arts, culture and creativity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council appreciates the time taken to submit and considers your feedback when deciding on the best way forward for the community so encourage Creative Waikato to submit on future engagements. Council has maintained the funding approach for community development, district promotions and economic development.
dAP 32 - Annika Hamilton - Waikato Regional Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport Regional resilience and adaptation planning Regional Spatial Strategy Coastcare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WDC would work collaboratively with WRC and would appreciate any data and resources being made available.
dAP 36 - Jo Wrigley - Waikato Environment Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building resilient, community-based food systems and restoration of food sovereignty across the Waitomo District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council recognises the importance of producing and selling food sustainably and locally, generally these activities are permitted. Council zoning rules follow the National Policy Statement for Highly Productive land. Council also supports programmes such as Enviro Schools that include food production and reducing waste.
dAP 42 - Ruapehu District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinstating Support for the timber trail marketing stakeholder role 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council evaluated the funding of the Timber Trail during the Annual Plan 2023/24, the decision made at that time was that Council had provided adequate support for the establishment and development over an eight year period and that the Timber Trail was at a stage of being well established at should not require significant ratepayer funding. Going forward it was decided the Timber Trail should be evaluated alongside other community groups through the Community and Partnerships funding grants.

4.30 A summary of submissions and analysis is presented below. Full submissions are also made available (**Attachment 2**).

Summary and commentary on submissions received to Draft Annual Plan 2025-26

Consultation Topic 1: The future of Waitomo District Landfill - we have considered the future of our landfill and whether it is more cost-effective to transport waste outside of the district.

Option 1: Option 1 - Continued disposal of waste, and expansion of the Landfill

Option 2: Disposing waste outside the district? (Council's Preferred Option)

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
dAP 003	Alice Woolston	No option chosen	If our waste is transported out of the area, we are subject to any price rises an out of town facility may impose.	Council would look to secure a contracted pricing for waste disposal to limit price increases, the Waitomo District Landfill (WDL) is consented to 2054 so the option of developing the next cell and disposing of waste at the WDL can be considered if prices and waste volumes increase.
dAP 004	Andreas Senger	Option 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The landfill will be full in the near future. The cliff face is a hazard that will add to the cost of any future capacity increase development. The landfill also generates a lot of leachates that can influence the sewage treatment plant operation. It is also a hazard in terms of fires that can start which are difficult to extinguish and that add to the pollution. It also generates gasses that have resulted in poor living quality for residents downwind. 	The old quarry highwall does contribute a considerable amount to the development costs (approx. \$4 million) and is an on-going safety risk. The Waitomo District Landfill (WDL) is being operated within the consent conditions on air quality as required by Waikato Regional Council and operational procedures in place for dealing with leachate and fires. The Te Kūiti wastewater Treatment Plant does have capacity to treat the leachate collected from the WDL.
dAP 010	Tama Blackburn	Option 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I like the idea that there are people who are utilising our waste as a resource and are finding ways to reuse, recycle, and repurpose. This will prevent an increase of further mining for resources, plastic production, and wasted use of land for rubbish disposal. Although I don't like the idea of transporting waste to be a potential burden on someone else and would love to see innovation lead the way locally, that doesn't seem feasible at this point in time. I would also like to see the Council put a rate cap clause on option 2 so we are not trapped into rising prices to transport waste away. 	Transporting waste out of the district will increase the focus on reducing waste and recycling as this will benefit the environment and costs. Part of the transport out option is to invest in the transfer station (rather than the landfill) creating a covered waste sorting area that will reduce waste sent to landfill. Contracted pricing will be sought if waste is transported out of the district, this will give more certainty to the costs and prevent rapid prices increases over timeframe of the contract.

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
dAP 011	Peter Moffitt	Option 1	Best to minimise Cartage cost.	Option 1 does have the lowest transport cost, however the overall cost and lowest risk option is currently transport out of the district. A contracted price will be sought to keep transport costs down.
dAP 012	Marguerita Waamu	Option 2	Environmentally friendly.	Transporting waste out of the district will increase the focus on reducing waste and recycling as this will benefit the environment and costs. Part of the transport out option is to invest in the transfer station (rather than the landfill) creating a covered waste sorting area that will reduce waste sent to landfill.
dAP 014	Wayne Fairhurst - Hunting & Fishing (Taranaki Office)	Option 2	(Excerpt) The more recycling we can achieve through a transfer station the better off we are.	Transporting waste out of the district will increase the focus on reducing waste and recycling as this will benefit the environment and costs.
dAP 018	Nitesh Sharma	Option 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why go outside when its own and near or in our district. Saves unnecessary cartage, transportation and resources costs. • Also dumping of rubbish should be free where people will get encouraged to dispose their rubbish to dump. This will reduce council to pick rubbish and will be quick and effective collection. • Secondly get rid of council dearest bags to buy at supermarkets. It's costing every household good amount of money. People working at dump site should separate plastics and send it to recycling plants. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently it is more viable and less risk to ship out. It also lowers the risk of taking on a loan (\$6-7million) to the next development stages and waste volumes dropping to a point where ratepayers would have to cover a significant amount of the debt repayment. Loss of commercial waste stream would result in additional \$100 per ratepayer to cover the landfill operating and loan repayment costs. • If we did not charge for rubbish bags, we would have to add this cost on to ratepayers that receive kerbside collection which can be unfair if a person puts out 1 bag per month compared to someone putting out 2 bags a week - there is no incentive to reduce waste with this approach. • Sorting household waste for recycling is hazardous and labour intensive, instead we are putting resource into recycling audits to reduce contaminated recycling going to landfill. If we invest in developing the landfill, there will be reduced resource for recycling facilities.

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
dAP 022	Jan Crosland	Option 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We need to future proof our local landfill and keep it. Costs are not going to get cheaper. The quarry land is already there. Trucking the waste away to another site is causing more roading costs, dust, pollution etc and is there any guarantee the 'new' site will last the distance? 	The Waitomo District Landfill (WDL) in Te Kūiti is future proofed with a consent to 2054. Currently it is more viable to ship out and lower the risk of taking on a loan (\$6-7million) to the next development stages and waste volumes dropping to a point where ratepayers would have to cover a significant amount of the debt repayment. Large landfills typically have a long life expectancy, Hampton Downs for example is expected to last 100 years (opened in 2005).
dAP 024	Phil Brodie	Option 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barely sufficient information available to make informed decision. Why do Ruapehu & Otorohanga Districts choose not to use our landfill. There is no mention of the 'after care' costs once the landfill is closed, and how significant they may be. 	Due to the commercial sensitivity of the detailed modelling carried out by WDC we are not able to provide all the detail that Elected Members have been presented with. The modelling has been peer reviewed independent of WDC to ensure a robust approach has been followed. Otorohanga does send its kerbside waste to Waitomo District Landfill (WDL), Ruapehu send their waste to Hampton Downs, being a large landfill with gas capture. We cannot speak for them on their commercial decisions on disposal of solid waste. The current Long Term Plan has a liability provision for the WDL that includes aftercare costs estimated as per current accounting standards.
dAP 025	Rosemary MacInnes	Option 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very short sighted to close the Landfill. The rubbish comes from the region and is our responsibility to deal with, passing on the problem is not a morally correct decision. The costs of disposal outside the district may escalate creating a bigger burden on rate payers. 	Transporting waste out of the district will increase the focus on reducing waste and recycling as this will benefit the environment and costs. Part of the transport out option is to invest in the transfer station (rather than the landfill) creating a covered waste sorting area that will reduce waste sent to landfill.
dAP 026	Taratikitiki Tairua Paparahi	Option 2	While I don't agree with shipping our rubbish out of town I feel this is the best short to medium option term option.	The Waitomo District Landfill(WDL) in Te Kūiti is future proofed with a consent to 2054. Currently it is more viable to ship out and lower the risk of taking on a loan (\$6-7million) to the next development stages and waste volumes dropping to a point where ratepayers would have to cover a significant amount of the debt repayment.

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
dAP 027	Oliver Turk	Option 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I do not support Option 2 – Waste disposal outside the district – as the preferred approach. • While I understand the Council's concern about falling waste volumes, particularly from commercial and out-of-district sources, I find it short-sighted to suggest that we must now abandon our own landfill in favour of outsourcing waste disposal. These challenges have been developing over time and should not be framed as a sudden crisis. • I am also disappointed in what appears to be a shift toward treating essential public services as opportunities for revenue generation. Waste management is a core community service, not a profit-making venture. We should not be trying to make money off our own ratepayers by outsourcing waste handling to private, and potentially overseas-owned, operators who will charge whatever margins they see fit. • While reduced landfill volumes present financial pressures, they should also be seen as a sign of environmental progress. Rather than penalising this improvement, Council should encourage further sorting and resource recovery at the weighbridge. These initiatives deserve investment and recognition — not rejection based on cost concerns. • Council's suggestion that we cannot have both a local landfill and a resource recovery centre is concerning. There is no reason we cannot pursue both in tandem. Local control over waste operations allows us to ensure accountability, environmental standards, and cost stability. • Another serious concern is the increase in illegal dumping within the district — particularly around the Viaduct area, which is upstream of the town's water supply intake. • Reducing local access to waste facilities or increasing costs may only worsen this problem, creating environmental and public health risks that outweigh any perceived financial savings. • The current consultation appears to present only limited and one-sided cost information. Ratepayers deserve a fair and transparent evaluation of both options, including long-term implications for pricing, infrastructure, emissions, and local employment. For instance, shifting to out-of-district disposal will increase truck traffic and infrastructure wear — costs that are not always visible in gate fees but will certainly impact our community. • I urge Council to reconsider its preference for Option 2 and to give full consideration to a locally managed, sustainable approach that combines landfill expansion with improved resource recovery. A 	<p>Waitomo District Council has been considering this issue for some time. During the LTP 2024-34 process it was evaluated and confirmed at that time developing the next cells was viable. During the Annual Plan process for 2025-26 the development option was considered again, falling waste volumes made expanding the landfill less viable. Further consideration of the risks involved with servicing \$6-7million loan and risks with the highwall stabilisation Council moved to a preferred option of shipping waste out of the district. Feedback from the community will help inform the final decision. A large investment in expansion would limit the ability to invest in resource recovery, investment would have to be made into redevelopment of the transfer station for the large transport trucks. WDC staff direct waste sorting and recycling as much as possible. This is not seen as a profit making activity - WDC is trying to minimise the cost of rates and reduce risk for its community. The proposal includes the development of a Transfer Station which will help reduce waste going into landfills.</p>

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
			balanced solution is possible — one that supports environmental goals without sacrificing local autonomy or transparency.	
dAP 028	Paddy Polson	Option 1	I believe local landfill is an excellent way to reduce non-conformance. Making it as easy as possible for people to dispose of waste is a critical way to reduce waste being dumped in undesirable places. I am ok with an increase in rates to expand the districts investment in waste disposal.	In both the options people will still have the convenience of dropping off waste at the Waitomo District Landfill in Te Kūiti, so this should not increase fly-tipping in the district. If waste volumes continue to fall, there would be prices and rate increases, this could cause more fly-tipping in response.
dAP 030	Ronald Takerei -Te Mirumiru paa ki Marokopa	No option chosen	Abstain - This will have an impact for those rural areas that have Waste Transfer Facilities.	There are no changes as part of this proposal for rural transfer stations.
dAP 032	Annika Hamilton – Waikato Regional Council	No option chosen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Excerpt) We support an approach that will minimise waste to landfill through avoidance, reuse systems and increased recycling and recovery, in alignment with Goal 2 of your council's Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP). We applaud Waitomo District Council for the work undertaken so far in supporting schools and communities to avoid and reduce waste, which has seen landfill disposal go down. We also support your council's approach to helping the community reduce waste regardless of end-of-life options. This approach aligns with our Waikato Regional Waste Prevention Action Plan 2020-2025, where we set out our journey towards a circular economy in the Waikato Region. 	Transporting waste out of the district will increase the focus on reducing waste and recycling. Part of the transport out option is to invest in the transfer station (rather than the landfill) creating a covered waste sorting area that will reduce waste sent to landfill. This sorting area will be able to increase the amount of material recycled.
dAP 033	Maxwell Charles Barrett-Marino	Option 1	Need to keep our recycling service right throughout the Waitomo District please	Transporting waste out of the district will increase the focus on reducing waste and recycling. Part of the transport out option is to invest in the transfer station (rather than the landfill) creating a covered waste sorting area that will reduce waste sent to the landfill. This sorting area will be able to increase the amount of material recycled.
dAP 035	Amanda Mary Murray	Option 1	My preference is Option 1 but if it is more cost effective to do Option 2, I would agree.	Currently it is more viable to ship out and lower the risk of taking on a loan (\$6-7million) to the next development stages and waste volumes dropping to a point where ratepayers would have to cover a significant amount of the debt repayment.

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
dAP 036	Jo Wrigley - Waikato Environment Centre	No option chosen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Excerpt) Go Eco supports the closure of the Waitomo District Landfill and the upgrade of the Te Kūiti Transfer Station. This decision is more consistent with the principles of kaitiakitanga and whakapapa embedded in the Maniapoto Environmental Management Plan. • However, we emphasise that simply transporting waste out of the district cannot be seen as a complete solution because it displaces harm onto other whenua and other communities, often already burdened with environmental injustice, and is not acceptable. • Whanau and hapū in other districts also have rights to the protection of their lands and waters. Sending waste elsewhere shifts the environmental, social, and spiritual impacts, rather than addressing the root causes of waste. Te mauri o te whenua - the life force of the land - must be upheld everywhere, not just within district boundaries. • Therefore, we call on the Council to: Commit to radical waste minimisation, not just waste relocation. Invest in a Resource Recovery Centre that maximises reuse, repair, remanufacturing, and recycling, keeping materials circulating locally, and preventing harm elsewhere. Support local job creation and skills development in waste minimisation, closing the loop and strengthening community resilience. • Partner with Ngāti Maniapoto whanau and hapū to co-design waste strategies that reflect tikanga Māori and uphold the dignity of all communities, not just our own. All decisions on the management, treatment, transport, reuse, or disposal of sludge must be made in direct partnership with mana whenua, based on free, prior, and informed consent. • Sludge must be managed in ways that protect and, where possible, enhance the mauri of land, waterways, and ecosystems. Council must prioritise on-site or localised treatment methods that minimise the need for transport, and hence additional CO2 emissions, and reduce risks to other communities. • Actively collaborate with entities like Xtreme Zero Waste in Raglan, drawing on their expertise to adopt and implement effective, community-led waste management practices. By closing the landfill and focusing on proper resource recovery, Waitomo District can lead in building an economy that restores mauri, strengthens whanaungatanga, and leaves no community behind. • Transitioning away from landfills aligns with the aspirations of Ngāti Maniapoto and global best practice: supporting cleaner land, water, and air, while investing in a thriving green economy. We strongly 	<p>Transporting waste out of the district will increase the focus on reducing waste and recycling. Part of the transport out option is to invest in the transfer station (rather than the landfill) creating a covered waste sorting area that will reduce waste sent to landfill. This may create local employment opportunities. There may be future opportunities to expand and increase the resource recovery centre if it proceeds in the future. Council has approved an approach to dispose of sludge with dewatering and then disposal at an appropriate facility. Sludge land disposal option raised with Waikato Regional Council has not been successful. Gas capture is included in the expansion landfill option.</p>

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
			urge the Council to plan the upgraded Transfer Station as a Resource Recovery Education Centre, not just a waste site. We urge the Council to embed whakapapa-based waste minimisation strategies at the new facility, recognising the connection between human activity and the wellbeing of all living systems.	
dAP 037	Lorraine Hopper	Option 1	I chose option 1 as I believe option 2 will end up costing more in the long run. Also, it just doesn't make sense to me to truck our waste all the way to Hampton Downs.	Council would look to secure a contracted pricing for waste disposal to limit price increases, the Waitomo District Landfill (WDL) is consented to 2054 so the option of developing the next cell and disposing of waste at the WDL can be considered if prices and waste volumes increase.
dAP 038	Ronald Takerei	Option 2	Based on the information provided in the Consultation Document. 1 - Waste volumes have decreased 2 - The cost to comply with a new Resource Consent. Downside - Potential a cost to the ratepayer in the future.	Currently it is more viable to ship out and lower the risk of taking on a loan (\$6-7million) to the next development stages and waste volumes dropping to a point where ratepayers would have to cover a significant amount of the debt repayment.
dAP 041	Kevin O Sullivan	Option 1	Landfill should be kept for future use, eg - sewer waste etc. Transporting out will cost more over time. Landfill should be self-supporting been journey a long time.	Currently it is more viable to ship out and lower the risk of taking on a loan (\$6-7million) to the next development stages and waste volumes dropping to a point where ratepayers would have to cover a significant amount of the debt repayment.
dAP 043	Allan Jones	Option 2	Money saved on new cell could help ratepayers for quite some time on H.Downs costs.	Developing the next stage of the landfill would require significant investment \$6-7million ratepayers would contribute to this loan repayment for many years to come, that rate increase would significantly contribute to a transport out scenario and not be reliant on certain waste volumes to cover costs.
dAP 044	Robert John Scott	Option 2	This option makes sense given the potential for improved sorting and recycling and overall reduction in waste to landfill. It is important that the option of returning to Te Kūiti Landfill in future is kept open, it off site costs for the service increase significantly. It is also not clear in the proposed plan what if any impact this will have on existing rural transfer stations eg Awakino. So, clarification on any impact is needed.	Transporting waste out of the district will increase the focus on reducing waste and recycling. Part of the transport out option is to invest in the transfer station (rather than the landfill) creating a covered waste sorting area that will reduce waste sent to the landfill. This sorting area will be able to increase the amount of material recycled. The Waitomo District Landfill (WDL) is consented to 2054 so the option of developing the next cell and disposing

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
				of waste at the WDL can be considered if prices and waste volumes increase. There are no changes to rural transfer stations as part of this proposal. Mōkau is impacted by increases in property valuations taking many properties over the average rate increase of 2.93%.
dAP 045	Diane Scott	Option 2	Better fit for purpose facility with better processing and potential for further recycling.	Transporting waste out of the district will increase the focus on reducing waste and recycling. Part of the transport out option is to invest in the transfer station (rather than the landfill) creating a covered waste sorting area that will reduce waste sent to the landfill. This sorting area will be able to increase the amount of material recycled.
dAP 046	John and Marie Casford	Option 1	I think it should be kept local for employment reasons and that local people should be involved. By encouraging local people to recycle their waste, fine those that don't comply and reuse for creating garden soil.	Transporting waste out of the district will increase the focus on reducing waste and recycling. Part of the transport out option is to invest in the transfer station (rather than the landfill) creating a covered waste sorting area that will reduce waste sent to the landfill. This sorting area will be able to increase the amount of material recycled.
Late 01	Henry F-S - Demoworx Limited	Option 1	<p>(Excerpt) We own and operate a resource recovery business with central government funding called ResourceCo. We also have a farm in Waitomo where we live. Our family operates 8 waste management facilities across South East Queensland and one in Cambridge. These include all classes of landfill.</p> <p>Trucking all waste out of region will result in the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of WMF Levy • Exposure to private company rate increases • Loss of local jobs (indirect or direct) • Loss of chance to put in landfill gas capture and renewable energy project <p>Opening a new cell with out of region disposals accepted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on a 173,000 catchment (New Plymouth, Waipa, Sth Waikato, Oto and Waitomo) there is 106,000 tons of class 1 waste available. This represents a possible annual revenue of \$26.1 million. (\$246 a ton) • Midwest disposals in Manawatu have a landfill earning 15M EBIT (Bonny Glenn) with a similar catchment. • Half of the waste levy is returned to councils, this will increase to \$3.18M which can be invested into increasing resource recovery infrastructure.(3M annual infrastructure investment creates jobs.) 	<p>Initially the submission put forward was to consider an opportunity to develop and manage the Waitomo District Landfill (WDL) with additional waste streams and provide more revenue that would reduce the ratepayer contribution. Council asked for more work to be done on what this proposal involved from both parties. Demoworks completed their own investigations into the Option 1 of expanding the WDL, following this work additional information was provided to their submission.</p> <p>The main points from the additional information are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanding the WDL is high cost for low return so are now not proposing partnering to develop further stages of the landfill. • Interest in assisting with processing demolition/building type waste streams, encourage applying for more substantial

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chance to implement a modern landfill gas capture system which provides renewable energy for local homes and businesses. • New cell costs seem very high, can we look at splitting works into stages and reducing capex loading? • Ongoing landfill closure, environmental and monitoring cost liabilities halved. <p>We are concerned that the easy route is being rushed into and propose an investigation into the viability of a partnership with ourselves. This partnership could increase the council's ability to pay down its high debt loading and provide needed jobs and growth for the local community. Energy security is a large issue and landfill gas capture provides baseload, critical when winter energy pricing spikes.</p>	<p>funding from Ministry for the Environment to maximise waste recovery in this area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Still a strong interest in working together for beneficial outcome for both parties. <p>We thank Demoworx for the efforts they have put in for their initial submission and late presentation.</p>

Consultation Topic 2: The future of the Council Owned seawall at Mōkau

Option A - Rate Option 1 - Renew the Mōkau seawall with a 50:50 rating split (Council's Preferred Option)

Option A - Rate Option 2 - Renew the Mōkau seawall with General Rate/UAGC District Wide

Option A - Rate Option 3 - Renew the Mōkau seawall with Targeted Fixed Rate to 'Urban Mōkau'

Option B - Rate Option 4 - Not replace the Mōkau seawall with General Rate/UAGC District Wide

Option B - Rate Option 5 - Not replace the Mōkau seawall with Targeted Fixed Rate to 'Urban Mōkau'

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
dAP 004	Andreas Senger	Option B - Rate Option 4	It is not certain if any resource consent will be granted for the building of the seawall. It is my opinion to let the sea claim back the spit.	Consents would be obtained from the appropriate consenting authority if required (i.e. depending on what option and design (building or resource consent) and location - Coastal Marine Area or not).
dAP 006	Erin Riwhi	Option A - Rate Option 2	Why is this even up for discussion? These houses have been paying rates toward the whole district, time to see some of that investment return to Mōkau. Get it sorted asap, these are people's homes.	Rates paid cover the existing seawall cost (which was loan funded and repaid by rates over the last 10 years) and in general rates pay for services received by each property and district benefit activities such as libraries and roads. If the seawall is constructed it would be loan funded, therefore ratepayers that benefit from this new seawall would contribute towards the repayment of this loan over 10 years.
dAP 007	Neil Wackrow	Option B - Rate Option 4	The seawall should be removed. The road blocked at the end for safety reasons and the track to the inside of the point cleared up for access. No more money should be wasted on the point seawall as it will only fail in short time. Enough money has been wasted already.	Some money will need to be spent with either option, if the seawall is not rebuilt the site would require remediation at some point. Monitoring of the stability of the bank, road and stair access would be done at regular intervals and after storm events. As soon as any safety concerns become apparent these areas would be closed off for public access. The track mentioned does require some maintenance which will be completed prior to summer. There is no guarantee on how long the seawall would last, maintenance would be required for it to remain effective. A seawall in New Plymouth in similar environment has been effective for 15 years. More details provided in BECA report.
dAP 008	Gregory Tuffey - Tuffey Trust	Option B - Rate Option 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a ratepayer in Mōkau I feel the time has come to activate the planned, managed retreat that was agreed to in approximately 2008 after extensive public consultation. As a result, I believe we should remove the existing infrastructure at the end of Point Rd. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2017 Council decided not to develop a formal managed retreat strategy for Mokau and considered it should be incorporated into the District Plan Review. The Proposed Waitomo District Plan has made specific provision for the maintenance of consented or compliant seawalls and the relocation of dwellings on-site to safer locations. There is no central

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a compromise council should investigate upgrading the beach excess track which is approximately 30 mts back on the left. As the current steps to be removed from the point are screwed together these materials should be able to be repurposed to upgrade the inside track. As a ratepayer facing increasing costs, I believe that no more money should be wasted on the seawall at the end of Point Rd. 	<p>government funding options (the original subdivider) or WDC for relocation, it remains an individual decision to remain on their properties in the Point Road area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If houses become unsafe, WDC can deem these dangerous and insanitary , give notice under the Building Act 2004 and restrict access or require the demolition or removal. The track mentioned is not suitable for stair access due to erosion, it will be maintained as a sand track allowing access to the Point. There is stair access at the end of Tokopapa Street.
dAP 009	Maxine Lovell	No preferred option	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I believe that investing funds to protect the Tainui Wetere Domain from erosion would be a more effective use of resources. This area is increasingly attracting fishermen and beachgoers. There's great potential to create beautiful recreational spaces and additional walkways leading to the sandy riverbanks. This would provide a safer environment for families to enjoy, along with ample parking facilities. With high visibility from the road, it would naturally promote itself and boost revenue for the township through increased usage. It would be more cost effective and longer lasting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Tainui Domain is a great asset for Mōkau, currently it is leased primarily for camping and sports grounds and promoted by this group. The reserve is located in a coastal erosion hazard area and coastal flood hazard area. Currently, there is no immediate erosion impacts that Council considers needs attention for this Annual Plan. There is no 'do nothing' option for Point Road, money will need to be spent to remedy the site or rebuild the seawall.
dAP 010	Tama Blackburn	Option B - Rate Option 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As Mana Whenua, I do not agree that our Wāhi Tapu (Te Naunau) and our Mana have been ignored. We did not want to see houses built on top of our Urupā in the first place and disagree with new houses being built on Te Naunau when the council knows it is our taonga. The council is in continuous breach of Te Tiriti by allowing consent to build. I would like to see a managed retreat from Te Naunau and our taonga reinstated to its natural state. Until that time, I want the seawall removed along with the unconsented rock walls installed by the building owners. My experience tells me that the major cause of the erosion was the installation of hard engineering walls on the opposite side of the river and if a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Crown (Department of Lands and Survey) made the original decision on subdivision of Te Naunau, the sections were created and sold to private owners with two sections designated as an Urupa. At the time Waitomo County Council noted the area was subject to sand drift, Lands and Survey (Crown) did refund instalments for some sections that experienced erosion in the 1960s. Council by law must issue consents for compliant activities on these sections. The area identified as is designated in the District Plan Any illegal seawall activities in front of the Point Road residences are likely the responsibility of Waikato Regional Council (WRC) as they will likely be located in the Coastal Marine Area (CMA).

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
			<p>seawall is built, it will cause more problems somewhere else.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a seawall is rebuilt/repared, knowledgeable Mana Whenua should be engaged as professional consultants to guide the process and be present during all works as cultural monitors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a consent is required for the seawall construction from WRC conditions would be imposed regarding accidental discovery protocols and erosion and sediment control. The seawall on the other side of the river mouth was replaced by NZ Transport Agency with precast concrete as the most appropriate for stabilising the State Highway after a major slip event in 2020. WDC will continue to engage with mana whenua on this decision.
dAP 011	Peter Moffitt	Option A - Rate Option 2	It is fair to spread cost over a greater number rather than tiny few.	It would put a larger burden on a small number of ratepayers if there was no general rate funding for the seawall, Council evaluated that there is some districtwide benefit making a split funding model appropriate.
dAP 012	Marguerita Waamu	Option A - Rate Option 1	50/50 split I agree	It would put a larger burden on a small number of ratepayers if there was no general rate funding for the seawall, Council evaluated that there is some districtwide benefit making a split funding model appropriate.
dAP 014	Wayne Fairhurst - Hunting & Fishing (Taranaki Office)	Option A - Rate Option 2	(Excerpt) This area of Mōkau attracts a lot of visitors from areas all around us and as such has benefits to all of those who choose to visit.	On balance Council see the Mōkau residents using and gaining more benefit from the seawall than the rest of the district (even if used by people from out of town/district) therefore a split rating model is considered appropriate.
dAP 015	Brian Griffin	Option A - Rate Option 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Mōkau seawall does not need to be removed it just needs to be repaired and at what cost? It would have been good if the council had brought to the Mōkau meeting confirmed costs to give us some idea of what is involved. To lump 50% on to the Mōkau rating area is too much as the majority of locals use the other options for beach access, ie: surf track and flowerpot. From our observations, the main users of the sea wall parking lot and steps are residents from outside our area, or tourists passing through. That is why we have opted for rate option 2. The permanent residents of this area, some of whom are elderly, do not access the beach at all. It also concerns me that resource consent will not be given as there are a few radicals in the area who I think will strongly oppose any work done on this wall. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It would put a larger burden on a small number of ratepayers if there was no general rate funding for the seawall, Council evaluated that there is some districtwide benefit making a split funding model appropriate. Urban Mōkau residents benefit from out-of-town visitors who visit the spit for recreation bringing patronage to various hospitality and service businesses. The seawall project is still at a cost estimate stage at the time of consultation, more detailed costing is part of the decision-making process, some submitters have indicated what they believe is an appropriate amount to spend fixing the seawall, reduced spend options have been evaluated. It is costly to have detailed design plans so engaging with the community earlier and getting feedback on if a seawall is wanted or not may save spending money on detailed designs, we aim for a balance of providing information and keeping costs down. Waikato Regional Council (WRC) and the NZ Coastal Plan does allow for seawall with approved design,

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				consents would be obtained from the appropriate consenting authority if required (i.e. depending on what option and design (building or resource consent) and location - Coastal Marine Area or not).
dAP 023	Anne Lemieux - Whare Ki Mōkau Ki Runga	Option B - Rate Option 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Te Whare Mōkau ki Runga is one of the seven Whare (marae groupings) under Te Nehenehenui, and consists of representatives of the four marae (Te Paemate, Mōkau Kohunui, Napinapi, and Maniaroa Maraes) and one of the registered papakainga (Te Kawau Papakainga) covering the area from Mapara in the north to Waipingao in the south. Te Naunau is an area of deep cultural significance to Maniapoto. The history of dispossession of the area and the recent history of building on this waahi tapu are well documented. As Mana Whenua of the area we support the option to NOT replace the Mōkau Seawall. We do recommend that the council consider the installation of bollards, after the removal of the existing sea wall, to restrict vehicular access to the beach. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council acknowledges the history and significance of Te Naunau and the importance to Te Whare Mōkau ki Runga, local marae and whanau connections to this area. This is acknowledged through the Proposed Waitomo District Plan, as provision has been made for a Cultural Alert Layer identifying the significance of the area. There is awareness that the environment also plays a significant part in this decision making process and consideration of allowing these natural processes to occur. If the seawall is not rebuilt the site would require some remediation, some structure would remain. Monitoring of the stability of the road and stair access would be done at regular intervals and after storm events. As soon as any safety concerns become apparent these areas would be closed off for public access.
dAP 024	Phil Brodie	Option B - Rate Option 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Was the consent term for only ten years, to provide sufficient time for Point Road residents potentially affected by erosion, to organise their own 'managed retreat'. There is no 'District wide' benefit that the seawall provides to users. The benefit primarily is only to erosion threatened residents. Waitomo District has far more important requirements that could use \$900,000 of borrowing. The remaining rocks could be sold to local residents for 'garden features', or whatever use they may wish to put them to. 	The Point Road seawall did not require a consent from WRC. WDC at the time did advise WRC of the project and why it considered consent was not required from WRC (i.e. not in the CMA). The seawall's primary role was to protect the end of Point Road and did allow residents to relocate homes if they chose to do so, there may be some benefit to other properties, but this is difficult to quantify. It would put a larger burden on a small number of ratepayers if there was no general rate funding for the seawall, Council evaluated that there is some districtwide benefit making a split funding model appropriate. Urban Mōkau residents benefit from out of town visitors who visit the spit for recreation bringing patronage to various hospitality and service businesses and living in close proximity.
dAP 025	Rosemary MacInnes	Option B - Rate Option 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You cannot BEAT Mother Nature. I see no benefit except to the neighbouring property owners reinstating this wall. There are many other beach access points- that will require more maintenance locally. If it's rebuilt -What's to stop the council not 	Expert advice from Beca Ltd is part of the decision making process and considering the cost versus benefit for all ratepayers. It would put a larger burden on a small number of ratepayers if there was no general rate funding for the seawall, Council evaluated that there is some

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
			<p>spending anymore of the set aside maintenance money on other things as in what happened over the past 10 years?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The whole district gains by not having to maintain a feature that will not last, I am happy in principle to pay for such features in other coastal areas if there is a benefit to the community. 	districtwide benefit making a split funding model appropriate.
dAP 026	Taratikitiki Tairua Paparahi	Option B - Rate Option 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sea wall has no value other than to home owners on point rd as there are other access points. People have brought and sold houses on point rd knowing there are issues with the sea wall. Time to retreat from point rd and let nature take its course, local council should never have allowed homes to be built on a urupa-just another colonial tactic used to demoralize manawhenua. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The subdivision of Te Naunau establishing Point Road was authorised by the Crown (Department of Lands and Survey) in 1953, there was much discussion between local iwi and hapu and Crown representatives on the location of burials and how much of the area was burial ground. The Commissioner of Lands and Surveys approved two areas to be set aside as Urupa with the remainder being subdivided. WDC has the cultural significance noted in our Reserve Management Plan for the Te Naunau Reserve and in the Proposed Waitomo District Plan (i.e. Cultural Alert Layer).
dAP 030	Ronald Takerei -Te Mirumiru paa ki Marokopa	No option chosen	Abstain - This is a decision for Mōkau residents, whaanau to make.	All ratepayers are able to give feedback as the proposal includes an option where all ratepayers contribute.
dAP 031	Frances Casey - Federated Farmers	Option A - Rate Option 1	(Excerpt) Federated Farmers agrees that replacement costs should be funded via targeted rate and district wide rate. We agree with Council's reasoning. Our members understand the benefit the seawall brings to the district which justifies district wide contribution for its replacement. However, this should be shared with those residents nearby who have more significant benefit.	Primarily the seawall is to protect the road and beach access, on balance Council see the Mōkau residents using and gaining more benefit from the seawall than the rest of the district (even if used by people from out of town/district) therefore a split rating model is considered appropriate. Council considers there is an urban benefit with the Point Road attracting visitors who spend in the town supporting local businesses. For this reason a 50/50 split of the new urban area on Mōkau and general rate is preferred.
dAP 032	Annika Hamilton – Waikato Regional Council	No option chosen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Excerpt) We strongly encourage Waitomo District Council to consider undertaking a wider community adaptation project in collaboration with WRC and the Mōkau community. This would provide the opportunity to explore a series of options that could be implemented in the short, medium and longer term, taking into consideration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2017 Council decided not to develop a formal managed retreat strategy for Mokau and considered it should be incorporated into the District Plan Review. The Proposed Waitomo District Plan has made specific provision for the maintenance of consented or compliant seawalls and the relocation of dwellings on-site to safer locations.

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			<p>sea level rise and climate change, and providing for a more resilient Mōkau.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working proactively to plan for the community's long-term resilience allows Waitomo District Council to implement direction under the Waikato Regional Council Policy Statement (WRPS). For example, undertaking a long-term adaptation project for Mōkau would align with WRPS HAZ-M3 - assess natural hazard risk to communities. This states that WRC will work collaboratively alongside territorial authorities, tangata whenua and other agencies to undertake assessments of coastal and other communities at risk or potentially at risk from natural hazards and develop long-term strategies. This proposal will impact implementation of WRPS HAZ M3 through the Proposed Waitomo District Plan (PWDP). • The PWDP includes policies aimed at facilitating community discussions on adaptive pathways, agreeing on adaptive management strategies for areas with new hard protection structures and increasing resilience to the projected effects of climate change. • We also note the guidelines set by the NZCPS that apply to repairing a temporary hard structure that is unlikely to last long term (in particular, policies 25 and 27). In a 100-year context, repairing a seawall that only lasts approximately ten years does not align with the objectives of the NZCPS. Therefore, we advocate for a wider and more holistic view to natural hazard risk mitigation. • Focusing on risk mitigation via structural defences is likely to create an expectation in the community that this can be carried out long-term, however we note that projected increases in erosion rates and sea level rise will likely make the costs prohibitive for the community in the long-term. We also note that the size and location of the sea wall (approximately 60m of the Mōkau sea wall) are likely to limit the proposal's benefits for the wider community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no central government funding options (the original subdivider) or WDC for relocation, it remains an individual decision to remain on their properties in the Point Road area. • A future Council may progress a more formal managed retreat plan if resourcing is available and WDC would work collaboratively with WRC and would appreciate any data and resources being made available.

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dAP 035	Amanda Mary Murray	Option A - Rate Option 1	I do not think it is fair that only Mōkau ratepayers deal with this problem and am therefore Ok with it being shared 50:50.	It would put a larger burden on a small number of ratepayers if there was no general rate funding for the seawall, and there is seen to be districtwide benefit making a split funding model appropriate. Council considers there is a benefit to urban residents with the Point attracting visitors who spend in the town supporting local businesses. For this reason a 50/50 split of the new urban area on Mōkau and general rate is preferred.
dAP 036	Jo Wrigley - Waikato Environment Centre	No option chosen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Excerpt) We oppose further complex engineering interventions, such as renewing the existing seawall, without comprehensive cultural and environmental assessments. • The MEMP emphasises a precautionary approach and restoration of natural systems, recognising the importance of coastal processes and the interconnectedness of marine and terrestrial ecosystems. • Instead of rebuilding a seawall that could again fail and/or exacerbate erosion elsewhere, we advocate for an alternative strategy that: Prioritises green infrastructure, such as natural coastal regeneration, over grey infrastructure solutions that require ongoing maintenance and substantial financial investment. Explores the necessity of managed retreat where required in response to climate change impacts like sea level rise, storm surge, and coastal erosion. Engages coastal scientists, local hapū, and the wider community in designing adaptive solutions that respect both Te Mana o Te Wai and the mana of coastal landscapes. Recognises the intrinsic value of the moana beyond human utility. 	<p>If a consent is required for the seawall construction and conditions set by WRC would be adhered to such as accidental discovery protocols and erosion and sediment control. Expert advice from Beca Ltd is part of the decision making process and considering the best solution for the type of coastal environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2017 Council decided not to develop a formal managed retreat strategy for Mokau and considered it should be incorporated into the District Plan Review. • The Proposed Waitomo District Plan has made specific provision for the maintenance of consented or compliant seawalls and the relocation of dwellings on-site to safer locations. • There is no central government funding options (the original subdivider) or WDC for relocation, it remains an individual decision to remain on their properties in the Point Road area.
dAP 039	Joanne and Peter Sole	Option A - Rate Option 2	Need support to maintain the existing wall in its entirety so the wall is strengthened in all areas to combat erosion from storms and tidal surges. The entire rockwall needs maintenance from the point to the end of the existing wall, otherwise it will continue to fail.	The proposal is for the area at the end of Point Road, the seawalls in front of the properties on seaward side of the Point are the responsibility of the individual property owners and are under authority of Waikato Regional Council's Coastal Marine Area.

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
dAP 040	Elvisa van der Leden - Forest & Bird	No option chosen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest & Bird advocates for the Waitomo District Council to immediately plan for managed retreat. • The proposals for the Mōkau Sea Wall are not sustainable, cost effective or consider nature-based solutions as recommended by the National Adaption Plan. • Forest & Bird recommends the National Adaption Plan be utilized and referred to when planning for the future of the district's communities and infrastructure, including considerations for "coastal squeeze" and the NZCPS. • While the renewed sea wall might delay the impacts of sea level rise and coastal erosion, the time in which more severe impacts are likely to occur which could either damage or compromise the new sea wall, is unknown and could be almost immediate. This could potentially cost more than the figures proposed in the consultation document if infrastructure is compromised sooner than expected, incurring costs for material removal, and repairment of public or private property damage. This would need to be a financial and long-term planning consideration. • Chapter 5 of the New Zealand National Adaption Plan provides Adaptation options including managed retreat. This document is useful in guiding the building of a climate resilient Aotearoa New Zealand. Forest & Bird recommends referring to this document when building proposals for the community to assist in understanding the importance of adaptation planning. • Forest & Bird are concerned about the potential for seabirds like kororā establishing within a new sea wall, compromising their nesting behaviours and endangering their chicks if the wall is subject to tidal surges during breeding season due to sea level rise. This concern also applies to other coastal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2017 Council decided not to develop a formal managed retreat strategy for Mokau and considered it should be incorporated into the District Plan Review. • The Proposed Waitomo District Plan has made specific provision for the maintenance of consented or compliant seawalls and the relocation of dwellings on-site to safer locations. • There is no central government funding options (the original subdivider) or WDC for relocation, it remains an individual decision to remain on their properties in the Point Road area. <p>Expert advice from Beca Ltd is part of the decision making process and considering the cost versus benefit long-term for all ratepayers.</p> <p>The seawall was constructed from 2014-15, rebuilding would not create a new structure rather an upgrade to what has been in place for over 10 years. There has been no indication of bird nesting activity raised by WRC, DOC or members of the public, the area is quite active with walkers, fishing and beachgoers frequenting the Point. Also, if Council was to erect a new seawall or maintain the existing seawall it would ensure to comply with the relevant regulatory requirements (i.e. if it is in the CMA, the Waikato Regional Coastal Plan, if it is not in the CMA compliance would still need to be demonstrated with earthworks volumes under the Waikato Regional Plan, and if not in the CMA compliance with the District Plan would be required).</p>

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
			<p>areas within the Waitomo District including Mōkau rivermouth and Awakino rivermouth. This expected loss of coastal habitats is frequently referred to as “coastal squeeze”. As a native species that is categorized as “in decline”, this potential impact must also be a consideration for future planning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest & Bird recommends working with Waikato Regional Council and Department of Conservation on this consideration to assist with ongoing planning and impacts of infrastructure and climate change on coastal habitats. • National Adaption Plan stresses the need for nature-based solutions. Forest & Bird recommends that the Council considers how the actions now (such as the use of a sea wall) will impact the ability to effectively implement nature-based solutions and protect coastal features and indigenous species, aligning with the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (NZCPS) now and in the future. 	
dAP 041	Kevin O Sullivan	Option B - Rate Option 4	Leaving door option for any sea erosion Mōkau rate payer problem.	Expert advice from Beca Ltd is part of the decision making process and considering the cost versus benefit for all ratepayers. It would put a larger burden on a small number of ratepayers if there was no general rate funding for the seawall, Council evaluated that there is some districtwide benefit making a split funding model appropriate.
dAP 043	Allan Jones	No option chosen	Disagree that wall is irreparable. The wall was built so manage retreat of affected houses east of carpark could go ahead. It has not happened, except for 1. The people now living on Point Road all knew what could happen with coastal movement when they purchased the property. Sea front homes had to stand alone to protect theirs the above should do the same. Why are ratepayers paying toward something that is uninsurable (houses).	The proposal is for the area at the end of Point Road, the seawalls in front of the properties on seaward side of the Point are the responsibility of the individual property owners. Council has received a report from a qualified expert that outlines the issues with the Point Road seawall, a more detailed report is also part of the decision making process what is required to rebuild to current best practice solution for the type of environment.
dAP 044	Robert John Scott	Option A - Rate Option 2	The entire district gains benefit from this seawall including tourists and as such, this should be a district wide cost. The majority of properties at Mōkau are	There is seen to be districtwide benefit making a split funding model appropriate. Urban Mōkau residents benefit more by living close by and from out of town visitors

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
			holiday homes and not permanent residents. So benefits of the Mōkau ratepayers are not significantly higher than others in the district. Mōkau contributes to other district wide projects meaning that rate costs are already high and they are already looking at 12.7% increase based on the rates affordability table in the draft Plan for 25/26, which is the highest rate impact in the district.	attracted to the area bringing patronage to various hospitality and service businesses.
dAP 045	Diane Scott	Option A - Rate Option 2	People who use the carpark to access the beach are mainly not Mōkau residents, most are fisher people who park to access the beach or people in campervans from further a field. I do not believe Mōkau ratepayers benefit more than ratepayers outside Mōkau and Mōkau ratepayers have contributed to other initiatives in our district which have had no benefit for us e.g., Benneydale Sewerage, TK emissions.	There is seen to be districtwide benefit making a split funding model appropriate. Urban Mōkau residents benefit from out of town visitors bringing patronage to various hospitality and service businesses, the stairs are still a locally used access point utilised by those in the urban Mōkau area. Districtwide benefit rates are paid for by all ratepayers, for wastewater (sewerage) and solid waste (including emission costs) achieving public health standards and reducing environmental pollution benefit all residents in the District.
dAP 046	John and Marie Casford	Option A - Rate Option 1	To wait for the proposal from New Plymouth. Certainly not employ engineers that cost trillions. The wall should be built upon the rocks (what is already there). Everybody (out of towners) come to Mōkau to use the facilities so the cost should be shared. Right around the world rock walls are used against the encroaching sea.	WDC staff have inspected a seawall in New Plymouth is similar environment has been effective for 15 years. More details provided in BECA report. There is seen to be districtwide benefit making a split funding model appropriate. Urban Mōkau residents benefit from out of town visitors bringing patronage to various hospitality and service businesses.
Late 02	Mārama Henare-Waho - Te Paerata Papakaainga	No Option Chosen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Excerpt) I am not in support of any of the options put forward by the Council. I am in support of the seawall at Mōkau being removed, at the expense of those who have benefitted from Council sanctioned building of houses and other structures on Te Naunau, and the sale and purchase of properties on Te Naunau. Te Naunau being the whole of the Sand Spit area. Te Naunau, i.e. the whole Sand Spit area on the North Head of the Mōkau River, is a burial ground. The history of this is set out in the report attached. In the 1950s the predecessor of today's Council, was granted ownership of most of Te Naunau, except two half-acre sections set aside as burial reserves. One reserve is on the seaside of 	Remediation of the site is the option WDC have if the seawall is not rebuilt. If a resource consent is required for the remediation works, a resource consent will be obtained from the relevant regulatory authority (i.e. in the CMA - WRC, not in the CMA WDC if consent is required). If a resource consent is required, conditions would likely be imposed regarding accidental discovery protocols if earthworks are necessary. Remediation will mean some of the seawall material will remain, full removal of the seawall would mean that considerable earthworks, which would be more damaging than restoration of the coastal marine area. Remediation is likely to include planting where possible to improve the area as a coastal environment.

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
			<p>Te Naunau, the other is on the riverside of Te Naunau. Excluding these reserves, the Council sold most of Te Naunau for residential lots.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Te Naunau is a wāhi tapu, a sacred place. Ancestors of local hapū were interred there. Some of the ancestors who were buried in Te Naunau were later exhumed and reburied at places like Hikumutu Urupā at Maniaroa Marae (for example, around the time that Te Punga o Tainui – the anchor-stone of the Tainui Canoe - was interred there). However, many deceased ancestors were left at Te Naunau. • Members of Te Paerata whaanau, including myself, are descendants of people who were buried into Te Naunau. The last person to be buried into Te Naunau that we know of was Teremai Ngahau Whāriki Te Ripo who was interred in 1953 near to her husband, Te Ripo Te Huia, and other whānau and hapū members. The Council-sanctioned sale of sections in Te Naunau, was effectively, the sale of a burial ground. As a result, the burial ground has been desecrated. To my knowledge, nothing was done by the previous Council, nor the current Council to make this right. This needs to be done. • I am in support of the Coastal Erosion at Mōkau being managed, not by seawalls, but by the planting of sand-dune building plants such as Kōwhangatarā (Spinefex) and Pīngao. In the burial reserve where our ancestor Teremai and Te Ripo were buried, since 2023, and with the help and support of Coastcare Waikato, we have planted sand-dune 2 building plants with success. We would like to see this happen along the full length of Te Naunau, where it can be done. We would also like to see Council reach out to Coastal Erosion Management Expert Jim Dahm as an adviser to this proposition. • We are willing to work with the Council and bach-owners to see if we can find a resolution of the matter. BUT there must be a genuine acknowledgment of the serious wrong that was undertaken at Te Naunau and a genuine attempt 	<p>The subdivision of Te Naunau establishing Point Road was authorised by the Crown (Department of Land and Surveys) in 1953, as set out in the Waitangi Tribunal Report Wai 898, #A149. At the time there was much discussion between local iwi and hapu and Crown representatives on the location of burials and how much of the area was burial ground, the Commissioner approved two areas to be set aside as Urupa with the remainder being subdivided. The Department of Lands and Survey (central government) as the original subdivider of Te Naunau, created the sections and then sold them to private owners with two sections designated as an Urupa Reserves. The remaining areas are Recreation and Road Reserves that are administered by WDC.</p> <p>Council by law must issue consents for compliant building activities on the private sections, through the Operative District Plan and Proposed District Plan (PDP), we have identified areas, which are subject to coastal hazards, which require houses to be readily relocatable. The seawall or remediation activities in front of the Point Road residences are the responsibility of individual property owners and Waikato Regional Council if the works are located within the Coastal Marine Area. Expert advice has been sought by WDC from Beca Ltd who have experience in this area and type of coastal environment - Refer Beca report.</p> <p>WDC has identified the cultural significance of the Point Road area in the PDP through the provision of a cultural alert layer and the cultural significance of Te Naunau is noted in our Reserve Management Plan for the Te Naunau Reserve.</p>

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			<p>to make it right. As far as I know, this has not been done by the Council nor anyone else who has profited and/or benefitted from the desecration of our urupā.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report “Cultural Impact Assessment Report 2023 – Digger Activity at Te Naunau, Mōkau”, as background documentation was submitted. 	

Consultation Topic 3: District Wide Benefit Rates for water and wastewater

Option 1 - Reduce the District Wide Benefit Rates (Council's Preferred Option)

Option 2 - Status Quo – Continue to charge the District Wide Benefit Rates

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
dAP 004	Andreas Senger	Option 1	It should be user pays.	Going forward user pays is considered the fairest approach to water and wastewater charging.
dAP 010	Tama Blackburn	Option 1	I know that some rate payers throughout the Waitomo region are not utilising the clean and wastewater services but are still paying for it. This is not fair to those trying to live a self-sufficient lifestyle and already reducing the impacts on the main systems.	Going forward user pays is considered the fairest approach to water and wastewater charging.
dAP 012	Marguerita Waamu	Option 1	Beneficial for All	Going forward user pays is considered the fairest approach to water and wastewater charging.
dAP 018	Nitesh Sharma	Option 1	Please organise the water department. Rates paid on water is extremely high.	Going forward user pays is considered the fairest approach to water and wastewater charging, this will help reduce water use and costs. Note the water services consultation and the proposal to address this.
dAP 024	Phil Brodie	Option 1	The 'Benefit' has run its course in view of the impending installation of water meters and the transfer of 'water assets' and operations to the CCO entity.	Going forward user pays is considered the fairest approach to water and wastewater charging.
dAP 025	Rosemary MacInnes	Option 1	User pays, but regional and local capacity must be developed. Currently hindering local growth.	Going forward user pays is considered the fairest approach to water and wastewater charging. There are no limiting factors for growth due to water supply and wastewater treatment for Waitomo District.
dAP 027	Oliver Turk	Option 2	If the preferred option goes thru, do septic tank owners still get a discount for disposal at wastewater plant?	Septic tank waste from within Waitomo District fee for 2025/26 is proposed at \$275 per 1000L (compared to \$355 for out of District).
dAP 030	Ronald Takerei -Te Mirumiru paa ki Marokopa	Option 1	It is the right decision that the Council should do on behalf of the rural areas.	Going forward user pays is considered the fairest approach to water and wastewater charging.
dAP 031	Frances Casey - Federated Farmers	Option 1	(Excerpt) Federated Farmers supports transition to a user pays approach for funding wastewater. We agree	Going forward user pays is considered the fairest approach to water and wastewater charging.

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
			that those properties connected should be responsible its financing.	
dAP 034	Ronald Takerei - Te Whare Hauaauru ki Uta	Option 1	A good decision finally. Why should rural rate payers subsidize Urban water and wastewater.	Going forward user pays is considered the fairest approach to water and wastewater charging.
dAP 035	Amanda Mary Murray	Option 1	Agree Council should adopt user pays instead of cross subsidising. The sooner Council also adopts user pays for all water usage the better.	Going forward user pays is considered the fairest approach to water and wastewater charging.
dAP 036	Jo Wrigley - Waikato Environment Centre	No option chosen	(Excerpt) However, the Council must recognise that: Freshwater must be managed with priority given first to the health of the water and the ecosystems it supports (including flora and fauna), second to meeting essential human health needs, and thirdly to supporting economic needs. Projects must ensure that urban runoff does not further pollute rivers, aligning with the Waipā River Restoration Goals. The council should co-design stormwater solutions with Maniapoto and other iwi partners, incorporating mātauranga Māori approaches to water management and urban systems planning.	WDC is also committed to providing clean water and protecting our environment. The obligations of the Joint Management Agreement for the Waipa River catchment will continue to be met by WDC.
dAP 037	Lorraine Hopper	Option 2	If I had more understanding of what this all means for the future, I may have ticked option 1.	Council assessed that there was districtwide benefit for urban areas being supplied with drinking water and treating wastewater in creating housing, employment, and protecting the environment, so all ratepayers contribute through the District Wide Benefit (DWB) Rate. Going forward Council considers the fairest approach to water and wastewater charging is user pays so reducing the DWB rate is recommended.
dAP 041	Kevin O Sullivan	Option 1	Users Pays	Going forward user pays is considered the fairest approach to water and wastewater charging.
dAP 043	Allan Jones	Option 1	I have to supply my own water. Why should I subsidise others?	Council assessed that there was districtwide benefit for urban areas being supplied with drinking water and treating wastewater in creating housing, employment, and protecting the environment. Going forward user pays is considered the fairest approach to water and wastewater charging.

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Preferred option	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
dAP 044	Robert John Scott	Option 2	Movement from status quo could become prohibitive for smaller communities if significant coastal projects are needed in future sharing of costs across the entire district will lessen this burden.	Cost sharing is appropriate where there is districtwide benefit, this is assessed for coastal projects as they arise. There is no general rate funding currently for future coastal projects.
dAP 046	John and Marie Casford	Option 1	Everybody should have tanks for drinking water, washing houses and boats. When building install tanks for backup water supply.	Property owners can install water tanks that comply with building and planning rules and the Water Services Bylaw.

Consultation Topic 4: Amendments to the Rates Remission Policy (RRP) and Revenue and Financing Policy (RFP)

Do you agree with our amendments to the Rates Remission Policy? Yes/No

Do you agree with our amendments to the Revenue and Financing Policy? Yes/No

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Agree/Do not agree	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
dAP 004	Andreas Senger	Yes Agree	We should assist those that cannot afford the basic services to ease the burden.	Offering rates remission to retirement units associated with a retirement facility is consistent with our current Policy and community feedback.
dAP 012	Marguerita Waamu	Yes Agree	I believe in the council for good direction.	Council's preferred options have been presented as the right direction for the district, community feedback has been also taken into account to confirm if the options are right for the community.
dAP 018	Nitesh Sharma	No option chosen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No idea. Council should put its rate payers first on their agenda in paying rates. It should be affordable. \$4200 a year in Te Kūiti is unbelievable. Its a poor town and getting this money is really hard and to top it pay Waikato yearly rates, buy blue rubbish bags and go to dump and pay \$\$\$ just to throw it away. Please try to help people and not to squeeze every single bit of from the rate payers. If rates are affordable people will love to spend in district and the whole district will flourish and attract more people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rates affordability is always top of mind for Elected Members, one of the main reasons rates are high is the small population base (approx 5900 rating units) and the large area and services provided. For example, we have and are investing in drinking water supply and wastewater treatment upgrades, this does mean ratepayers in that town pay a significant amount towards 3 waters. Blue rubbish bags cover the cost to dispose of the rubbish which includes levies and carbon tax (in the form of emission credits) without this charge rate increases would be required to cover the WDL costs. There is no charge to dispose of rubbish in blue Council bags at the WDL. The proposals presented are all aimed at finding the right balance between rates required and services delivered to make sure ratepayers are funding the right things at the right time, any potential savings have been assessed through the budget setting process.
dAP 019	Dr. Jeremy Mayall - Creative Waikato	No option chosen	<p>(Excerpt) Draft Rates Remission Policy 2025 Remissions for Community Organisations, Clubs and Societies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We acknowledge rates remissions including, but not limited to, those 'not for profit' organisations which exist primarily for the provision of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offering rates remission to retirement units associated with a retirement facility is consistent with our current Policy and community feedback. Council appreciates the time taken to submit and considers your feedback when deciding on the best way forward for the community so encourage Creative Waikato to submit on future engagements. Council

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Agree/Do not agree	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
			<p>emergency services, community halls, museums, art galleries, marae, churches and pre-schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We specifically acknowledge the support for 'the development of arts and culture in the Waitomo District'. <p>Remission for Organisations Providing Care for the Elderly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We acknowledge support for those organisations that provide facilities and services that care for and enable the elderly to reside in the Waitomo District. We recognise council's acknowledgement of the Piopio Retirement Village and its role in the Piopio community. <p>Remission of Rates on Māori Freehold Land</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We specifically acknowledge council's position that all land that was changed to general land as part of the Māori Affairs Amendment Act 1967 (although was subsequently repealed, some properties have remained general land on the title) is considered to be Māori freehold land for the purposes of this remission policy. It is vital that we embrace a Te Ao Māori lens in the way we operate and our collective vision for a shared future. This is an integral framework within the Waikato Arts Navigator, our regional arts strategy. Recognising that land is a taonga tuku iho, we must acknowledge the wellbeing of tangata whenua and understand things from a Te Ao Māori perspective as being central to our understanding of wellbeing in Aotearoa. <p>Remission of Rates for Cases of Financial Hardship</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Given that employment in the arts and creative sectors is mostly cyclical and/or inconsistent, it is difficult for people working in those sectors to maintain a regular wage, and if they do, it is lower than average. Taking such circumstances into account is important. 	<p>has maintained the funding approach for community development, district promotions and economic development in the Revenue and Financing Policy.</p>

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Agree/Do not agree	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
			<p>Remission of Rates for New Businesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We support development that adds improved, new and/or visibly attractive infrastructure or buildings to the district where it would be commercially otherwise unviable to do so. Opportunities to embed cultural heritage and/or narrative within hard infrastructure (facilities/venues) can further enhance economic development for both residents and visitors to the district. <p>Draft Revenue and Financing Policy 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We encourage council to engage with Creative Waikato on plans and projects that can provide civic, cultural and creative solutions for its communities. Council acknowledges that community development has broad district benefit and should accordingly be considered as such. District Promotions are also essential to attract visitors to the district as well as enhance pride in residents. We acknowledge the success of events such as the Great NZ Muster which showcases lots of arts and cultural events such as music and dance. Economic development and supporting and promoting business-related programmes and activities is also integral to the growth and culture of Waitomo District. 	
dAP 024	Phil Brodie	Yes Agree	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I have concerns over what may happen to the remission for the 'Piopio Retirement Trust Board' under the new waters entity, 'Waikato Waters Done Well' ? The Fee increases proposed under the 'Sale and Supply of Alcohol' are significant so have the processes that contribute to the costs to be recovered been reassessed to reduce those costs. The term 'User Pays' is appearing more frequently as a justification for fee increases to reduce Rates burden, so will that be shortly applied to the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If waters transitioned to a CCO, rates remission for remaining rates with WDC would continue. The CCO will determine the pricing for waters that customers are charged and any criteria for discounts/reduced fees etc., this will be monitored through the Commerce Commission. A thorough assessment of the Alcohol licencing costs were conducted, this was presented in a determination report to Council on 25 March. Council assesses the district, community and user benefits of all services through the Revenue and Financing Policy.

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Agree/Do not agree	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
			<p>Library and Swimming Pool. Your greater implementation of 'Users Pays' rather conflicts with the Communities heavy reliance on volunteer contributions, mainly from increasingly ageing members of this community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three years ago Council approved the \$900,000 project for the new reservoir and rising main for Te Kūiti as critical to Te Kūiti's water supply resilience. It seems to be taking a long time to get started. Is the search for an alternative water supply for Te Kūiti still underway? The Mangaokewa and Mōkau River monthly flows are running well below long term averages so could that affect the Te Kūiti and Piopio water extraction rates under their existing consent conditions? 	<p>Both the library and Te Kūiti Aquatic centre are recognised as beneficial services to the community as outlined in the RFP. We aim to recover only 1% of the costs through library fees and 20% cost recovery from users of pool, the remainder is funded by all ratepayers by way of General Rates and UAGC. It is highly unlikely this assessment would change significantly and move to a user pays model.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Te Kūiti Water Resilience project is complex, the tender process was extended by 3 months to allow a robust tender process. The project is underway with and the design aspect well progressed, it is anticipated the project will be completed mid-2026. Council has completed the projects for alternative water sources. The sources proved insufficient for town supply or too high in elements such as Iron and Manganese which are cost prohibitive to remove for town supply. Consents for water extraction include a reduced provision during drought conditions, outside of this the extraction amount is not impacted.
dAP 027	Oliver Turk	No option chosen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council is raising pensioner housing by \$40 a week, asking those already doing it tough to somehow find an extra \$5 just to keep a roof over their heads. It's hard to watch, and even harder to justify. • At the same time, council services are being cut. The library is no longer open on Saturdays, the pool closed a month earlier than usual — services that matter to families, kids, and older residents alike. These aren't just "nice-to-haves" — they're essential parts of a strong, connected community. • We're told the cuts are to save money, but the savings aren't clear, and the community is the one paying the price. Now there's talk of closing the dump and privatising water — handing off essential core services to private hands. • If we're truly in a time of financial strain, then that responsibility should be shared fairly. It's time to take a hard look at executive salaries and overhead before cutting services that directly impact people's daily lives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the Long Term Plan process Council decided to raise the elderly housing rents (the community submissions were 50:50 on the two options) to fully utilise the Central Government Accommodation Supplement, this does mean residents have a slight increase to cover. The NZ Pension is assessed annually and did increase from 1 April 2025 by 3% to support pensioners with the increases to cost of living. • Council assesses the district, community and user benefits of all services through the Revenue and Financing Policy(RFP). Both the library and Te Kūiti Aquatic centre are recognised as beneficial services to the community as outlined in the RFP. It is highly unlikely this assessment would change significantly and move to a user pays model. We aim to recover only 1% of the costs through library fees and 20% cost recovery from users of pool, the remainder is funded by all ratepayers by way of General Rates and UAGC. Opening the library on Saturdays does increase operational costs, the Te Kūiti Aquatic centre did used to be open in April, however due to very low

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Agree/Do not agree	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The basics — housing, water, waste, libraries, pools — these are not luxuries. They are the foundation of a liveable, fair community. 	patronage it wasn't viable, even in March numbers drop significantly.
dAP 030	Ronald Takerei -Te Mirumiru paa ki Marokopa	Agree with RRP, no option chosen for RFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RRP - We have whaanau who have used the facility at Hillview. RFP - Abstain - This will have an impact on those Rural areas that have Waste Transfer Areas. On behalf of Mirumiru paa ki Marokopa thank you for this opportunity to have a say. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offering rates remission to retirement units associated with a retirement facility is consistent with our current Policy and community feedback. There are no changes as part of this proposal for rural transfer stations. Council appreciates the time taken to submit and considers your feedback when deciding on the best way forward for the community.
dAP 031	Frances Casey - Federated Farmers	Agree with RFP, no option chosen for RRP	(Excerpt) Federated Farmers is pleased to see only a slight increase to average rates this year compared to the steep increases we have seen in other districts. This is positive for rural ratepayers and is a credit to Council's ongoing commitment to good financial decision making. Federated Farmers encourages Council to continue to utilise the rating tools available under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, including the UAGC, to ensure more equitable rate distribution.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Going forward user pays is considered the fairest approach to water and wastewater charging. The proposals presented are all aimed at finding the right balance between rates required and services delivered to make sure ratepayers are funding the right things at the right time, any potential savings and setting of UAGC have been assessed through the budget setting process.
dAP 036	Jo Wrigley - Waikato Environment Centre	No option chosen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Excerpt) The Plan should incorporate action to support local resilient food systems and the restoration of food sovereignty across the Waitomo District. Building resilient, community-based food systems is fundamental to: Enhancing local climate resilience and food security Strengthening community wellbeing and self-sufficiency Reducing food waste and organic landfill inputs Supporting economic development through local growers and businesses Honouring mana whenua aspirations for whenua and kai sovereignty. To address these goals, we recommend that Council: Recognise food security and food sovereignty as key to community resilience and sustainability. Support initiatives like community gardens, mara kai, local regenerative farming, and farmers' markets. Integrate food resilience 	Council recognises the importance of producing and selling food sustainably and locally, generally these activities are permitted. Some activities may have restrictions in relevant Bylaws (Public Places and Public Health and Safety) and Operative Waitomo District Plan (DP). Waitomo District Council can provide further details for any information needed regarding these activities. The DP does restrict and therefore protect activities on rural land. Council zoning rules follow the National Policy Statement for Highly Productive land. Council also supports programmes such as Enviro Schools that include food production and reducing waste. Through the DP and consent processes Council does include environmental impacts into decision making and compliance with consent conditions.

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Agree/Do not agree	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
			<p>initiatives with waste minimisation and environmental sustainability strategies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner with iwi, hapū, community organisations, and local producers to design and lead food resilience programmes. Protect and prioritise productive land for food growing in future District and Long-Term Planning. We urge Council to begin planning for food resilience now, particularly as the district faces increased climate risks, economic challenges, and the need to strengthen local self-reliance. Formalise a standing mechanism to embed Maniapoto environmental values into all Council infrastructure planning and decision-making. • Support regenerative land-use practices and local food resilience to reduce long-term infrastructure costs and environmental harm. Embed environmental education initiatives at public facilities, including the Transfer Station, to raise community awareness of kaitiakitanga responsibilities. • We urge the Council to make decisions that: Honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi not just in principle, but in practice. Protect the mauri of the whenua and the wai wherever Waitomo district waste might otherwise travel. Invest in a future that regenerates ecosystems, creates meaningful jobs, and strengthens community wellbeing, guided by indigenous values of kaitiakitanga, manaakitanga, and whakapapa. 	
dAP 038	Ronald Takerei	Yes Agree	<p>I don't agree with using a Council approved Contractor if I do not agree who is on the approval list to water, wastewater and storm water. I would rather use someone else that I have confidence in, then someone I do not with regards to proven outcomes and quality workmanship.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Fees and Charges analysis • Council appreciates the time taken to submit and considers your feedback when deciding on the best way forward for the community.

Consultation Topic - Proposed Fees and Charges 2025-26

**Do you have any feedback on the overall increase to our fees and charges by 3%
Do you have feedback on fees and charges that have increased by more than 3%?
Do you have any other feedback on the fees and charges?**

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Any Feedback	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
F&C 1	Lynda Mullany	No	Yes. Why should Council insist on a 'Council-approved' contractor? Surely, provided the contractor has the necessary qualifications, it should be up to the homeowner who they appoint? Or indeed, make a choice themselves?	Any contractor with the necessary qualifications to work on the mains network supply can apply to be on the Council Approved Contractor list. Specifications and workmanship are critical to the integrity and public safety of the water networks WDC needs to ensure these are assessed for each connection to the network, as an approved contractor WDC has the ability to monitor and maintain documentation for this.
F&C 2	Louise Wells - Waitomo District Council	No	I am writing as a staff member involved in venue bookings. I am proposing minor adjustments to the proposed 2025–2026 fees for the Les Munro Centre (LMC) and Piopio Hall, to better align with our online booking system, SpacetoCo. SpacetoCo works best with clear, rounded fees that are easy for the public to understand and for the system to process. Les Munro Centre Fee Type Proposed 2025/26 What Would Work Full Day – Community \$494.00 \$496.00 (rounder, consistent with system) Full Day – Commercial \$989.00 \$992.00 (rounder, consistent with system) Hourly – Community \$62.00 No change needed Hourly – Commercial \$124.00 No change needed Piopio Hall Fee Type Proposed 2025/26 What Would Work Full Day \$165.00 \$168.00 (matches 8 × \$21 hourly rate) Hourly \$21.00 No change needed Thank you for considering these small but practical updates to support our online booking processes.	Recommend the fees are rounded to align with the booking system and hourly rates for ease of administration. Les Munro fee \$992.00 full day hire Les Munro fee \$496.00 full day hire - community group Piopio Hall fee \$168.00 full day
F&C 3	Tony Schrafft -Aria squash club	No	The increase in liquor licensing fee proposal. Establishments where there business is to supply and sell alcohol should not be subsidised by Council. The increase to then is fair. Small sports clubs like the Aria squash club do not have there primary focus on selling alcohol. Small clubs provide a safe regulated environment in a social setting as an extension of our main role of engaging our community with sport. Profit from bar takings currently do not cover the cost of liquor licensing, bar	The fee increases are necessary to cover the cost of administering the licencing activity. Council acknowledges there are differences between sports clubs and commercial businesses, we are supportive of these clubs and what they

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Any Feedback	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
			<p>managers certificates. Further large increases as proposed would make small clubs opt out of having a liquor licence allowing persons to bring their own unlimited amount of alcohol to a venue with no controls or restrictions over amount consumed or age of persons. Small clubs are the backbone of our communities with volunteers putting in the hours. Rate players should continue to subsidise clubs Not establishments where sole purpose is to make money from alcohol sales.</p>	<p>contribute to our communities. However, we are wanting to ensure that we are recovering the cost of the licencing activity, as regardless of whether it is a club or business it still incurs the same processing and admin time.</p> <p>Council has proposed a staggered fee increase to allow organisations an opportunity to incorporate the fees into the value of their sales if necessary to cover the increased cost. It is noted that over the 2 year period the total increase in annual fee for a club licence which is in the low category would be \$273.70 above what it is currently (i.e. \$391.00 is the current annual fee) and for renewal of their licence (which they are required to do every three years) this would be an increase of \$426.65 if renewed after year 2 of the proposed increase.</p> <p>Unlicensed premises create a higher risk of alcohol related harm in our communities as the control measures required for licenced premises mitigate these risks. NZ Police enforce alcohol laws related to premises. It is an offence for a person to allow their unlicensed premises to be used as a 'place of resort' for the consumption of alcohol. Police have a general duty to uphold the law and retains the discretion to take enforcement action if circumstances require.</p> <p>Sports clubs can apply for funding through our community and partnership fund for operational expenses where there is alignment to our community outcomes. Multi-year grants have been awarded to sports clubs through this process. Applications open on a 3-year</p>

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Any Feedback	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
				cycle from 1 July to 1 August, the next round opens in 2027.
F&C 4	Dr Jeremy Mayall (dAPO19) - Creative Waikato	No	[excerpt]We acknowledge that fees & charges are necessary to ensure the costs of providing council services are recovered by those who use them. We also acknowledge that for those services for which there is an increase and are limited to less than 3% i.e., streets stalls and mobile shops, hall hire (Les Munro Centre and community halls) parks and reserves (community group hire) library rentals and equipment hireage. These services enable economic development, social connectedness and cohesion. Any fees imposed must be offset by these benefits.	Where possible fees have been retained at the current level and discounts for community groups where possible such as hall hire and community events such as the Great NZ Muster.
F&C 5	Kevin O Sullivan		some inspection costs unnecessary eg fireplace, LIM reports	Regarding building inspections, these are a legislative requirement under the Building Act 2004. The fees we charge are to cover the actual cost of delivering this service. The fee for LIM Reports is based on staff time to prepare the LIM. Some of the information contained in LIM Reports is able to be obtained from the Council website such as the location of services (if available) and zoning. Customers are also able to view property files free of charge.
	Ronald Takerei (see 38 a&b)		I don't agree with using a Council approved Contractor if I do not agree who is on the approval list to water, wastewater and storm water. I would rather use someone else that I have confidence in, then someone I do not with regards to proven outcomes and quality workmanship.	Any contractor with the necessary qualifications to work on the mains network supply can apply to be on the Council Approved Contractor list. Specifications and workmanship are critical to the integrity and public safety of the water networks WDC needs to ensure these are assessed for each connection to the network, as an approved contractor WDC has the ability to monitor and maintain documentation for this.

Submissions not directly related to consultation topics

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
dAP 19	Dr. Jeremy Mayall - Creative Waikato	<p>(Excerpt) Council's activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our recent 'Creativity Lives in Waikato' campaign highlighted some incredible artists living and contributing to the social and artistic fabric of your district. • Creative Waikato looks forward to strengthening a strategic partnership with Waitomo District Council to achieve our shared outcomes regarding wellbeing in the district. <p>Strategic initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative Waikato has led key strategic initiatives which have contributed to long-term impact in the areas of arts, culture and creativity in the Waikato region. • Waikato Arts Navigator 2023, Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan 2024, Performing Arts Strategy 2023, Wellbeing and Arts, Culture and Creativity in the Waikato 2022. <p>Importance of soft infrastructure - people and services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Waikato Creative Infrastructure Plan 2025 provides an initial high-level scan of hard and soft infrastructure in the Waikato, building on an initial report that was developed in 2014. • Soft infrastructure is associated with the development of human and social capital integral to community-building and the promotion of 'high quality' living. Forms of soft infrastructure include programmes and facilitators in libraries, museums and other community resources. • Whilst hard infrastructure (facilities, venues etc) is important, it is the people (soft infrastructure) that are most important. Supporting those people and services which activate hard infrastructure contributes to thriving communities. <p>Investing in communities and arts, culture and creativity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative Waikato encourages council to continue to enable and support soft infrastructure (people and services), which provides tangible community outcomes such as community cohesion, connection to place, land and self. 	<p>Council appreciates the time taken to submit and considers your feedback when deciding on the best way forward for the community so encourage Creative Waikato to submit on future engagements. Council has maintained the funding approach for community development, district promotions and economic development.</p>
dAP 32	Annika Hamilton - Waikato Regional Council	<p>(Excerpt) Regional resilience and adaptation planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We encourage the proactive identification of communities that would benefit from long-term adaptive planning. For example, areas where there is flooding risk such as Te Kūiti and Piopio. This work requires collaborating closely with Waikato Regional Council to understand your district's natural hazard susceptibility and risk. • Funding these activities will allow the leveraging of national funding and will complement the existing investment from WRC. • We also note that territorial authorities have a critical role in communicating natural hazards information to communities through the district plans and land information memoranda (LIM). Recent changes to the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) require territorial authorities to make natural hazards information known to them in LIM reports. We encourage territorial authorities to ensure the appropriate implementation of this new regulatory requirement. <p>Regional Spatial Strategy</p>	<p>WDC would work collaboratively with WRC and would appreciate any data and resources being made available.</p>

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through our 2024-2034 Long Term Plan, WRC has made a commitment to investing in the future of spatial planning for the region. We encourage your council to consider making resources available to collaborate on this important work, which will lead us to sustainable development, efficient provision of infrastructure and services needed for growth, and adequate land supply for future residential, commercial and industrial development. Coastcare • WRC leads Coastcare in the Waikato region. Restoring dunes and other coastal ecosystems has a multitude of benefits, increasing both community resilience and biodiversity values and strengthening community connections to place. • Restoration of coastal ecosystems is supported by the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (2010) as a natural defense against coastal hazards. Sand dunes provide habitat for many threatened flora and fauna species, and act as both a reservoir of sand for the beach and a buffer for property and infrastructure. • Coastcare works across both coasts of the Waikato and relies significantly on communities and volunteers to deliver much of the work programme on the ground. 	
dAP 36	Jo Wrigley - Waikato Environment Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Excerpt) The Plan should incorporate action to support local resilient food systems and the restoration of food sovereignty across the Waitomo District. • Building resilient, community-based food systems is fundamental to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhancing local climate resilience and food security - Strengthening community wellbeing and self-sufficiency - Reducing food waste and organic landfill inputs - Supporting economic development through local growers and businesses - Honouring mana whenua aspirations for whenua and kai sovereignty • To address these goals, we recommend that Council: Recognise food security and food sovereignty as key to community resilience and sustainability. • Support initiatives like community gardens, mara kai, local regenerative farming, and farmers' markets. • Integrate food resilience initiatives with waste minimisation and environmental sustainability strategies. • Partner with iwi, hapū, community organisations, and local producers to design and lead food resilience programmes. Protect and prioritise productive land for food growing in future District and Long-Term Planning. • We urge Council to begin planning for food resilience now, particularly as the district faces increased climate risks, economic challenges, and the need to strengthen local self-reliance. • Formalise a standing mechanism to embed Maniapoto environmental values into all Council infrastructure planning and decision-making. Support regenerative land-use practices and local food resilience to reduce long-term infrastructure costs and environmental harm. • Embed environmental education initiatives at public facilities, including the Transfer Station, to raise community awareness of kaitiakitanga responsibilities. • We urge the Council to make decisions that: Honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi not just in principle, but in practice. Protect the mauri of the whenua and the wai wherever Waitomo district waste might otherwise travel. 	Council recognises the importance of producing and selling food sustainably and locally, generally these activities are permitted. Council zoning rules follow the National Policy Statement for Highly Productive land. Council also supports programmes such as Enviro Schools that include food production and reducing waste.

Sub No.	Name and Organisation	Submission Points (summary)	Analysis
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invest in a future that regenerates ecosystems, creates meaningful jobs and strengthens community wellbeing, guided by indigenous values of kaitiakitanga, manaakitanga, and whakapapa. 	
dAP 42	Ruapehu District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We respectfully request that Waitomo District Council reconsider and reinstate its annual contribution of \$15,000 to the Timber Trail Marketing Stakeholder Support position. This helps maintain a balanced and fair partnership, secures external funding, and ensures the Timber Trail continues to deliver shared economic, social, and environmental value for our region. This funding forms part of a shared regional investment of \$45,000, with Ruapehu District Council contributing \$30,000. Together, this co-investment enables access to significant external funding from commercial operators and central government — all of which is dependent on meeting co-funding thresholds. Without Waitomo's contribution, this threshold is at risk. The Timber Trail is a nationally significant Great Ride. In 2024, it recorded 15,177 journeys. Based on the average reported visitor spend of \$588.60 per person, this equates to an estimated \$8.93 million in direct economic contribution to the region. This includes spending on accommodation, shuttles, trail experiences, food, and local services. These benefits are shared across Te Kūiti and the wider Waitomo District. Visitors stop in town for fuel and supplies and stay in rural locations such as Pureora and Piopio, where accommodation and shuttle services are based. This helps distribute economic activity to communities with fewer tourism levers, building resilience and supporting local enterprise. The Marketing Stakeholder Support role is more than promotional. It provides advocacy, iwi and stakeholder coordination, and leadership during a time of uncertainty, including the Department of Conservation's current review of its role in trail access and infrastructure. The return on investment is compelling. For a \$15,000 contribution, Waitomo shares in a regional benefit of more than \$8.9 million — a 600-to-1 return. This is exceptional value, without Waitomo bearing operational or infrastructure costs. 	<p>Council evaluated the funding of the Timber Trail during the Annual Plan 2023/24, the decision made at that time was Council had provided adequate support for the establishment and development over an eight year period and that the Timber Trail was at a stage of being well established at should not require significant ratepayer funding. The annual funding was ended 30 June 2023. Going forward it was decided the Timber Trail should be evaluated alongside other community groups through the Community and Partnerships funding grants. Council assessed the funding again during the development of the LTP 2024-2034 and confirmed this was the right approach to funding of the Timber Trail.</p>

5. Analysis of Options

- 5.1 The following options are available to the Council with regard to the deliberation of Submissions to Draft Annual Plan 2025-26 and Proposed Fees and Charges 2025-26.
- Option 1 - Council considers the submissions, deliberates and addresses the points raised by the submitters.
 - Option 2 - Council does not receive submissions.
- 5.2 If Council does not receive and deliberate on the submissions, this poses a risk as there may be a perception that a genuine consultation process is not being followed. Hence option 2 is not a preferred option.

6. Considerations

- 6.1 **Risk**
- 6.2 Council needs to adopt the Annual Plan by 1 July 2025, any amendments would need to be ready for adoption at the 30 June Council meeting.
- 6.3 **Consistency with Existing Plans and Policies**
- 6.4 The consultation and submission process is in line with Council's direction, existing plans, and policies.
- 6.5 **Significance and Community Views**
- 6.6 An assessment under Council's Significance and Engagement Policy was undertaken and Council considered that consultation would be undertaken in accordance with the Special Consultative Procedure under LGA.

7. Recommendation

- 7.1 The business paper on Deliberation of Submissions to Draft Annual Plan 2025-26 and Proposed Fees and Charges 2025-26 be received.
- 7.2 That the Chief Executive be delegated the authority to ensure that Council directions arising from the consideration of submissions is reflected in the responses schedule and all changes are made to the final Draft Annual Plan 2025-26, final Proposed Fees and Charges 2025-26 and any policies prior to adoption.
- 7.3 Elected members and WDC staff would like to thank all the people who engaged in the Draft Annual Plan 2025-26 and Proposed Fees and Charges 2025-26 consultation and acknowledge the time and effort made by those who made written and verbal submissions.

8. Attachments/Separate Enclosures

Attachments

- 1 Draft Rates Remission Policy (823279)
- 2 Draft Revenue and Financing Policy (823286)
- 3 Proposed Fees and Charges Schedule (823319)

Separate Enclosures

- 1 Consultation Document (824364)
- 2 Submissions (as circulated with Council Agenda of 14 May 2025)

Waitomo District Council

Draft Rates Remission Policy

(including Remissions and Postponements
of Rates on Māori Freehold Land)

2025

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INTRODUCTION | KUPU ARATAKI

In accordance with section 85 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 (LGRA).

- i. A local authority may remit all or part of the rates on a rating unit (including penalties for unpaid rates) if –
 - a) The local authority has adopted a remissions policy under section 102 of the Local Government Act (LGA), and

The local authority is satisfied that the conditions and criteria in the policy are met. The local authority must give notice to the ratepayer identifying the remitted rates.

Section 102 (3A) of the LGA prescribes that the Rates Remission Policy must support the principles set out in the Preamble to Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993. In preparing this policy Council has considered the Preamble, as well as the purpose and core principles of the Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993.

PURPOSE AND SCOPE | TE ARONGA ME TE KORAHĪ

The purpose of the Rates Remission Policy (RRP) is to allow for rates remissions on eligible properties, including Māori freehold land.

The RRP provides for the remission of rates for the following remission categories:

- Remission of Rates for Properties used jointly as a single unit.
- Remissions for Community Organisations and Clubs and Societies.
- Remission for Organisations providing Care for the Elderly.
- Remission of Rates on Māori Freehold land.
- Remission of Penalties.
- Remission of Rates and/or penalties following a rating sale or an abandoned land sale.
- Remission of Rates for New Residential Subdivisions.
- Remission of Rates in Cases of Genuine Financial Hardship.
- Remission of Rates in Cases of Land Affected by Natural Calamity.
- Remission of Rates for New Businesses.

Land protected for conservation purposes is excluded from the Remission Policy as Council is of the view that the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 provides adequately for this type of land.

Land that is subject to the following is considered to be non-rateable under Schedule 1 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002:

- Queen Elizabeth the Second (QEII) covenant.
- Nga Whenua Rahui Kawenata (from 1 July 2021).
- National Park under the National Parks Act 1980.
- Conservation area under the Conservation Act 1987.
- Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977.
- Wildlife management reserve, wildlife refuge, or wildlife sanctuary under the Wildlife Act 1953.
- Land owned by a society or association of persons that is used for conservation or preservation purposes, not used for private pecuniary profit and able to be accessed by the general public.

DELEGATION TO OPERATE, APPLICATION PROCESS AND REVIEW OF DECISIONS

The Chief Executive is delegated the authority to apply the Rates Remission Policy. Access to the rate remission arrangements is by way of application to the Council by the owner or occupier of the rating unit(s) or by staff who may process applications on behalf of owners of unoccupied and unproductive Māori freehold land.

In the event that any applicant for remission of rates, seeks a review of any decision taken under delegation, the following process shall be followed:

- a) Any application for review shall be made in writing, on the prescribed form, outlining the reasons for seeking a review and including appropriate documentation in support.

Note: Additional information may be requested to allow a better understanding of the merits and background of the application.

- b) The application will be investigated and the application together with a report and recommendation thereon will be submitted to a meeting of the Council for its consideration and decision.
- c) The decision of the Council will be final, and the applicant will be notified of the decision within 10 working days of the decision being made.
- d) A schedule of all remissions processed will be maintained and advised annually to the Audit Risk and Finance Committee.

DEFINITIONS | NGĀ WHAKAMĀRAMATANGA

Hapu	Whanau groups descended from their own hereditary ancestor.
Indigenous flora and fauna	Plants and animals originating from New Zealand.
Land used for farming purposes	Land used for 'pasturage'; being, the business of feeding or grazing livestock.
Māori customary land	Land held under the customs and usages of the Māori people, the title to which has not been investigated by the Māori Land Court.
Māori freehold land	Māori freehold land is defined in Section 5 of the LGRA as land whose beneficial ownership has been determined by the Māori Land Court by freehold order. Māori freehold land is liable for rates in the same manner as if it were general land, subject to the provisions of Part 4 of the LGRA.
Ratepayer	Is the person or persons identified in our rating information database as the person liable for rates – generally that person is the owner of the rating unit.
Remission	Means the requirement to pay the rate for a particular financial year is forgiven in whole or in part in accordance with this policy.
Tangata Whenua	Māori people of a particular area or as a whole as the original inhabitants of New Zealand. Māori people of the land in their tribal area.
Taonga tuku iho	Legacy, treasure.

Unoccupied or unproductive Land

Land will be defined as unoccupied or unproductive unless there is a person, whether with a beneficial interest in the land or not, who, alone or with others, carries out any of the following activities on the land:

(a) Leases the land; and/or

(b) Does **any** of the following things on the land, with the intention of making a profit or for any other benefit:

1. Resides on the land;
2. De-pastures or maintains livestock on the land;
3. Stores anything on the land;
4. Beehives are located on the land; or
5. Uses the land in any other way.

Waahi tapu

Means land set apart under Section 338(1) (b) of the Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993 (a place of special significance according to tikanga Māori).

Whanau

Extended family in which a person is born and socialised.

POLICY | KAUPAPA HERE

Council may provide rates remission on eligible properties that meet the conditions and criteria specified under each remission category.

REMISSION CATEGORIES

1. Remission of Rates for Properties Used Jointly as a Single Unit

1.1 Objectives

1.1.1 This remission category addresses land ownership and land use situations that fall outside the limitation defined by Section 20 of the LGRA.

1.1.2 Objectives of this policy are:

- a) To extend the definitions of ownership and contiguous land as contained in Section 20 (a) and (c) of the LGRA.
- b) To assist the use of rateable land as part of a farming operation where not all the rateable land is contiguous with land owned, or occupied under long term lease, by the same person or persons but is nevertheless used jointly as a single farming unit. The intention being to ensure that the use of such rateable land for farming purposes is not disadvantaged by the obligation to pay multiple UAGCs and other Targeted uniform annual charges – (i.e. all rates other than those charged on the basis of capital value).
- c) To assist ongoing rural economic development by removing a UAGC and Targeted uniform annual charge liability that might create a cost barrier to the efficient integration of non-contiguous land into one farming operation.
- d) To assist in the utilisation of unoccupied, undeveloped land in township areas to achieve:
 - i. Good land management,
 - ii. An improvement to visual amenity values,
 - iii. Better environmental outcomes through assisting in weed and pest management,
 - iv. Reduction of risk of fire hazard and to public health.

- 1.1.3 By enabling contiguous or non-contiguous vacant sections that are owned or occupied under long term lease by the same person or persons and used jointly as a single unit that might otherwise be unfairly disadvantaged by way of the obligation to pay multiple UAGCs and other Targeted uniform annual charges.

1.2 Conditions and Criteria

1.2.1. Rateable Land used for Farming Purposes

Eligible farming properties are those where:

- a) The applicant is the owner or can demonstrate a long term interest in two or more separately rateable rural farm properties and that two or more of those properties are used for farming purposes; and
- b) The properties are used jointly as a single farm property for the purpose of carrying out a farming operation; and
- c) The property for which the remission is sought does not carry sufficient improvements to allow it to be operated as a separate farming unit; and
- d) The land for which the remission is sought is not occupied by a habitable dwelling.

1.2.2. Rateable land located within Waitomo District townships

Eligible properties within townships are those where:

- a) The applicant is the owner or holds a written long-term interest in two or more separately rateable properties that may or may not be contiguous; and
- b) The properties are used jointly as a single property; and
- c) The property for which the remission is sought does not carry improvements exceeding \$1,000 in value and is not occupied by a dwelling.
- d) The property for which the remission is sought must be maintained in good order and repair as ascertained by the Council.

Application for remission of rates on properties used jointly as a single unit must be made on a 3 yearly basis to ensure continued eligibility for remission. Applicants are required to apply prior to the commencement of the rating year and no later than 30 April. It is the responsibility of the owner or person holding a long-term interest in the property to notify Council of any change in circumstance in the interim period.

1.2.3. Extent of Remission

For eligible properties that may be treated as a single rating unit by meeting the conditions and criteria in this category, Council may remit the UAGC(s) and other targeted uniform annual charges. For the avoidance of any doubt, the number of rates charged on the basis of SUIP will equal the number of SUIPs; and there will be one charge for each targeted fixed annual rate based on rating unit.

2. Remissions for Community Organisations and Clubs and Societies

2.1 Objectives

- 2.1.1 This remission category provides rates remission to eligible 'not for profit' community organisations and recreational clubs and societies in the Waitomo District that meet the conditions and criteria of this category.

2.1.2 Objectives of this policy are:

- a) To recognise the value of encouraging participation in active and passive recreation.
- b) To extend the arrangement provided for in the LGRA (for arts and heritage groups on Council land), to similar arts and heritage groups on private land.
- c) To recognise the value of community organisations in the District by providing rates remission including but not limited to those 'not for profit' organisations which exist primarily for the provision of emergency services, community halls, museums, art galleries, marae, churches and pre-schools.
- d) To support the development of arts and culture in the Waitomo District.
- e) To support the development of sport and physical recreation in the Waitomo District by providing rates remission for private clubs at the same level as those clubs located on and having long term tenure over Council owned land which is non-rateable under Schedule 1, Part 1 (4) of the LGRA.

2.2 Conditions and criteria

2.2.1 To be eligible for this remission the following criteria must be satisfied:

- The land must be used exclusively or principally for sporting, recreation, or community purposes,
- Organisations must be 'not for profit' and/or for charitable purposes.

2.2.2 Organisations who exist for private pecuniary profit or engage in recreational, sporting or community services as a secondary purpose are not eligible.

2.2.3 Council retains discretion as to whether to grant a remission in any particular case.

2.3 Extent of remissions

2.3.1 Eligible organisations will receive a rates remission of 100% of the assessed Rates INCLUDING service charges EXCEPT for a maximum of one Targeted Rate charge, set for each of water, sewerage and solid waste collection services.

2.3.2 For avoidance of doubt - any rating unit with sewerage pan charges over and above the sewerage base charge will receive 100% remission of the pan charges.

2.3.3 Any eligible rating unit that is within 30 metres of the sewerage network and/or 100 metres from the water network, but is not connected, will have the serviceability rate/s remitted.

2.3.4 Any organisation opting for a private solid waste collection arrangement will not pay the solid waste collection rate and would not receive a collection service.

2.4 Applications

2.4.1 Organisations that have not previously received a remission must complete an application form for rates remission. Applications must be received by Council by 30 April.

2.4.2 For organisations that have previously received rates remission, an application form needs to be completed by the organisation every 3 years to confirm that the land-use remains eligible for remissions for the subsequent 3 years. Applications must be received by Council by 30 April, prior to the commencement of the rating year.

2.4.3 A completed application MUST be received before a rates remission can be considered. It is the responsibility of the applicant to notify Council of any change in circumstance in the interim period between applications.

2.4.4 Organisations making application should include the following in support of their application:

- Statement of objectives
- Full financial accounts
- Information of activities and programmes
- Details of membership

2.4.5 Organisations making application should ensure that the application provides sufficient information to demonstrate that:

- Their activities benefit or are available to the entire community
- They are currently operative
- They are 'not for profit' and/or for charitable purposes
- The land for which they are seeking remission is exclusively or principally for sporting, recreation, or community purposes.

3 Remission for Organisations Providing Care for the Elderly

3.1 Objectives

3.1.1 This remission category provides remission for eligible community-based organisations that provide care for the Elderly when they meet the specified conditions and criteria for this category.

3.1.2 Council wishes to support community-based organisations that provide much needed facilities and services for the Elderly within the Waitomo District. The intent is to recognise and assist those organisations that provide specialised care for the Elderly who, in the absence of such services, may need to relocate outside of the Waitomo District, away from family and friends.

3.1.3 Objectives of this policy are:

- To support those organisations that provide facilities and services that care for and enable the Elderly to reside in the Waitomo District.
- To support Council's commitment for Waitomo to be a district which values its older people, promotes their meaningful contribution to the community, and facilitates a positive ageing experience for all.
- To recognise the ageing population of New Zealand and this District, Council aims to facilitate and support the provision of a range of accessible, safe and affordable housing for the elderly.

3.2 Conditions and criteria

3.2.1 This remission arrangement is available on application on a 3 yearly basis by qualifying organisations **which**:

- Are charitable organisation(s). Charitable organisations are organisations (incorporated or not) that carry out charitable activities or exist exclusively for charitable purposes. For an organisation's purposes to be charitable its activities or aims must be for public purposes - the benefit must be available to a large part of the community. In addition, it must not be carried on for the benefit or profit of any individual or group; and

- Provide Rest Home level of care to the Elderly. Rest Home level of care is defined as the provision of 'everyday living assistance' to the Elderly who are fully dependent on other people to assist them with everyday life (e.g. to cook, clean, shower, etc); and/or
- Provide Hospital Level Care for the Elderly. Hospital level care is defined as provision of palliative care type facilities, the ability to prescribe medicines as per national health standards and have the requisite number of trained nurses as per national and DHB health standards.
- For the avoidance of any doubt, a charitable organisation that provides rest home level care and provides low-cost rental housing to elderly residents to assist with funding of rest home operations, may be eligible for remission on the low-cost rental units. To be eligible, the low-cost rental housing for elderly residents must be located on or be contiguous to the rating unit occupied by the rest home.

3.2.2 It is the responsibility of the Organisation to notify Council of any change in circumstance in the interim period between applications.

3.3 Extent of remission

3.3.1 Organisations that demonstrate compliance with the criteria will receive a rates remission of 100% of assessed rates EXCLUDING service charges set for Water, Sewerage and Solid Waste Collection. Any organisation opting for a private Solid Waste Collection arrangement will not pay the Solid Waste Collection Rate and would not receive a Collection Service.

3.4 Piopio Retirement Trust Board

- In recognition of the unique situation that exists with the Piopio Retirement Village and of the invaluable role it plays within the Piopio community, both now and for in the future, an annual rate remission is available as detailed below.
- A single pumped tank is located at the low point near the entrance to the Village, including connection to the main sewer.
- The Piopio Retirement Village will receive an annual rates remission of ten service charges for Sewerage and 50% of ten service charges for Solid Waste Collection, Solid Waste Management and Water Supply.
- Every three years a declaration is required from the Piopio Retirement Village confirming that the status of the Trust has not changed. It is the responsibility of the Trust to advise Council of any change in circumstance in the interim period between declarations.
- Council retains the right to review and/or withdraw its support to the Piopio Retirement Village at any time should circumstances change.
- The annual remission for the Piopio Retirement Village will form part of Council's total annual rates remission budget and it will be separately funded by way of a Targeted Uniform Annual Charge (TUAC) levied on all rateable units situated within the Piopio Township and the Piopio Wider Benefit Rating Areas.

4 Remission of Rates on Māori Freehold Land

4.1 Objectives

4.1.1 This policy is prepared pursuant to Sections 102 and 108 of the LGA and Section 114 of the LGRA. In preparing this policy Council has considered the matters set out in Schedule 11 of the LGA as well as the Preamble, purpose and core principles of the Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993.

4.1.2 Māori freehold land is defined in the LGRA (Section 5) as land whose beneficial ownership has been determined by the Māori Land Court by freehold order. Māori Freehold Land is liable for rates in the same manner as if it were general land, subject to the provisions of Part 4 of the LGRA.

4.1.3 Other than Māori freehold land that may from time to time be exempted by an Order in Council (as provided for in Section 116 LGRA), this policy does not provide for permanent remission or postponement of rates on all other Māori freehold land recognising the potential for changes in circumstance and land use.

4.1.4 The objectives of this policy are to:

- Support the use of the land by the owners for traditional purposes
- Recognise and support the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land
- Avoid further alienation of Māori freehold land
- Support the owners to develop or convert unproductive and unoccupied land for
- economic use
- Ensure the fair and equitable collection of rates from all sectors of the community, recognising that certain Māori owned lands have particular conditions, features, ownership structures, or other circumstances that make it appropriate to provide relief from rates.

4.1.5 For the purposes of this policy, rates are deemed to include penalties.

4.2 Land changed under the Māori Affairs Amendment Act 1967

4.2.1 The Māori Affairs Amendment Act 1967 introduced compulsory conversion of Māori freehold land with four or fewer owners into general land. There was strong opposition to this Act, which resulted in the legislation being repealed in 1974. Since that time many of the properties have remained general land on the title, however the substance of the land is Māori freehold land and in every practical sense the land changed under the repealed Act should be treated as such.

4.2.2 Accordingly, all land that was changed to general land as part of the Māori Affairs Amendment Act 1967 is considered to be Māori freehold land for the purposes of this remission policy and owners of such land may apply for all 3 categories of remission.

4.3 Remission categories

4.3.1 This policy provides two categories of remission:

Category A: Māori Freehold Land – Unoccupied and Unproductive Land Blocks

Category B: Māori Freehold Land – Economic Use and Development

4.4 Māori freehold land register

4.4.1 Council will maintain a register titled the Māori Freehold Land Rates Remission Register for the purpose of recording the rating units for which rates are remitted pursuant to this Policy. The Register will comprise of two category lists, these being:

Category A: The 'Māori Freehold Land Unoccupied and Unproductive Remissions List', used to achieve objectives detailed in schedule 1

Category B: The 'Māori Freehold Land Economic Use and Development Remissions List' used to achieve objectives detailed in schedule 2

4.5 Applications

4.5.1 Applications for all categories must be made on the prescribed form and must be received by Council prior to the commencement of the rating year and no later than 30 April.

4.5.2 The application must be supported by sufficient supporting information to allow an informed decision to be made in respect of the application, including but not limited to the following:

- Evidence that the identified owner, agent of owner or occupier has full control over the property.
- A copy of any agreements or licenses to operate on the land.
- A description of the intended use of the land, and a statement as to how the objectives defined under this policy will be achieved by the granting of rates remission.
- Other documentation that Council may require to make a decision, such as historical, ancestral, cultural, archaeological, geographical or topographical information.

4.6 Duration

4.6.1 Remission applications approved under Category A (Māori Freehold Land Unoccupied and Unproductive Land Blocks) will receive remission for three years. A reapplication will be required triennially.

4.6.2 The duration of remission applications approved under Category B (Economic Use and Development) are detailed in Schedule 2 of this policy.

4.6.3 Where a remission of rates is made, the obligation is on the applicant to advise any change of use that might affect the eligibility of the land for any remission.

4.6.4 Council will monitor on an ongoing basis the use of any Māori freehold land receiving rate remission under this policy. If the status of the land changes, in that it no longer complies with the criteria, rates will be payable from the following rating year.

***Note** – Council will require that any rates remissions be repaid where the failure to notify Council of a change in circumstance impacts on the eligibility of the land for a rate remission.*

4.7 Appeals

4.7.1 Appeals relating to decisions taken on the eligibility of Māori freehold land for rates remissions will follow the process outlined at the start of this Policy - Delegation to Operate, Application Process and Review of Decisions.

4.8 Payment arrangement

4.8.1 Where Māori Freehold land is not otherwise eligible for a remission under any section of this policy, Council may negotiate with the landowner to write off all arrears and penalties if current rates are met over a period of 2 years.

5 Remission of Penalties

5.1 Objectives

5.1.1 This remission category outlines the remission of penalties incurred by way of late or non-payment of rates, in accordance with Section 85 of the LGRA. Penalties are incurred for late or non-payment of rates in accordance with the amount set annually in Council's Funding

Impact Statement.

5.1.2 The objective is to enable Council to act fairly and reasonably in its consideration of overdue rates in certain circumstances.

5.2 Conditions and criteria

5.2.1 Remissions for late or non-payment of rates will be considered on the following grounds:

Circumstance	Policy and Criteria	Delegation										
Extenuating circumstances	<p>Remission of a penalty incurred on an instalment will be considered in the following circumstances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ratepayer has a good payment history. Extenuating personal circumstances such as family illness, death or other tragedy. In circumstances considered just and equitable. 	<p>Customer and Information Manager</p> <p>Customer Services Team Leader</p> <p>or</p> <p>General Manager – Community services</p>										
Approved Payment Arrangement (Includes time to pay arrangements and lump sum arrangements)	<p>Penalties will not be levied where an Approved Payment Arrangement of a minimum amount has been made based on the arrears total as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Arrears total</th> <th>Minimum amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0 - \$5,000</td> <td>Payment Arrangement of 1.25 times the Annual Rates</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$5,001 - \$10,000</td> <td>Payment Arrangement of 1.5 times the Annual Rates</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$10,001 - \$20,000</td> <td>Payment Arrangement of 2 times the Annual Rates</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$20,000</td> <td>A Lump Sum payment is required to bring the balance to less than \$20,000 and then a payment arrangement of 2 times the Annual Rates</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Arrears total	Minimum amount	0 - \$5,000	Payment Arrangement of 1.25 times the Annual Rates	\$5,001 - \$10,000	Payment Arrangement of 1.5 times the Annual Rates	\$10,001 - \$20,000	Payment Arrangement of 2 times the Annual Rates	Over \$20,000	A Lump Sum payment is required to bring the balance to less than \$20,000 and then a payment arrangement of 2 times the Annual Rates	<p>Sub-Committee (CEO and Chief Financial Officer)</p>
Arrears total	Minimum amount											
0 - \$5,000	Payment Arrangement of 1.25 times the Annual Rates											
\$5,001 - \$10,000	Payment Arrangement of 1.5 times the Annual Rates											
\$10,001 - \$20,000	Payment Arrangement of 2 times the Annual Rates											
Over \$20,000	A Lump Sum payment is required to bring the balance to less than \$20,000 and then a payment arrangement of 2 times the Annual Rates											
	<p>Current and historic penalties will be remitted where all rates have been paid in full under an approved payment arrangement.</p> <p>Council will consider remitting penalties that are already levied or yet to be incurred for remissions on a case by case basis.</p>	<p>Sub-Committee (CEO and Chief Financial Officer)</p>										
Penalties associated with remissions	<p>Penalties will not be levied where all or a portion of the rates assessed have been remitted under another part of the policy.</p>	<p>Sub-Committee (CEO and Chief Financial Officer)</p>										

5.2.2 Penalties will only be remitted provided that no previous penalties have been remitted within the past two rating years. In the case of penalties as a result of Council error, these are considered a correction rather than a remission and therefore fall outside of the remission policy.

5.2.3 To be eligible for these remissions, ratepayers must use direct debit payment, unless there are exceptional circumstances preventing this.

5.2.4 All penalties remitted shall be recorded in the Penalty Remission Register, where the amount remitted is over \$10 for any individual ratepayer.

6 Remission of Rates and/or Penalties Following a Rating Sale or Abandoned Land Sale

6.1 Objectives

6.1.1 This remission category provides for rates remission of rates arrears and penalties where a rating unit comes under new ownership as the consequence of either a rating sale or lease under sections 67 through to section 76 or sale of abandoned land as per sections 77 through to 83 of the LGRA.

6.1.2 The objective of this remission category is to allow for any remaining arrears or penalties following sale of abandoned land, or rating sale or lease, to be remitted so that the new owner begins with a nil balance.

6.2 Conditions and criteria

6.2.1 Any debt outstanding on a rating unit after application of proceeds from a rating sale or lease may be remitted following application by Council Staff.

6.2.2 Any debt outstanding on a rating unit after application of proceeds from the sale of abandoned land may be remitted following application by Council Staff.

6.2.3 Where any rating unit meets the definition of abandoned land as prescribed in section 77(1) of the LGRA and that land is unable to be sold using the authority provided to Council in sections 77-83 of the LGRA, then all rates may be remitted on an annual basis by application of Council staff.

7 Remission of Rates for New Residential Subdivisions

7.1 Objectives

7.1.1 This remission category provides for remission of rates to assist the establishment of new residential subdivisions by providing temporary rates relief from UAGCs assessed against individual vacant lots prior to sale. This remission category provides for the remission of UAGCs for the first full year following subdivision for residential use of 3 vacant lots or more. In that situation multiple lots will be treated as one rating unit. Application of remissions for one full rating year following subdivision provides incentive to sell as intended, but recognises that a full year may be required to achieve the developer's aim.

7.1.2 Objectives of this policy are:

- To provide a one-off remission of rates assessed against land held in separate title and forming part of a new residential subdivision so as to limit the impact of multiple UAGCs in the first year.
- To encourage development within Waitomo District by providing a one off remission to the subdivider or developer of any UAGC assessed against the newly created lot(s).

7.2 Conditions and criteria

7.2.1 The remission will be available for land that:

- Has been subdivided into 3 or more vacant residential lots where the Titles have been issued; and
- The unsold lots remain in the ownership of the original subdivider/developer and the land has yet to be sold on to subsequent purchasers.

7.3 Extent of Remission

- 7.3.1 A remission will be made for 100% of the UAGC for each unsold vacant residential lot, except one.
- 7.3.2 The remission will only be made for the first full rating year following the creation of the new residential lots following subdivision.

8 Remission of Rates for Cases of Financial Hardship

8.1 Objectives

- 8.1.1 The objective of this policy is to provide relief for residential ratepayers and 'not for profit' community organisations experiencing extreme financial hardship.

8.2 Applications

- 8.2.1 Where an application for rates relief due to financial hardship is received, Council may remit all or part of rates relating to a rating unit.
- 8.2.2 Applications on the grounds of financial hardship are considered only when exceptional financial circumstances exist. Approved remissions are therefore a result of an extraordinary situation and should be recognised as an exception from the ratepayer's legal obligation to pay rates.
- 8.2.3 An application for remission on the grounds of financial hardship can be lodged in any year that such hardship exists.
- 8.2.4 Council will consider, on a case-by-case basis, applications received that meet the criteria detailed in section 8.3 and 8.4 of this policy.
- 8.2.5 The Chief Executive is delegated authority to decline an application or remit rates, including arrears, of up to \$2,000 in any one case.
- 8.2.6 The Chief Executive will provide Council with a regular monitoring report on all applications received for a hardship rates remission, and the decisions made.

8.3 Residential rating units

8.3.1 Conditions and criteria

Council will consider, on a case-by-case basis, applications received that meet the following criteria:

- a) Preference will be given to rating units used solely for residential purposes (as defined by Council) when consideration is made for rates remission in cases of financial hardship.
- b) A ratepayer making an application must be the registered owner and occupier.
- c) A ratepayer making an application must not own any other rating units or investment properties (whether in the district or in another district).
- d) The ratepayer must supply sufficient evidence, including financial statements, to
- e) satisfy the Council that extreme financial hardship exists.
- f) When considering an application, the ratepayer's personal circumstances will be relevant such as age, physical or mental ability, injury, illness and family circumstances.
- g) Before approving an application, Council must be satisfied that the ratepayer is unlikely to have sufficient funds left over, after making the payment of rates, for normal health care, proper provision for maintenance of his or her home and chattels at an adequate standard as well as making provision for normal day to day living expenses.

- h) The applicant must provide sufficient evidence on how they plan to meet their rating commitment going forward.
- i) It is expected that the ratepayer will pay a minimum of the value of the Uniform Annual General Charge per annum towards his/her rates account. However, each case will be considered on its merits.
- j) If the applicant is eligible for a Rates Rebate then such application must be made at the time of applying for rates relief due to financial hardship.

8.4 Not for profit community organisations

8.4.1 Conditions and criteria

Council will consider, on a case-by-case basis, applications received that meet the following criteria:

- a) The organisation must supply sufficient evidence, including financial statements, to satisfy the Council that extreme financial hardship exists.
- b) The organisation must provide sufficient evidence on how it plans to meet their rating commitment going forward.
- c) An application for remission on the grounds of financial hardship must be lodged
- d) annually. The remission is only available for a maximum of two years.
- e) Remission is not available for service charges relating to water, sewerage and solid waste collection.

9 Remission of Rates in Cases of Land Affected by Natural Calamity

9.1 Objectives

The objective of this policy is to assist ratepayers affected by events outside of their control which effects their ability to use any rating unit owned by them that is the consequence of a natural calamity.

9.2 Conditions and criteria

- a) Rates remission is available for properties that have been detrimentally affected by erosion, subsidence, submersion, earthquake or other calamity are considered. Approved remissions are therefore a result of an extraordinary situation and should be recognised as an exception from the ratepayer's legal obligation to pay rates.
- b) Where an application for rates due to land effected by natural calamity is received Council may remit all or part of the rates relating to a rating unit.
- c) The rating unit is unusable or uninhabitable as a result of a natural calamity.
- d) First application must be made by the ratepayer within 3 months of the event. Any remissions granted will apply to the current rating year.
- e) For properties that are unusable or uninhabitable as a result of a calamity, and are able to be restored (but have not yet been restored), remission applications for future years are required annually by 30 April prior to the commencement of the rating year for which remission is sought.
- f) For properties that are unable to be used now or in the future, or where access has

been prohibited by WDC, rates remission will be granted for 3 years or until the restriction imposed by WDC has been removed.

- g) All applications must be in writing and supported by documentary evidence as to the extent of the damage.
- h) The amount of the remission is at the discretion of the CEO and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- i) In the event of the rating unit being permanently eroded and where the rating unit now forms part of the coastal marine area, the Council may grant permanent remission of all rates and penalties charged in the financial year in which the event occurred and the years following the event.
- j) In the ratepayers absence, Council staff may apply remissions in their absence on a permanent basis.

10 Remission of Rates for New Businesses

10.1 Objectives

- 10.1.1 To promote employment and economic development within the District by assisting new businesses.

10.2 Conditions and criteria

- a) Rates remission may be granted to a new business where that business supports community development and productivity and provides goods and services within the community.
- b) Remission of rates is available to commercial and/or industrial development that involves the construction, erection or alteration of any building or buildings, fixed plant and machinery, or other works intended to be used for industrial, commercial or administrative purposes.
- c) Residential developments will not qualify for remission.
- d) Remission of rates is available to new businesses or new development established within the past 12 months.
- e) Applications must be made in writing and supported by:
 - i. A description of the development
 - ii. A plan of the development (where possible)
 - iii. An estimate of costs
 - iv. An estimate of the likely number of jobs to be created
- f) In considering applications for the remission under this part of the policy the Council will have regard to the following:
 - i. The development is of importance for the future economic development of the District as demonstrated by the scale, type or nature of the development.
 - ii. The number of new employment opportunities the business/development will create. Generally, development would be expected to create a minimum of one new full time equivalent job.

- iii. The amount of new capital investment the development/business will bring into the District.
 - iv. For avoidance of doubt a small new business with at least one employee would also be considered eligible.
 - v. The business demonstrates a long-term commitment to remain and operate in the District. Property ownership or a long-term lease of the property may be accepted as proof of commitment.
 - vi. The development protects or retains cultural aspects of the district e.g. maintains and protects a heritage building. The development adds improved, new and/or visibly attractive infrastructure or buildings to the District where it would be commercially otherwise unviable to do so.
- g) All applications will be assessed on a case by case basis under the authority of the Chief Executive and are subject to a threshold remission of 50% of rates assessed for a maximum duration of one year. The remission excludes services charges for water, sewerage and solid waste collection services.

SCHEDULE 1 | WAHANGA 1

1. Category A: Māori Freehold Land – Unoccupied and Unproductive Land Blocks

1.1. Objectives

1.1.1. The remission of rates on Māori freehold land pursuant to Section 108 and Schedule 11, LGA 2002, and in recognition of the Preamble and objectives of the Te Ture Whenua Māori Act, recognises that:

- a) There are situations where there is no occupier or person gaining economic or financial benefit from the use of, or habitation on the land.
- b) Some freehold Māori land might be better set-apart from development because of its natural features, significant vegetation and/or habitat, and cultural significance.
- c) Physical access to some Māori freehold land is not available or is not practicable.
- d) Takes into account the presence of waahi tapu that may limit the use of the land for other purposes.
- e) A remission of rates should apply to portions of land not occupied, where part of a block of land is occupied.
- f) Assessing rates against certain Māori freehold land might limit or restrict the development of an economic use of the land.
- g) Council should support the use of the land by owners for traditional purposes and the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands.
- h) Council and the community benefit through the efficient collection of rates that are properly payable and the removal of rating debt that is considered non-collectable.

1.2. Conditions and criteria

In order for a property, or part of a property to qualify for a rates remission under this remission category, it must meet all of the required criteria and at least one of the optional criteria:

1.2.1. Required Criteria

A property must be:

- a) Māori freehold land as defined in the LGRA or land changed to general land under the Māori Affairs Amendment Act 1967; and
- b) Unoccupied and unproductive as defined in the 'Definitions'.

1.2.2. Optional Criteria

A property must be/have at least one of the following:

- a) The presence of waahi tapu that may affect the use of the land or other purposes;
- b) Better set aside and protected from use because of its special cultural significance and unique natural features;
- c) Better set aside and protected from use to protect the indigenous flora and fauna located on the land;
- d) A traditional and important food source for Tangata Whenua;

- e) A traditional and important source for cultural, medicinal, symbolic and spiritual needs of Tangata Whenua;
- f) Important tribal landmarks significant to Tangata Whenua;
- g) Important water catchment system to Tangata Whenua for sustaining physical and spiritual values;

Accessibility issues due to:

- i. The property being landlocked;
- ii. Access is legally available by paper road or easement but the road does not exist;
- iii. A road ends or passes the property but a river, ravine, cliff or other impediment prevents practical access;
- iv. In a natural and undeveloped state, and will continue to remain in such state;
- v. Prevented from being productive or used due to the size, location, lack of fencing or some other feature.

1.3. Dwellings on Māori freehold land

- 1.3.1. Where there is one or more dwelling/s on the land, Council may establish and identify separately used or inhabited parts of the rating unit. The separately used or inhabited portion of the rating unit will be defined based on the area occupied, and/or the area unproductive and unoccupied as identified by the owner/s and confirmed by Council.
- 1.3.2. Rates charged on the separately used or inhabited portion of the property will remain payable.

1.4. Beehives on Māori freehold land

- 1.4.1. Where there are beehives located on the land for the purposes of harvesting honey, Council may establish and identify separately used or inhabited parts of the rating unit. The separately used or inhabited portion of the rating unit will be defined based on the area in use for the purposes of harvesting honey, and/or the area unproductive and unoccupied as identified by the owner/s and confirmed by Council.
- 1.4.2. Rates charged on the separately used or inhabited portion of the property will remain payable.

1.5. Extent of remissions

- 1.5.1. Eligible Māori Freehold Land under Category A will receive 100% of all rates charged except targeted rates set for water supply, sewage disposal and solid waste collection services.
- 1.5.2. Where a separately used part of the property has been identified (as per section 1.3.1 and 1.3.2 above) the remission will relate to the unoccupied and unproductive portion of the property only. Council's Valuation Service Provider will assess the capital value of the unoccupied and unproductive portion and on this basis, a remission will be processed on any rates charged on the basis of capital value.

1.6. Applications on behalf of owners

- 1.6.1. Council staff may process applications on behalf of owners of unoccupied and unproductive Māori Freehold Land that satisfies the criteria set out in section 1.2. where after due enquiry the owners of an unoccupied block cannot be found.
- 1.6.2. Decisions on these remissions are to be made directly by the Chief Executive on the recommendation of officers and may include rate remissions for 3 years on qualifying Māori freehold land for current year rates and rates arrears, including penalties.

SCHEDULE 2 | WAHANGA 2

1. Category B: Māori Freehold Land – Economic Use and Development

1.1. Objectives

- 1.1.1. The remission of rates on Māori freehold land pursuant to Section 108 and Schedule 11, LGA 2002, section 114A of the LGRA, and in recognition of the Preamble and the objectives of the Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993, recognises that assessing rates against certain Māori Freehold Land might limit or restrict the development of an economic use of the land.
- 1.1.2. The objective for remission under this category is to help facilitate the occupation, development and utilisation of otherwise unoccupied or unproductive Māori freehold land, for the benefits of its owners, their whanau and their hapu, through a progressive stepped application of a full liability for the payment of rates, over an agreed period.

1.2. Conditions and criteria

- 1.2.1. Where there is an intention to make economic use of the land, or a clear intent to progressively develop the economic use of the land over time, Council may enter into a remission of rates arrangement with the Trustees/Owner(s) or Occupier(s) where the Council is satisfied such an arrangement will encourage economic use through development over time.
- 1.2.2. Council must be satisfied that the development is likely to have any or all of the following benefits:
- a) Benefits to the district by creating new employment opportunities
 - b) Benefits to the district by creating new homes
 - c) Benefits to the Council by increasing the Council's rating base in the long term
 - d) Benefits to the Māori of the district by providing support for Marae in the district
 - e) Benefits to the owners by facilitating the occupation, development, and utilisation of the land.
- 1.2.3. In addition to the information required under section 4.5 of this policy, applicants must also provide:
- a) A written plan setting out the planned economic use of the land or the planned economic development against a five year timeline prepared by a suitable person holding authority over the land and responsible for the planned use.
 - b) Any other documentation that the Council may require to make an assessment.

1.3. Extent of remissions

- 1.3.1. At Council's discretion during the annual review and/or with negotiations with the land owner/s or trustees, a staged rates requirement will be implemented with the following being taken into account:
- a) The expected duration of the development or any stage of the development; and
 - b) If the land is being developed for a commercial purpose, when the ratepayer or ratepayers are likely to generate income from the development; and
 - c) If the development involves the building of 1 or more dwellings, when the ratepayer or any other persons are likely to be able to reside in the dwellings.
- 1.3.2. Generally remissions will be applied according to the following schedule, however, each application will be considered on an individual basis:
- | | |
|--------|-----------------------------------------|
| Year 1 | Not less than 20% payable for that year |
| Year 2 | Not less than 40% payable for that year |
| Year 3 | Not less than 60% payable for that year |
| Year 4 | Not less than 80% payable for that year |
| Year 5 | 100% payable for that year. |

- 1.3.3. No remission will be granted on Targeted Rates for water supply, sewage disposal, and solid waste collection services.
- 1.3.4. Where an approved remission under Category B is in place, any arrears may be remitted if current and future rates are met over a period of 2 years.

Waitomo District Council

Draft Revenue and Financing Policy

First adopted	
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INTRODUCTION | KUPU ARATAKI

Under Section 102 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA 2002), all local authorities are required to adopt a Revenue and Financing Policy (RFP).

The RFP provides details of Council's policies in respect of funding operating and capital expenditure, including how the policy was developed and what sources are used to fund the different activities. Total funding comprises a funding mix of rates, fees and charges, debt and other income.

The application of the RFP is reflected in the Funding Impact Statement for a particular financial year. To understand the rating impact of the policy it needs to be read in conjunction with the Funding Impact Statement.

This policy complies with the legislative requirements of section 103 the LGA 2002 which sets out a number of factors that Council has to consider in determining its RFP.

PURPOSE AND SCOPE | TE ARONGA ME TE KORAHĪ

The purpose of the RFP is to set out how the operating and capital expenditure of each of Council's activities is to be funded – that is, who pays for what, how and why. The Policy outlines:

- Available funding mechanism (e.g. rates, fees, borrowings, subsidies and grants etc),
- Council's funding considerations (i.e. the decision about how each Council Activity is to be funded and the process followed to reach the decision), including
 - Funding of operating costs (i.e., the funding mix Council has chosen for each Activity's operating costs), and
 - Funding of capital costs (i.e., the funding mix Council has chosen for each type of capital investment).

The application of this Policy is set out elsewhere:

- Rates charges and definitions are set out in the Funding Impact Statement,
- Fees and charges for all Activities are set out in the Fees and Charges Schedule.

DEFINITIONS | NGĀ WHAKAMĀRAMATANGA

National Benefit	Benefits the nation and is public in nature.
District Benefit	Benefits the whole District and is public in nature.
Regional Benefit	Benefits the Region and is public in nature.
Commercial Benefit	Benefits the commercial sector and has elements of both public and private benefit.
Community Benefit	Benefits a particular Community of Interest and is public in nature.
User Benefit	Benefits an identifiable individual, group, or community segment.
Applicant	Benefits an identifiable individual, group or community segment.
Offender / Exacerbator	The cost is the result of offenders, or ones who exacerbate a problem.

SUIP

For the purposes of this Policy, the definition of SUIP / Separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit shall be as set out in the Council's Funding Impact Statement.

CHANGES SINCE THE 2024 POLICY WAS ADOPTED**District Benefit Subsidy Rates for Wastewater and Water Supply**

The District Benefit rates for Water Supply and Wastewater will reduce in 2025/26 as the first step towards a "user pays" approach, taking into account potential changes to the future delivery of water and wastewater services as part of Local Waters Done Well reforms and the planned installation of water meters in Years 4 and 5 of the LTP 2024-34. To assist in smoothing the impact of this change Council intends to transition the reduction in these rates over 3 years commencing 2025/26, with the intention to remove the District Benefit rates by 1 July 2028.

Previously these rates were assessed at 10% of the total funding requirement for Water Supply and 10% of the rates funding requirement for Wastewater (excluding the trade waste contribution rate).

The allocation for 2025/2026 will be assessed at 6% of the total funding requirement for Water Supply; and 6% of the rates funding requirement for Wastewater (excluding the trade waste contribution rate).

In developing the RFP and determining the appropriate funding sources for each activity, Council considered each activity against the principles laid out in section 101 (3) of LGA 2002.

Principle Rational for its application

Community Outcomes These are the outcomes that a local authority aims to achieve in meeting the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions. Section 101(3)(a)(i) of the LGA 2002 requires that in determining the funding sources, Council identify the community outcomes to which each activity primarily contributes.

This RFP lists for each group of activities, the outcomes to which it primarily contributes, and states why each activity is undertaken.



- A district for all people**
Our district is a great place to live because it is accessible, safe, affordable, and inclusive. We promote health, wellbeing, and participation.
- A prosperous people**
We enable a thriving and sustainable economy to create greater benefits for everyone.
- A district that values culture**
We value the whakapapa of our district, and we promote cultural, creative, and recreational activities where traditions, heritage, and arts are celebrated.
- A district that cares for its environment**
We ensure the wise use and management of all land and resources now and for future generations.

Distribution of Benefits Section 101(3)(a)(ii) of LGA 2002 requires costs to be allocated where the benefits lie. Council assessed the Distribution of Benefits for each activity, whether the benefits flowed to the District as a whole, or to individuals or identifiable parts of the community.

In order to assess the Distribution of Benefits, it is necessary to first describe and define the different types of benefits that flow from Council activities.

Period of Benefits Section 101(3)(a)(iii) requires the consideration of intergenerational equity – the principle that the costs of any expenditure should be recovered over the time that the benefits of the expenditure accrue. This principle applies particularly to the allocation of capital expenditure and results in infrastructural costs being spread more evenly across the life of the asset and the different ratepayers who benefit from it over that period.

The principles of funding operating and capital expenditure are as stated in this policy. They are assumed to apply to each activity, unless otherwise stated in the individual Activity Analysis section.

Operational expenditure is funded annually and therefore there are no intergenerational equity issues to be considered. Intergenerational equity issues

Principle Rational for its application

arise in relation to capital expenditure and investments and identified in the individual activity analysis sections where relevant.

Exacerbator Pays Section 101(3)(a)(iv) requires Council to assess the extent to which each activity is undertaken to remedy the negative effects of the actions or inaction of an individual or group. It is important to note that the actions themselves may not be negative or “bad” but they may have negative effects on the whole community.

This principle (exacerbator or polluter pays principle) is particularly relevant to Council’s regulatory functions and other activities undertaken to mitigate the adverse effects of community behaviours on the environment.

The Exacerbator Pays principle suggests that Council should, where it is practical, recover any costs directly from the individual or group that contributes to the deterioration of a situation or to a cost that is a direct result of their actions.

Most activities do not exhibit exacerbator pays characteristics. This heading is only included in the analysis of those activities which do demonstrate such characteristics.

Costs and Benefits This consideration includes transparency, accountability and some assessment of the cost efficiency and practicality of funding a particular activity separately as required by section 101(3)(a)(v).

Transparency and accountability are most evident when an activity is totally distinctly funded. This allows ratepayers, or payers of user charges as the case may be, to see exactly how much money is being raised for and spent on the activity. However, funding every activity on an individual basis would be extremely administratively complex. The administrative costs and lack of materiality has led Council to fund a number of activities collectively. The individual Activity Analysis section of this policy does not repeat this argument for each activity.

The merit of identifying and accounting for functions under the activities separately from other functions enables:

- More Transparent disclosure and accountability of projects and funding to the Waitomo Community.
 - Greater opportunity for the Waitomo Community to have input on decisions, proposals, issues and other matters through consultation.
 - Identification of the Activity contributes to the achievement of community outcomes and service delivery goals through detailed understanding and planning.
 - Improved monitoring of the Activity in terms of how well Council is achieving its community outcomes annually.
 - Identification of costs required supporting the Activity in terms of time involved in planning, monitoring, accounting, reporting and administration.
-

2.0 Expenditure to be Funded

2.1 Funding of Operating Expenditure

2.1.1 Where expenditure does not create a new asset for future use or extend the lifetime or usefulness of an existing asset, it is classed as operating expenditure.

2.1.2 Council funds operating expenditure from the following sources:

- General Rates (GR)
 - Uniform Annual General Charge (UAGC)
 - Targeted Rates (TFR and TR)
 - Fees and Charges
 - Interest and dividends from investments
 - Grants and subsidies towards operating expenses
 - Proceeds from asset sales
 - Other sources.
-

- 2.1.3 Council may choose to not fully fund operating expenditure in any particular year, if the deficit can be funded from operating surpluses in the immediately preceding or subsequent years.
- 2.1.4 Council has determined the proportion of operating expenditure to be funded from each of the sources listed above, and the method for apportioning rates and other charges. The process used is as specified by the LGA 2002.
- 2.1.5 The Funding Impact Statement produced each year (as required by Schedule 10(20) LGA 2002) shows the impact of the RFP each year. It also shows the amounts to be collected from each available source, including how various rates are to be applied.

2.2 Funding of Capital Expenditure

- 2.2.1 Capital expenditure is the cost of creating or upgrading a new asset, or extending the life of an existing asset. Capital expenditure can also be incurred to improve the level of service provided by the asset.
- 2.2.2 The following sources are available for Council under the LGA 2002 to fund capital expenditure:
 - Grants and subsidies
 - Depreciation reserves (rate funded depreciation)
 - Loans
 - Rates
 - Proceeds from asset sales
 - Financial contributions under the Resource Management Act 1991
 - Development contributions under the LGA 2002
 - Other revenue sources
- 2.2.3 Council makes use of all of the above sources of funding of capital expenditure, with the exception of Development Contributions. Population trends show that there is no demand for growth related infrastructure at the present time. There is currently enough capacity in the infrastructure networks to allow for nominal growth should it occur in an area. The RFP does not include a provision for growth related capital expenditure as it has been assumed that capital outlay to cater for growth will not occur until there is evidence that the assumed growth is taking place.
- 2.2.4 Council makes provision for capital expenditure for renewals and capital developments which relate to improvements to levels of service. Funding sources used by Council for capital expenditure for renewals in order of priority are, subsidies and grants (when available), rate-funded depreciation, loan funding, and lastly, rate funding. Expenditure for capital developments for improvements to levels of service are funded in the following order of priority: subsidies and grants (when available), loan funding, and lastly, rate funding.
- 2.2.5 Loan funding is an appropriate funding mechanism to enable the effect of peaks in capital expenditure to be smoothed and also to enable the costs of major developments to be borne by those who ultimately benefit from the expenditure. This is known as the 'intergenerational equity principle' and means that the costs of any expenditure should be recovered from the community at the time or over the period the benefits of that expenditure accrue.

3.0 Sources of Funding

The funding sources available to a local authority are set out under the LGA 2002 and the LGRA 2002. Presented below are descriptions of the available funding sources.

3.1 General Rate

- 3.1.1 The General Rate is set under Section 13(2) (a) of the LGRA 2002 and has been used to part fund the activities of Leadership, Community and Partnerships, Recreation and Property, Regulatory Services, Resource Management and Solid Waste. It is set according to the RFP for these activities.

- 3.1.2 The General Rate is a rate per \$100 of capital value applied to all rateable properties in the District. A General Rate is used according to the RFP, when:
- Council considers that a capital value rate is fairer than the use of other existing rating tools for the service funded; and
 - Council considers that the community as a whole should meet costs of the function; and
 - Council is unable to achieve its user charge targets and must fund expenditure; or
 - UAGC use would be a fair method but Council is constricted by the 30% cap (Section 21 LGRA 2002).

3.2 Uniform Annual General Charge (UAGC)

- 3.2.1 The UAGC, assessed on each separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit (SUIP), is set under Section 15 of the LGRA 2002 and has been used to part-fund some activities where overall District-wide benefit has been assessed (details are contained within the relevant activity funding sections).
- 3.2.2 UAGC is assessed on each separately used or inhabited part (SUIP) of a rating unit to:
- Ensure equity in bearing the cost liability of a service (or part of service) which is deemed equally beneficial to all
 - Ensure that those with multiple uses pay a fair share
 - Provide a consistent treatment between all uniform charges.
- 3.2.3 In setting the UAGC, based on the RFP, Council will consider the following aspects:
- Adherence to the legislative cap (UAGC to be maximum of 30% of total rates excluding any fixed rate charges for water or wastewater) and;
 - Set the amount of UAGC such that it is as fair as possible to all ratepayers and in consideration of the principles of affordability and sustainability.
- 3.2.4 Council may consider ‘capping’ the amount of the UAGC at a certain value or that any increase in UAGC may be limited to a maximum of the Local Government Cost Indicator (LGCI) for that year (to be determined by Council through the annual rates setting process).
- 3.2.5 This consideration is primarily to maintain rates affordability and is in keeping with section 101(3) of LGA 2002 which explicitly requires that the funding needs be met by sources considered appropriate by local authorities, after giving consideration to, among other things, the impact of the funding allocations on the interests of the community.

3.3 Targeted Rates

- 3.3.1 A Targeted Rate is set under Sections 16 or 19 of the LGRA 2002 and has been used to part fund the groups of activities of Community and Partnerships, Recreation and Property, Wastewater, Water Supply, Stormwater, Solid Waste and Roads and Footpaths. Targeted Rates are set according to the RFP for these services.
- 3.3.2 A Targeted Rate is used according to the RFP, when:
- Council considers that a Targeted Rate would enable a higher level of transparency in funding allocation; or
 - Council considers that a Targeted Rate is fairer than the use of other existing rating tools for the service funded, in consideration of the benefit derived from the service. The percentage of benefit is determined by Council's RFP.
- 3.3.3 The LGRA 2002 allows for Targeted Rates to be assessed on land defined on the basis of use to which land is put, area of land, location of land, the value of land and the provision or

availability of Council services. Targeted Rates may be imposed as a fixed rate or differentially based on property uses.

- 3.3.4 Council has chosen to differentiate the District Rooding Rate into two categories and will use the ‘use to which the land is put’ (Schedule 2 (1) of LGRA 2002) to define the land liable for these rates. The TR will be assessed as a rate per \$100 of capital value to part fund the Roads and Footpaths activity. Council has chosen to primarily use valuation data to determine the allocation of rating units to differential rate categories.

The following land use categories and differential factors will apply to the District Rooding Rate:

Differential Category	Definition	Differential Factor
a) District Rooding Rate - General	All rating units in the district excluding those properties categorised as differential b) District Rooding Rate - Forestry Exotic below.	1.0
b) District Rooding Rate - Forestry Exotic	<p>Rating units that have been assigned the FE category code (Forestry Exotic) by Council’s Valuation Service Provider and/or properties that are partially used for exotic forestry.</p> <p>Properties with a mixed use Where rating units have a mixed use (eg; pastoral and exotic forestry), and the area of exotic forestry is 20 hectares or more, the rating unit will be apportioned to enable the district rooding rate to be charged correctly. The portion used for exotic forestry will be charged the differential of 3.0 and the remaining portion will be charged the differential of 1.0.</p>	3.0

- 3.3.5 Council will use location (Schedule 2(6) of LGRA) to define the land liable for a number of targeted rates based on location. The following location definitions for the respective rating areas will apply:

Te Kuiti Urban Rating Area	All rating units situated within the Te Kuiti urban area, shown as shaded blue on the map attached in Appendix One.
Rural Rating Area	All rating units situated in the rural areas, shaded green on the map attached as Appendix Two in the district (excluding those rating units shaded blue on the map attached in Appendix One.)
Piopio Township	All rating units connected or with the ability to connect to the Piopio Sewerage System.
Piopio Wider Benefit Rating Area/ PWBRA	All rating units situated in the rural areas around Piopio township (excluding rating units/SUIPs connected or with the ability to connect to the Piopio sewerage system) that are deemed to indirectly benefit from the Piopio sewerage reticulation network, shown as yellow on the map attached as Appendix Three.

3.4 Fees and Charges

- 3.4.1 Fees and Charges will be set according to Council’s RFP where:

- It is assessed that the level of benefit to identified beneficiary/exacerbator groups justifies the seeking of user charges; and
- There are identifiable and distinct user groups/exacerbators identified by Council’s RFP; and

- User fees represent the fairest method to seek a contribution from identified beneficiaries or exacerbators.

3.4.2 The RFP includes the percentage of fees and charges Council aspires to collect for the relevant activity. The actual fees and charges collected by Council will vary dependent on a number of external factors.

3.5 Interest, Subventions and Dividends

3.5.1 Council receives limited interest from cash investments and borrower notes. Any interest received is used to offset the rate required in the year received.

3.5.2 Council has an investment in Inframax Construction Ltd. No dividends are forecast of the life the plan however if any dividends and/or subventions were to be received these may be used to repay debt. Council will determine how dividend revenue is applied as part of the LTP or annual plan process or by Council resolution.

3.6 Borrowing

3.6.1 Borrowing is managed by the provisions of Council's Treasury Policy. Council's use of funding mechanisms to fund capital development is set out in the Funding of Capital Expenditure section of this policy.

3.7 Proceeds from Asset Sales

3.7.1 Council will determine how proceeds from assets sales will be applied through the LTP or annual plan process or by Council resolution.

3.8 Development and Financial Contribution Policy

3.8.1 Population trends show that there is no forecast demand on infrastructure created by growth, for the foreseeable future.

3.8.2 Currently Council does not require development contributions for development that triggers section 198(1) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3.8.3 Financial contributions are currently taken by Council as consent conditions for subdivision and land use activities approved under the Resource Management Act 1991("RMA") where possible. Formulae are specified in the District Plan for collecting financial contributions to remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of development on District.

3.9 Grants and Subsidies

3.9.1 Council receives a subsidy from NZTA Waka Kotahi to part-fund operations, renewal, and capital development in provision of roads and footpaths.

3.9.2 Council pursues other Grant and Subsidy funding available from Central Government wherever it is considered appropriate.

4.0 Overall Impact of the Funding Mechanisms Selected

4.1.1 Following consideration of the matters referred to in Section 101(3)(a), a picture emerges of where the benefits of engaging in activities land. Once this is done and indicative cost allocation compiled, the final step in Council's process of developing this policy has been to consolidate the results of the individual activity analysis and consider these results in terms of Section 101(3)(b). Section 103(b) requires Council to consider the overall impact of any allocation of liability for revenue needs on the community. The impact is assessed on the current and future wellbeing of the community.

4.1.2 Council has agreed that for most activities where a District benefit has been identified, funding that benefit allocation equally through the General Rate and UAGC would be the most efficient,

equitable and transparent funding method. Both the General Rate and the UAGC are appropriate funding sources when a District wide benefit is assessed.

- 4.1.3 Council’s reasoning behind this decision was that, for some activities, the UAGC would be the most appropriate method for funding the District Allocation because of the ‘equal benefit’ nature of the activity, but Council needs to take into account the ‘rates affordability’ and ‘ability to pay’ considerations within the community and also the legislative ‘cap’ on the amount that can be funded through the UAGC.
- 4.1.4 This reasoning by Council has not been repeated in the rest of the policy except where Council has made exceptions to it.

5.0 Benefits Allocation and Funding Mechanism

- 5.1 Council’s RFP has been developed mostly at activity level however for some activities it has been necessary to develop the policy at function level. The benefit allocation and funding mechanism for each function is included under the relevant activity or function in sections 6 to 16 of this policy.

6.0 Application of funding principles to the funding for each activity

- 6.1.1 Council has determined the sources of funding for capital and operating expenditure for each of its activities after considering the principles set out in Section 1.0 and the rationale for the use of funding sources. The table below outlines a summary followed by a detailed explanation.

Activity	Fees and Charges	Other Revenue	Grants and Subsidies	General Rate/UAGC	Targeted Fixed Rate	Targeted Rate	Rate Type	Assessment basis: CV/Rating Unit/SUIP
Leadership								
Representation								
Representation	1%	30% rates penalties		69%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
Strategy and Engagement								
Strategy and Engagement				100%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
Investments								
Investment in CoLab				100%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
Investment in Inframax Construction Limited				100%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
Council Owned Quarries	80%			20%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
Community and Partnerships								
Community Development								
Community Development				98%	2% (approx)		GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
							TFR (Piopio Retirement Village)	Rating Unit – within Piopio Township and the Piopio Wider Benefit Rating Area
District Promotion								
District Promotion	1%			99%			GR	CV

Activity	Fees and Charges	Other Revenue	Grants and Subsidies	General Rate/UAGC	Targeted Fixed Rate	Targeted Rate	Rate Type	Assessment basis: CV/Rating Unit/SUIP
							UAGC	SUIP
Economic Development								
Economic Development				100%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
Regulatory Services								
Environmental Health								
Environmental Health	10%			90%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
Animal and Dog Control								
Animal and Dog Control	50%			50%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
Building Control Services								
Building Control Services	30%			70%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
Alcohol Licensing								
Alcohol Licensing	25%			75%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
Emergency Management								
Emergency Management				100%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
Recreation and Property								
Parks and Recreation								
Parks and Reserves	2%			98%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
Housing and Property								
Elderly Persons Housing	100%			Balance by Gen Rate/UAGC if required				
Community Halls	5%			95%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
Other Land and Buildings	20%			80%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
Community Facilities								
District Libraries	1%			99%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
Aquatic Centre				100%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
Les Munro Centre	4%			96%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
Aerodrome	60%			40%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
	48%	25%		27%			GR	CV

Activity	Fees and Charges	Other Revenue	Grants and Subsidies	General Rate/UAGC	Targeted Fixed Rate	Targeted Rate	Rate Type	Assessment basis: CV/Rating Unit/SUIP
Gallagher Community Centre							UAGC	SUIP
Public Facilities								
Cemeteries	30%			70%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
Public Amenities				100%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
Solid Waste Management								
Kerbside Collection	40%				60%		TFR	SUIP
Waste Disposal	60%				40%		TFR	SUIP
Waste Minimisation			60%	40%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
Stormwater								
Te Kuiti Stormwater					35% (Te Kuiti)	65%	TFR	Rating Unit
							TR	CV
Rural Stormwater					100% (rural areas)		TFR	SUIP
Resource Management								
District Plan Administration	45%			55%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
District Planning				100%			GR	CV
							UAGC	SUIP
Wastewater								
District Wastewater (Te Kuiti, Te Waitere, Piopio, Maniaiti/Benneydale)	22%				78%		TFR	Residential properties per SUIP –connected/ serviceable – District TFR (Harmonised)
							TFR - Base charge	Te Kuiti Non-residential Per SUIP
							TFR – Pan Charge	Te Kuiti Non – Residential Per Pan
							TFR - Trade Waste Contribution	Rating Unit – District Wide
							TFR - District-wide benefit allocation	Rating Unit – District Wide (Transition rate for 3 years commencing 2025/26, with the intention to remove this rate by 1 July 2028 as we move to a “user pays” approach)

Activity	Fees and Charges	Other Revenue	Grants and Subsidies	General Rate/UAGC	Targeted Fixed Rate	Targeted Rate	Rate Type	Assessment basis: CV/Rating Unit/SUIP
Water Supply								
Te Kuiti, Mokau, Piopio, Maniaiti/Benneydale Water Supply					70%	30%	TFR	SUIP –connected/ serviceable – District TFR (harmonization paused, transition rate until a decision is made on the formation of regional CCO for water delivery)
							TR	Water meter / consumption
							TFR - District-wide benefit allocation	Rating Unit – District Wide (Transition rate for 3 years commencing 2025/26, with the intention to remove this rate by 1 July 2028 as we move to a “user pays” approach))
Roads and Footpaths								
Subsidised Roothing	1%		71%			28%	TR	CV - Rating Unit – District Roothing Rate – General Differential of 1.0
							TR	CV – Rating unit – District Roothing Rate -Forestry Exotic Differential of 3.0
Unsubsidised Roothing	17%					83%	TR	CV - Rating Unit – District Roothing Rate – General Differential of 1.0
							TR	CV – Rating unit – District Roothing Rate -Forestry Exotic Differential of 3.0

7.0 Leadership

Level of alignment to community outcomes

Primary Contribution	Secondary Contribution
A district for people	A prosperous district A district that values culture A district that cares for its environment

7.1 Description

7.1.1 In carrying out this activity

- We enable, promote and support local democracy by providing governance advice and democratic services to elected members, the public and staff. We support public engagement with the mayor, councillors and with our democratic processes.
- We consider research, analysis and policy development, and provides advice to support development of the District with a focus on strategies, plans, policy, and bylaws to address the top issues facing our community. We also coordinate and undertake community engagement and consultation on a variety of issues.
- We provide leadership to Council's investment portfolio which oversees the investment in CoLab, Civic Financial Services Ltd, Inframax Construction Ltd and Council owned quarries.

7.2 Activities

7.2.1 The Leadership Group of Activity (GOA) provides for:

- Representation
- Strategy and Engagement
- Investments

7.3 Activity analysis and funding mechanisms

7.3.1 Representation

This Activity involves the provision of leadership and governance of the District and includes the Mayor's Office and Council's governance, including committees.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	100%	69%	General Rate/ UAGC
		1%	Fees and Charges
		30%	Other Revenue: Penalties and sundry revenue

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: The benefit of the Representation activity is considered to be District wide in nature as the benefits of good governance and representation benefit the District as a whole.

(b) Funding Mechanism

District Allocation: Council is not able to recover all the costs of this activity from penalties and fees and charges. The most appropriate method of funding is a combination of UAGC and General Rate (GR). While the fairest method would be to fund this activity by UAGC, a combination of UAGC and General Rate is considered most appropriate, given the 30% legislative cap on UAGC and the affordability considerations and the District wide benefit of these activities.

7.3.2 Strategy and Engagement

This Activity includes:

- Carrying out long-term and annual planning for the District and producing plans which reflect the outcomes desired by the community.
- Communicating and consulting with the community on projects, issues and various planning documents, as well as surveys to gauge community satisfaction with services provided.
- Development of policy to promote community outcomes at a local level, and to influence policy at a regional or national level.
- Monitoring the achievement of the levels of service.
- Preparation of Council’s Annual Report comprising public information on achievement against the financial and key performance targets of the previous year.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	100%	100%	General Rate/UAGC

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: The benefit of this activity is considered to be District wide in nature as the benefits of effective planning and policy development and the monitoring of Council activities and performance is of benefit to the entire District.

(b) Funding Mechanism

District Allocation: The most appropriate method of funding this activity is a combination of UAGC and General Rate (GR). While the fairest method would be to fund this activity by UAGC, a combination of UAGC and General Rate is considered most appropriate, given the 30% legislative cap on UAGC and the affordability considerations and the District wide benefit of these activities.

7.3.3 Investments

Council has investments in land and other organisations that it manages for the benefit of the community and to generate income. The functions comprising this activity are:

1. Investment in CoLab
2. Council Owned Quarries
3. Inframax Construction Limited

7.3.4 Period of Benefit (Intergenerational Equity)

The total expenditure and income of Investment Activities needs to be specified over the proposed investment period as part of intergenerational funding decisions.

7.3.5 Investment in CoLab

This function represents Council’s shareholding/investment in CoLab. The principle objective for the company is to provide the most effective access to regional information

of mutual value to the regional community using modern technology and processes and to be an umbrella for future development of shared services within the region.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	80%	100%	General Rate/ UAGC
Regional Benefit	20%	0%	No funding mechanism

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: The investment in CoLab is assessed to have a District wide benefit as it is either made to generate income or to explore opportunities for cost reduction/efficiencies, which are used for the benefit of the entire District, or Council is involved for a strategic reason which again is for the benefit of the District as a whole.

Regional Benefit: Gaining the most effective access to regional information and services of mutual value to the regional community is seen as having regional benefit.

(b) Funding

District Allocation: The fairest method of funding this investment would be by way of UAGC. However, due to the 30% UAGC 'cap' and rates affordability issues, Council resolved a combination of General Rate and UAGC to be the most efficient, effective and transparently lawful funding mechanism for this allocation.

Regional Allocation: As there is no lawful funding mechanism available to Council to recover from this group of beneficiaries Council resolved that the Regional Benefit be reallocated to District Benefit and funded by a combination of General Rate and UAGC.

7.3.6 Investment in Inframax Construction Ltd (ICL)

This function represents Council's investment in ICL. ICL is a provider of roading construction and maintenance, quarrying, and maintenance and construction of utilities and infrastructure assets.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	100%	100%	General Rate/UAGC
		0%	Dividend or Subvention

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: ICL is assessed to have District wide benefit as it exists to give effect to social and economic outcomes that benefit the entire District. Council's investment in ICL is considered to be strategic in nature and for the benefit of the wider District as a whole.

(b) Funding

Investment Income: Council resolved that as this investment has been entered into for social and economic purposes it would be equitable to fund the cost of this activity through Investment Income (i.e. dividend and/or subventions), when available.

Any surplus generated through this investment may be used for repayment of term debt which benefits the wider community by enhancing the financial sustainability of the Waitomo District Council and will be resolved by Council through the LTP or annual planning cycle or by Council resolution.

District Allocation: Any deficit resulting from Council's investment in ICL will be funded by way of a combination of General Rate and UAGC which reflects the public good associated

with the investment. This is considered to be the most efficient, effective and transparent method for funding this allocation.

7.3.7 Council Owned Quarries

This function involves the maintenance and management of Council owned quarries.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	100%	80%	Fees and charges
		20%	General Rate/UAGC

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: Council owned quarries are assessed to have District wide benefit as they exist to give effect to social and economic outcomes for the benefit of the entire District. Council's investment in quarries is considered to be strategic in nature and for the benefit of the wider District as a whole.

(b) Funding

District Allocation: Council resolved that as this investment has been entered into for social and economic purposes it would be most equitable to fund this activity through investment income (e.g. metal royalties/leases). Any net surplus income generated through this investment will be used to offset General Rate and UAGC rates income collected from the entire District. However it is recognised that revenue is dependent on quarrying activity and market rates for products and therefore investment income may not be enough to fully fund expenditure. Council considers that where fees and charges are not sufficient to fund activities, the balance will be funded from the General Rate and UAGC which reflects the public good associated with the investment. This is considered to be the most efficient, effective and transparent method for funding this allocation.

8.0 Community and Partnerships

Level of alignment to community outcomes

Primary Contribution	Secondary Contribution
A district for people	A prosperous district A district that values culture A district that cares for its environment

8.1 Description

8.1.1 The Community and Partnerships is a group of activities (GOA) where the Council, in a number of diverse roles, is actively involved in 'helping the community to help itself'. The Community Development service supports the wellbeing of our communities. This is done by enabling local organisations and private providers to deliver a variety of community-based services and activities to meet the needs of our community. This includes providing grants to community groups through community assistance grants, event funding and international sister city engagement.

8.1.2 We manage the visitor information services to provide residents and visitors to the District access to quality, up to date information and a booking service for activities attractions and accommodation and events.

8.2 Activities

8.2.1 There are three activities under this GOA:

1. Community Development

2. District Promotions
3. Economic Development

8.3 Activity Analysis and Funding Mechanisms

8.3.1 Community Development

As part of this Activity Council seeks to improve social outcomes within Waitomo District by working closely with the District community. It includes safe communities, making grants to the community, provision of service contracts, Council's Sister City relationship and Youth engagement.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	98%	98%	General Rate/UAGC
Community Benefit	2%	2%	Targeted Fixed Rate

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: The benefit of this activity is considered to be District wide in nature as the benefits of the activity of supporting the community by working to create a better quality of life is beneficial to the entire District.

Community Benefit: A small element of this activity benefits the Piopio Community specifically via support to the Piopio retirement village. The wider Piopio community consider the Piopio retirement village is an asset that should be retained.

(b) Funding

District Allocation: It is considered that after funding the Piopio Retirement Village the most appropriate method of funding the remainder of this activity is a combination of the UAGC and General Rate (GR). The Community Development activity aims to develop a more liveable and vibrant district which can have an effect on the prosperity of the entire District.

Community Allocation: In recognition of the unique situation that exists with Piopio Retirement Village and of the invaluable role it plays within the Piopio Community, both now and in the future, the Piopio Retirement Village will receive an annual rates remission as determined by Council's Rates Remission Policy, to support the Trust in the continued delivery of elderly housing accommodation services.

The amount determined as the annual rates remission for the Piopio Retirement Village will be separately funded by way of a Targeted Fixed Rate assessed on all rateable units situated within the Piopio Township and the Piopio Wider Benefit Rating Area.

8.3.2 District Promotions

This Activity encompasses three functions that serve to attract visitors to the District and contribute over time to the overall development of the District.

- 1) **Visitor Information Centres** - We manage the visitor information services to provide residents and visitors to the District access to quality, up to date information and a booking service for activities attractions and accommodation and events.
- 2) **District and Regional Promotion** - This activity involves regional tourism growth at both domestic and international levels.

- 3) **Events** - Co-ordination of major events in the District, including the Great NZ Muster, Matariki celebrations and the Christmas Parade.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
National Benefit	10%	0%	No funding mechanism
District Benefit	80%	99%	General Rate/UAGC
Community Benefit	10%	1%	Fees and charges

(a) Distribution of Benefits

National Benefit: There is an element of national and regional benefit that results from attracting visitors to the District. New Zealand as a whole and particularly the region will benefit from services and events which attract overseas and local visitors.

Increased visitor numbers to Waitomo District will have flow on effects for our neighbours and help in promoting other neighbouring Districts as well.

District Benefit: The Visitor Industry is considered to have a District wide benefit as the activity gives effect to the economic development and employment within the District as a whole. There are numerous examples that demonstrate tourism can contribute immensely to the whole economy in terms of increased employment, revenue generation and the like and that benefit will accrue to the overall District.

Community Benefit: The Visitor Industry provides a high degree of benefit to communities that provide meals, entertainment and accommodation.

(b) Funding

National/Regional Allocation: Council resolved that this allocation should be funded through Grants when available. Where grant funding is not available, the National Allocation is reallocated to the District Allocation.

District/Community Allocation: Council considered that the overall District benefits to an extent from District Development Activities and although there is some element of community benefit, the most appropriate and efficient funding method is a combination of General Rate and UAGC.

Some minor revenue is received through sales at the Customer Service Centre.

8.3.3 Economic Development

This Activity involves the development, support and promotion of business-related programmes and activities and new employment initiatives within the District. It also involves the maintenance of a high quality environment, input into the urban infrastructure, the need to recognise the importance of international relationships and the tourism industry and utilisation of the landscape and culture of the Waitomo District. We also support Regional and Economic Development opportunities and outcomes.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
National Benefit	10%	0%	No funding mechanism
District Benefit	80%	100%	General Rate/UAGC
Community Benefit	10%		

(a) Distribution of Benefits

National Benefit: There is an element of national and regional benefit that results from attracting visitors and investment to the District.

District Benefit: The promotion of the district is considered to have a District wide benefit as the activity gives effect to the economic development and employment within the District as a whole.

Community Benefit: The commercial development within the district provides increased employment, growth and supports the sustainability of the District.

(b) Funding

National/Regional Allocation: Council resolved that this allocation should be funded through Grants when available. Where grant funding is not available, the National Allocation is reallocated to the District Allocation.

District/Community Allocation: Council considered that the overall District benefits to an extent from Economic Development Activities and although there is some element of community benefit, the most appropriate and efficient funding method is a combination of General Rate and UAGC.

9.0 Regulatory Services

Level of alignment to community outcomes

Primary Contribution	Secondary Contribution
A district for people	A prosperous district A district that values culture A district that cares for its environment

9.1 Description

9.1.1 The Regulatory Services GOA works towards the goal of seeking to effectively and efficiently provide a safe and sustainable environment through the administration and enforcement of Central Government Legislation.

9.2 Activities

9.2.1 The activities under this GOA are:

1. Environmental Health
2. Animal and Dog Control
3. Alcohol Licensing
4. Building Control
5. Emergency Management

9.3 Activity Analysis and Funding Mechanisms

9.3.1 Environmental Health

The provision of environmental health services, including licencing and inspection of food premises and noise control. Council has specific statutory responsibilities under each of these functions.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	70%	90%	General Rate/UAGC
User/Applicant Benefit	20%	10%	Fees and Charges
Exacerbator	10%		

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: Environmental Health delivers District benefits by ensuring minimum health standards, such as premises are licenced and safe, healthy and hygienic for the public to use, and providing general advice and education. Noise control services provided also contribute to healthy living. The investigation and notification of incidents of communicable diseases also provides benefit to the entire District.

User/Applicant Benefit: Individuals and organisations applying for a licence to operate under specific regulations nationally and within the District and those requiring advice about the regulations are direct beneficiaries of this service.

Exacerbator/Offender: These are the costs incurred in responding to the actions of offenders. This includes costs associated with investigating complaints, non-compliance with licences and regulations and prosecution of offenders.

(b) Funding

User Allocation: Council resolved user fees and charges to be the most efficient, effective and transparently lawful available method for funding this allocation. However Council considered that not all of the recovery of this benefit can be undertaken through Fees and Charges as it would make the fees prohibitively high for the users and therefore Council has resolved to partly fund through General Rate and UAGC.

Exacerbator Allocation: User fees and charges are considered to be the most efficient, effective and transparently lawful available method for funding the Exacerbator allocation. However Council considered that not all of the recovery of this benefit can be undertaken through Fees and Charges from the exacerbator therefore Council has resolved to partly fund through General Rate and UAGC.

District Allocation: Council is not able to recover all the costs of this activity from fees and charges. The most appropriate method of funding the remainder of this activity is considered to be a combination of General Rate and UAGC.

9.3.2 Animal and Dog Control

Provision of an animal and dog control service for the District. This activity involves the registration of dogs as well as the prevention of harm to the community in cases of menacing or dangerous behaviour by dogs and dealing with roving stock.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	20%	50%	General Rate/UAGC
User/Applicant Benefit	70%	50%	Fees and Charges
Exacerbator	10%		

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: The District benefit is received from general advice given to the public, education and public safety. All residents have equal access to the use of the service.

User/Applicant Benefit: Individuals applying for and maintaining dog registration and receiving education are direct beneficiaries of this service. The allocation reflects the benefit to those individuals with animals.

Exacerbators: These are the costs incurred in responding to the actions of offenders. This includes costs associated with investigating complaints, impounding of stock and prosecution of offenders.

(b) Funding

User Allocation: Council resolved that user fees and charges would be the most efficient, effective and transparently lawful method available for funding this allocation. However Council considered that not all of the recovery of this benefit can be undertaken through Fees and Charges as it may make the fees prohibitively high for the users and therefore Council has resolved to partly fund through General Rate and UAGC.

Exacerbator Allocation: Council resolved that education and monitoring would be the most effective method to promote good animal management and control. Council also proposes that user fees and charges (in the form of infringements and penalties) would be the most efficient, effective and transparently lawful method available for funding this allocation.

District Allocation: Council considers that given there is some benefit to the entire district in the form of public safety, the most appropriate method of funding this allocation is a combination of General Rate and UAGC.

9.3.3 Building Services

Provision of building services, including issuing and monitoring of building consents

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	20%	70%	General Rate/UAGC
User/Applicant Benefit	75%	30%	Fees and Charges
Exacerbator	5%		

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: The District benefit is received from general advice given to the public, education, and public safety. This activity is mandatory for Council and has a District benefit by ensuring minimum building standards are met and that buildings are safe for use. This activity is also driven by Central Government policies and there is increased focus at the national level around sustainable building development.

User/Applicant Benefit: Individuals and groups applying for a building consent, requiring building inspection, compliance certificates and advice, are the direct beneficiaries of this service.

Exacerbator: These are the costs incurred in responding to the actions of offenders. This includes costs associated with non-compliance with consents and Warrants of Fitness.

(b) Funding

District Allocation: Council resolved that the most efficient, effective and transparent method for funding this allocation would be a combination of UAGC and General Rate since any investment in and development of the District will have more positive economic impact on larger property owners.

User Allocation: Council resolved that User Fees and Charges would be the most efficient, effective and transparently lawful available method for funding this allocation. However, since not all of the recovery of this benefit can be done through Fees and Charges which would make the fees too high and could potentially impact on development, Council resolved to partly fund this benefit through General Rate/UAGC.

Exacerbator Allocation: Council resolved that User Fees and Charges would be the most efficient, effective and transparently lawful available method for funding this allocation where the cost is able to be recovered from the exacerbator. Where this cost is not able to be recovered, Council resolved to partly fund through the General/UAGC.

9.3.4 Alcohol Licensing

The Alcohol Licensing function oversees the administration of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 at a local level acting as the District Licensing committee on behalf of the Alcohol Regulatory and Licensing Authority which encourages the responsible sale and use of alcohol through licensing, monitoring of premises and enforcement of the Act. It also involves ensuring bylaws are enforced and complied with for public safety and well-being.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	35%	75%	General Rate/UAGC
User/Applicant Benefit	35%	25%	Fees and Charges
Exacerbator	30%		

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: This activity is assessed at having a medium level of District benefit which occurs from ensuring Licenses are complied with, sellers of alcohol have certain qualifications, etc, which contributes towards public safety and well-being. General advice and education is also provided.

Applicant Benefit: The user benefit for this service is high. Individuals and organisations applying for a licence to operate under specific regulations nationally and within the District and those requiring advice about the regulations are direct beneficiaries of this service.

Exacerbators: These are the costs incurred in responding to the actions of offenders. This includes costs associated with investigating complaints, non-compliance with licenses and regulations and prosecution of offenders.

(b) Funding

User/Applicant Allocation: Council resolved user fees and charges to be the most equitable method for funding this portion of the benefit allocation. However, Council considered that not all of the recovery of this benefit can be done through Fees and Charges as the fees are set by legislation and therefore Council resolved to partly fund this benefit through General Rate and UAGC.

Offender Allocation: User fees and charges are considered to be the most efficient, effective and transparently lawful available method for funding the Exacerbator funding allocation for this activity.

District Allocation: Council resolved that the most efficient, effective and transparent method for funding this allocation would be a combination of UAGC and General Rate.

9.3.5 Emergency Management

Provision of emergency response capability includes public education and administering the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
National and Regional Benefit	10%	0%	Government Subsidy
District Benefit	90%	100%	General rate/UAGC

(a) Distribution of Benefits

National Benefit: Emergency Management has been assessed to have a certain element of National and Regional benefit, in that this service provides safety and general well-being to the national public under a national civil defence and emergency management network. By way of example, any significant natural disaster has the potential to disrupt state highways and the rail system which might affect the Country as a whole.

District Benefit: Emergency management is considered to have a high District benefit. The benefit of this function is for the safety and well-being of all people within the District.

(b) Funding

National Allocation: Council considers that given the element of national benefit provided by the service, Central Government subsidy would be the most efficient and effective method of funding this allocation. However Central Government subsidies are no longer available so it was resolved that this allocation be re-allocated to District Benefit.

District Allocation: A combination of UAGC and General Rate is the most appropriate method of funding this activity given the 30% legislative cap on UAGC and the affordability considerations and the District wide benefit of this activity.

10.0 Recreation and Property

Level of alignment to community outcomes

Primary Contribution	Secondary Contribution
A district for people	A district that cares for its environment

10.1 Description

10.1.1 Council's Recreation and Property GOA provides recreation and community facilities with the aim of ensuring that basic ranges of recreational activities are available to meet the present and future needs of the Community, and that Council meets its statutory obligations under such acts as the Reserves Act 1977 and Burials and Cremations Act 1964.

10.1.2 This Activity also ensures that the Community has essential community facilities such as public toilets and cemeteries. These facilities are necessary to ensure that public health and safety is maintained.

10.2 Activities

10.2.1 The Activities comprising this GOA are:

1. Parks and Recreation

2. Housing and Property
3. Community Facilities
4. Public Facilities

10.3 Period of Benefit (Intergenerational Equity)

10.3.1 Capital works that are an improvement or addition to the asset are considered intergenerational in nature.

10.4 Activity Analysis and Funding Mechanisms

10.4.1 Parks and Recreation

This activity involves the provision of parks and reserves to support the health and well-being of the community by supplying and maintaining areas for sport and recreation, as well as green places and landscapes that are restful and enhance the visual amenity.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	98%	98%	General Rate/UAGC
User Benefit	2%	2%	Fees and Charges

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: The benefit of this activity is considered to be District wide in nature as the benefits of providing recreational spaces and facilities for the community is of benefit to the entire District.

User Benefit: Lessees of the reserves are the direct beneficiaries of the services.

(b) Funding

District Allocation: The most appropriate method of funding this activity is a combination of the UAGC and General Rate given the 30% legislative cap on UAGC and the affordability considerations and the District wide benefit of these activities.

User Allocation: Council resolved fees and charges to be the most efficient and transparently lawful method of funding this allocation.

10.4.2 Housing and Property

The functions comprising of this Activity are:

1. Elderly Person's Housing
2. Community Halls
3. Other Land and Buildings

10.4.3 Elderly Persons Housing

This function involves the provision and maintenance of affordable housing for the elderly. There are 20 pensioner units owned by Council.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	5%	100%	Fees and Charges
User Benefit	95%		

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: Provision and maintenance of housing for the elderly provides a level of District wide benefit as it provides for the current and future social well-being of the District.

User Benefit: This service has a high degree of private benefit. The direct beneficiaries of Elderly Persons Housing are the occupants, and the family and friends of the occupants.

(b) Funding

District Allocation: Due to the minor nature of the District Benefit, Council resolved that this be reallocated to User Allocation. However it is recognised that the impact of fully funding this activity from fees and charges may be prohibitive if completed in one year and therefore agreed to transition the move to fully funding the activity from fees and charges. During the transition phase any shortfall will be funded by combination of General Rate and UAGC funding.

User Allocation: Council resolved Fees and Charges to be the most appropriate funding tool for this allocation as the users (tenants) are easily identifiable and excludable and the user charges can be easily administered. However, Council considered that not all of the recovery of this benefit can be undertaken through Fees and Charges as it would make the fees prohibitively high for the users and therefore Council resolved to partly fund this benefit through General Rate and UAGC.

10.4.4 Community Halls

This function involves the provision and maintenance of halls through the support of Hall Committees throughout the District.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	100%	95%	General Rate/UAGC
User Benefit	0%	5%	Fees and Charges

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: Provision of Community halls is assessed to provide benefit to the wider District as a whole as any member of the District can use the halls directly or as guests for functions, etc. Halls serve as places for meetings or functions, particularly where other options are unavailable.

(b) Funding

District Allocation: Given the element of general public benefit associated with this activity, the Council resolved a combination of General Rate and UAGC to be the most appropriate, efficient and transparent funding tool for this allocation.

Council recognised that most community halls are operated and maintained by the different communities themselves and Council's expenditure on the activity was in the form of grants provided to the various hall committees towards operating costs.

A small percentage of funding for this activity comes from fees and charges for hall hire to the community.

10.4.5 Other Land and Buildings

This function involves the maintenance and management of other miscellaneous Council owned properties.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	30%	80%	General Rate/UAGC
User Benefit	70%	20%	Fees and Charges

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: This activity is assessed to have a degree of District wide benefit as these land and buildings are retained and maintained by Council either with strategic intent or as investments which provide benefit to the District as a whole.

User Benefits: Lessees of these properties are the direct beneficiaries of the service. They are identifiable and able to be excluded.

(b) Funding

District Allocation: Council resolved a combination of General Rate and UAGC to be the most appropriate, efficient and transparent funding tool for this allocation.

User Allocation: Council resolved Fees and Charges to be the most efficient and transparently lawful method of funding this allocation. However, Council considered that not all of the recovery of this benefit can be done through Fees and Charges as it would make the fees prohibitively high for the users and therefore Council resolved to partly fund this benefit through General Rate and UAGC.

10.4.6 Community Facilities

10.4.6.1 The functions comprising of this Activity are:

1. District Libraries
2. Aquatic Centre
3. Les Munro Centre
4. Aerodrome
5. Gallagher Recreation Centre

10.4.7 District Libraries

This function involves the provision of library services to support culture, education, economic and personal development in the District. The main library is located at Te Kuiti.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	20%	99%	General Rate/UAGC
User Benefit	80%	1%	Fees and Charges

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: District libraries provide a degree of benefit to the wider District as a whole which relates to enhancing the knowledge and skills of the population and provides enjoyment. Benefits also include the promotion of knowledge building, social interaction and the provision of services to people with special needs (e.g. the visually impaired and people with disabilities).

User Benefit: Borrowers, information seekers and users of other library services are direct beneficiaries of the service.

(b) Funding

District Allocation: Council resolved a combination of General Rate and UAGC to be the most appropriate, efficient and transparent funding tool for this allocation.

User Allocation: Council resolved that although the user benefit for this service is high, funding this allocation totally through Fees and Charges would be detrimental to usage as it would make the fees prohibitively high for the users and therefore Council resolved to partly fund this benefit through General Rate and UAGC. Since libraries provide intangible benefits of promoting social and cultural development of the general population and also contribute to increasing literacy, it would be to the advantage of the District to promote their usage. It was resolved that 1% of the user benefit allocation be funded through Fees and Charges and the remaining be reallocated to District allocation.

10.4.8 Aquatic Centre

This function involves the provision and maintenance of the Waitomo District Aquatic Centre in Te Kuiti for leisure and competitive recreation opportunities for the community.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	10%	100%	General Rate/UAGC
Community Benefit	70%		
User Benefit	20%	0%	Fees and Charges

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: This activity is assessed to provide a degree of benefit to the wider District as a whole in that anyone wanting to use the facility has access to it. It is a facility that can be used by all and provides for the leisure, training or health needs of the entire District.

Community Benefit: The Aquatic Centre has a comparatively high degree of community benefit. It is assessed that people who live within the Community will benefit more than those who have to travel a longer distance to use the facility.

User Benefit: Individual users, clubs and schools are direct beneficiaries of the service.

(b) Funding

District Allocation: Council resolved a combination of General Rate and UAGC to be the most appropriate, efficient and transparent funding tool for this allocation.

Community Allocation: Council discussed that a large proportion of the benefit of this service lay in the Te Kuiti urban area however the most appropriate and efficient funding is a combination of General Rate and UAGC.

User Allocation: Council discussed that although the user benefit of this service is high, not all of the recovery of this benefit can be done through Fees and Charges as charging higher for the use of the pool would be detrimental to its usage. It would also impact on the purpose of promoting a healthy community and hence it was resolved that part of this allocation be transferred to Community Allocation. There are no fees and charges revenue forecast for the life of the plan as this revenue is now received by the contractor as part of their contractual arrangement.

10.4.9 Les Munro Centre

This function involves the maintenance and management of the Les Munro Centre.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
National/Regional Benefit	10%	0%	No funding mechanism
District Benefit	80%	96%	General rate/UAGC
User Benefit	10%	4%	Fees and Charges

(a) Distribution of Benefits

National/Regional Benefit: The facilities may be booked by national or regional organisations, private providers. These have a small national benefit as they add benefit to the nation as a whole through stimulating local knowledge and history. They also help to add tourism value to the District.

District Benefit: This activity is assessed to provide a degree of benefit to the wider District as a whole in that it contributes to the cultural well-being of the District as a whole. The facilities can also be enjoyed by all.

User Benefit: Individual users are direct beneficiaries of the service.

(b) Funding

National Allocation: A lawful funding method for this allocation is not available. Council resolved that this allocation be transferred to District Allocation.

District Allocation: Council resolved a combination of General Rate and UAGC to be the most appropriate, efficient and transparent funding tool for this allocation.

User Allocation: Council resolved user Fees and Charges to be the most appropriate funding tool for this allocation. However Council considered that not all of the recovery of this benefit can be undertaken through Fees and Charges as it would make the fees prohibitively high for the users and therefore Council has resolved to partly fund through General Rate and UAGC.

10.4.10 Aerodrome

This function involves the provision of an Aerodrome facility in Te Kūiti to provide leisure and recreational opportunities for residents and visitors to the District. Provision of a base for commercial aerial activities.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	20%	40%	General Rate/UAGC
User Benefit	80%	60%	Fees and Charges

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: This activity is assessed to provide a degree of benefit to the wider District as a whole in that it provides a facility that contributes to the District economy through commercial use.

User Benefit: Individual users, clubs and commercial users are direct beneficiaries of the service.

(b) Funding

District Allocation: Due to minor nature of District Benefit, Council resolved that this would be reallocated to User Allocation. However it is recognised that the impact of fully funding this activity from fees and charges may be prohibitive if completed in one year and therefore agreed to transition the move to fully funding the activity from fees and charges.

During the transition phase any shortfall will be funded by combination of General Rate and UAGC funding.

User Allocation: Council resolved that user Fees and Charges would be the most appropriate funding tool for this allocation and intends to progress to fully funding this activity by fees and charges. However, Council considered that not all of the recovery of this benefit can be done through Fees and Charges as it would make the fees prohibitively high for the users and therefore Council resolved to partly fund this benefit through General Rate and UAGC as this activity transitions to be fully funded by fees and charges.

10.4.11 Gallagher Recreation Centre

This function involves the recognition of the right to use the Gallagher Recreation Centre (GRC) for a period of 35 years. It includes the interest and principal repayment of Council's contribution towards the development of the GRC and the maintenance of the facility in accordance with the property sharing arrangement with the Ministry of Education and Board of Trustees.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	30%	27%	General rate/UAGC
User Benefit	70%	48%	Fees and Charges
		25%	Other Revenue

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: This activity is assessed to provide a degree of benefit to the wider District as a whole in that it contributes to the cultural well-being of the District as a whole. The facilities can also be enjoyed by all. This funding covers the interest and principal repayments on Council's contribution to the construction of the GRC.

User Benefit: Individual users, clubs and schools are direct beneficiaries of the service. The Ministry of Education and the Board of Trustees receive benefit from the facility through the property sharing arrangement.

(b) Funding

District Allocation: Council resolved a combination of General Rate and UAGC to be the most appropriate, efficient and transparent funding tool for this allocation.

User Allocation: Council resolved that user Fees and Charges would be the most appropriate funding tool for this allocation. The Ministry of Education and Board of Trustees contribute towards the long term maintenance of the facilities and operating costs of the facility.

10.4.12 Public Facilities

10.4.12.1 The functions comprising of this Activity are:

- Public Amenities
- Cemeteries

10.4.13 Public Amenities

This function involves the provision of:

- Public toilet facilities in the District to ensure visitors and residents have access to safe, clean and sanitary facilities.
- Street furniture, bins and other structures to visually enhance the town's environment and provide facilities for people to relax and enjoy the environment.

- Car park areas to ensure residents and visitors to the District can access conveniently located off street parking in our towns.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	75%	100%	General rate/UAGC
User Benefit	20%	0%	Fees and Charges
Exacerbator	5%		

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: This activity is assessed to provide a degree of benefit to the wider District as a whole in that all people from within and outside the District have the ability to come and use public toilets, car park facilities and benefit from the provision of street furniture, bins and the like.

User Benefit: Individual users are the direct beneficiaries of the service. These can be visitors, as well as people from within the District.

Exacerbator: These are costs associated with responding to offenders (vandals).

(b) Funding

District Allocation: A combination of UAGC and General Rate is considered the most appropriate method of funding this activity.

Exacerbator: Council resolved that as it is usually hard to identify or inefficient to prosecute offenders this allocation be transferred to District Allocation.

User Benefit: Council agreed that although users are the direct beneficiaries of this service it would not levy fees and charges given the public health benefits of this service and the benefits to visitors of our district this service provides. Therefore, the user benefit allocation is transferred to District Allocation.

10.4.14 Cemeteries

This function involves the provision and maintenance of cemeteries in the District as required under the provisions of the Burials and Cremations Act 1964.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	10%	70%	General rate/UAGC
Community Benefit	30%	30%	Fees and Charges
User Benefit	60%		

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: This activity is assessed to provide a degree of benefit to the wider District as a whole. District benefit results from the promotion of public health and sanitary disposal of the deceased. It also contributes to the cultural well-being of all people in the District.

Community Benefit: Cemeteries have a small degree of community benefit. The Community benefit results from the promotion of public health and sanitary disposal of the deceased. It is also assessed that those people who live within the Community will utilise the cemetery more than those outside the Community.

User Benefit: Families and friends of the deceased are direct beneficiaries of the service.

(b) Funding

District Allocation: Council resolved a combination of General Rate and UAGC to be the most appropriate, efficient and transparent funding tool for this allocation.

Community Allocation: It was resolved that this allocation be reallocated to District Allocation as it was difficult to draw boundaries around the area serviced by a cemetery. Also, allocating the exact users of the cemeteries on a per community basis would be fraught with difficulties.

User Allocation: Council resolved user Fees and Charges to be the most efficient, effective and transparently lawful available method to fund this allocation. However, as it is difficult to accurately predict the fees and charges that will be generated from this activity and it can vary quite a bit from year to year, it was resolved that a portion should be reallocated to District Allocation.

11.0 Solid Waste Management

Level of alignment to community outcomes

Primary Contribution	Secondary Contribution
A district that cares for its environment	A district for people A prosperous district A district that values culture

11.1 Description

11.1.1 The Solid Waste GOA manage the refuse collection, disposal and recycling services for the Waitomo District. The solid waste network involves a series of recycling and transfer stations throughout the District. Residual waste is deposited at the District Landfill in Te Kuiti.

11.2 Activities

11.2.1 The Solid Waste GOA is made up of three functions:

1. Kerbside Collection
2. Waste Disposal
3. Waste Minimisation

11.2.2 People generate un-recyclable waste each day and the current trend of increasing amounts of packaging and waste material results in an ongoing challenge for waste management. If waste is not managed in an appropriate manner it may result in serious public health and environmental concerns.

11.3 Period of Benefit (Intergenerational Equity)

11.3.1 Capital works that are an improvement or addition to the asset are considered intergenerational in nature.

11.4 Activity Analysis and Funding Mechanisms

11.4.1 Kerbside Collection

This activity involves the provision of kerbside collection and recycling services to residents of Te Kuiti, Piopio, Awakino, Mokau and Waitomo Village and some surrounding parts.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
Community/User Benefit	100%	40%	Fees and Charges

		60%	TFR Per community where service is provided
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(a) Distribution of Benefits

Community Benefit/User: Communities that are provided with kerbside collection and recycling services are the beneficiaries of this service.

(b) Funding

Community Allocation/User Allocation: As users can be identified as a particular group (communities that are provided with the service) and also individuals that will benefit from the service, Council resolved that fees and charges and a Targeted Fixed Rate per separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit differentiated by Community receiving the service would be the most effective, efficient and transparent method for funding this allocation. Fees and charges are applied in order to meet the Waste Minimisation objectives in the Solid Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.

The utilisation of fees and charges (including the cost of solid waste disposal in the cost of the rubbish bag) will ensure that the true cost of disposal is reflected in the right place and paid for by the beneficiary. Reflecting the true cost of disposal in the price of a rubbish bag is also expected to encourage waste minimisation.

11.4.2 Waste Disposal

This function involves the maintenance and management of the Waitomo District Landfill in Te Kuiti and Transfer Stations across the District.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	45%	40%	Solid Waste TFR District wide
Community/User Benefit	55%	60%	Fees and Charges

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: The provision of this service provides benefit to the entire District derived from the accessibility of landfill and transfer stations and in terms of maintaining public health standards within the District.

User Benefit: Users of the landfill and transfer stations are the direct beneficiaries of this service.

(b) Funding

District Allocation: Council resolved that a Targeted Fixed Rate assessed on the basis of separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit across the entire District would be the most efficient and transparent method for funding this allocation.

User Allocation: Council resolved that user Fees and Charges would be the most efficient and transparent method to fund this allocation.

11.4.3 Waste Minimisation

Preserves the environment and minimises potentially negative effects of the solid waste activity. Includes education programmes aimed at drawing attention to the benefits of waste minimisation and recovery.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
National Benefit	10%	0%	No funding mechanism
District Benefit	90%	40%	General Rate/UAGC
		60%	Grants and subsidies (Waste Minimisation Rebate)

(a) Distribution of Benefits

National Benefit: Effective Waste Minimisation provides not only environmental, but economic benefits as well, that accrue to the nation as a whole. Effective and appropriate disposal of solid waste helps protect public health and the environment for all New Zealanders.

District Benefit: All residents of the District benefit from general advice and education provided as part of this service. This activity is driven by Central Government policies and there is increased focus on waste minimisation at a national level, the benefits and costs of which accrue to the wider District as a whole.

(b) Funding

National Allocation: There is no lawful funding method to fund this allocation and therefore Council resolved that it be transferred to District Allocation.

District Allocation: Since all residents of the District benefit from the provision of this service, Council resolved a combination of General Rate, UAGC and Ministry of the Environment Waste Minimisation Rebates (when available) to be the most efficient, effective and transparent funding mechanism available to fund this allocation.

12.0 Stormwater

Level of alignment to community outcomes

Primary Contribution	Secondary Contribution
A district for people	A prosperous district A district that values culture A district that cares for its environment

12.1 Description

12.1.1 Stormwater is rain that runs over the ground on its way to a natural watercourse. When rain falls on buildings, carparks, driveways, roads and gardens, if it doesn't soak into the ground it follows its natural flow path downhill until it reaches a water course or is collected by a pipe system. Where there is development, runoff from properties and roads flow into stormwater systems. The greater the level of development in a catchment, the greater the level of impervious surfaces (e.g. roofs, driveways, paths etc), and therefore the greater the conversion of rainfall into runoff. If this runoff is not managed well, it will cause flooding. Generally, stormwater is channelled on to roads or into open watercourses, then down streams and rivers to lakes and then the sea.

12.1.2 The stormwater system manages runoff by collecting and removing the runoff, eventually disposing of it into natural streams and rivers. The Stormwater Activity involves maintaining and extending the capacity of the existing system and advocating for the appropriate management of rivers and streams within the Waitomo District.

12.2 Period of Benefit (Intergenerational Equity)

12.2.1 Capital works that are an improvement or addition to the asset are considered intergenerational in nature.

12.3 Activity Analysis and Funding Mechanisms

12.3.1 Te Kuiti Urban area

Attributable Benefit – urban areas		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
Community Benefit	90%	35%	TFR
		65%	Targeted Rate (rate per \$100 of capital value)
User Benefit	10%	0%	Fees and Charges

12.3.2 Rural areas

Attributable Benefit – rural areas		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
Community Benefit	90%	100%	TFR
User Benefit	10%	0%	Fees and Charges

(a) Distribution of Benefits

Community Benefit: Communities that are provided with this service are the direct beneficiaries as it is their land and buildings that are protected from potential flooding. There are general public health benefits in providing a Stormwater system. A further significant community benefit from the Stormwater system is that roads remain passable during times of heavy rain and flooding.

User/Applicant Benefit: Individual land or property owners who can connect or are connected to the Stormwater network are the direct beneficiaries of the service.

(b) Funding

Community Allocation: Council resolved that the most effective, equitable and transparent methods to fund this allocation is:

Te Kuiti Urban Rating Area

A combination of:

- (a) A Targeted Fixed Rate assessed on a per rating unit basis (which will fund the standing charges associated with the provision of the service). This charge will be increased no more than annually to a maximum of the Local Government Cost Index for that year.
- (b) The residual funding requirement will be met from a targeted rate assessed on a rate per \$100 of capital value per rating unit in the Te Kuiti Urban Rating Area.

Properties in the Te Kuiti Urban Rating Area that hold current resource consents to discharge stormwater directly into the Mangaokewa Stream, and which are not utilising any part of the urban reticulated Stormwater or drainage network, will not be assessed for the targeted rate based on property value. However, the TFR is associated with the overall provision of an urban Stormwater service. As such this component is deemed to relate to the public good element of an urban Stormwater service. Therefore, the TFR will be assessed on all properties in the Te Kuiti Urban Rating Area.

Rural Rating Area

A Targeted Fixed Rate will be assessed on the basis of every separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit within the Rural Rating Area.

In deciding the funding split between the Urban and Rural rating areas, Council recognised that most of the Stormwater network exists in the urban rating area and urban properties benefited most from the service.

User/Applicant Allocation: Given that minimal new growth is forecast, Council resolved that the Targeted Rate and the Targeted Fixed Rate differentiated by Te Kuiti and rural areas is the most efficient and transparently lawful available method for funding this allocation.

13.0 Resource Management

Level of alignment to community outcomes

Primary Contribution	Secondary Contribution
A district that cares for its environment	A district for people A prosperous district A district that values culture

13.1 Description

13.1.1 The Resource Management GOA work towards the goal of seeking to effectively and efficiently provide a safe and sustainable environment through the administration and enforcement of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA 1991).

13.1.2 These activities involve the administration, application and enforcement of the Waitomo District Plan provisions including:

- Issuing of resource consents for land use and subdivisions
- Monitoring consents for compliance with conditions
- Making amendments to the District Plan.

13.2 Activities

13.2.1 There are two functions under this activity:

1. District Plan Administration
2. District Planning

13.3 Activity Analysis and Funding Mechanisms

13.3.1 District Plan Administration

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	60%	55%	General Rate/UAGC
User/Applicant Benefit	35%	45%	Fees and Charges
Exacerbator	5%		

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: There is a district wide benefit to this activity as ensuring that the sustainable management of physical and natural resources in the District are developed in a planned and orderly matter is beneficial to the entire District.

User/Applicant Benefit: Individuals and groups applying for Resource Consents requiring monitoring are direct beneficiaries of this service.

Exacerbators: These are costs incurred in responding to the actions of offenders. This includes costs associated with non-compliance with consent conditions, and can result in expensive legal action and/or hearings.

(b) Funding

User/Applicant Allocation: Council resolved that user fees and charges would be the most efficient, effective and transparently lawful method available for funding this allocation.

Exacerbator Allocation: It is usually inefficient to prosecute offenders. Council agreed that it was not efficient or effective to separately fund this allocation due to the costs associated with prosecution, collection and administration and that education and monitoring are probably the most effective methods to promote a safe and sustainable environment in the District. It was resolved to reallocate this portion to District Allocation.

District Allocation: The most appropriate method of funding the remainder of this activity is considered to be a combination of General Rate and UAGC given the 30% legislative cap on UAGC and the affordability considerations and the District wide benefit of these activities.

13.3.2 District Planning

Involves the planning and strategy development around urban and District development with a view to promoting the principles of sustainable development.

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	80%	100%	General Rate/UAGC
Regional Benefit	20%	0%	No funding mechanism

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: District Planning benefits the wider District as a whole. Sustainable land use and growth planning seeks to uphold and protect outcomes that are important to the entire District. Every resident and ratepayer within the Waitomo District has the opportunity to be involved in Council’s District Planning processes.

Regional Benefit: There is an element of Regional Benefit to Council’s District Planning function in that Regional outcomes and priorities can be advanced at a local level. Further, there is a requirement in law that Council’s District Plan is aligned with the regional policy statement.

(b) Funding Mechanism

District Allocation: Given the District wide benefit associated with District Planning, a combination of General Rate and UAGC was resolved to be the most efficient, effective and transparent method for funding this allocation.

Regional Allocation: As there is no lawful funding mechanism available to Council to recover from this group of beneficiaries, Council resolved that the Regional Benefit be reallocated to District Benefit and funded by a combination of General Rate and UAGC.

14.0 Wastewater

Level of alignment to community outcomes

Primary Contribution	Secondary Contribution
A district for people	A prosperous district A district that values culture A district that cares for its environment

14.1 Description

14.1.1 The purpose of the Wastewater Activity is to collect, treat and dispose of sewage in an effective and environmentally friendly manner. Effective and efficient sewage collection, treatment and disposal is essential to protect the environment, maintain public health and to facilitate further economic development.

14.2 Schemes

14.2.1 Council provides wastewater schemes in the following communities, in order to ensure the effective treatment and disposal of sewage in an environmentally sustainable manner and to promote and protect public health.

1. Te Kuiti
2. Piopio
3. Maniaiti/Benneydale
4. Te Waitere.

14.3 Period of Benefit (Intergenerational Equity)

14.3.1 Capital works that are an improvement or addition to the asset are considered intergenerational.

14.4 Activity Analysis and Funding Mechanisms

14.4.1 District Wastewater

Attributable Benefit – Te Kuiti		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	8%	4%	TFR – District Benefit Wide (Transition rate for 3 years commencing 2025/26, with the intention to remove this rate by 1 July 2028 as we move to a "user pays" approach)
		4%	TFR – Trade Waste Contribution
Community Benefit	70%	70%	TFR – residential TFR – Te Kuiti Non residential Base Charge TFR – Te Kuiti Non residential pan charge
User/Applicant Benefit	22%	22%	Fees and Charges

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: Wastewater services are provided by Council in communities where environmental, public health/safety and/or economic outcomes require it as an imperative. Council recognises that there is a District-wide benefit from provision of adequate wastewater services in preventing environmental pollution and achieving public

health outcomes. Council notes that the social, economic and environmental benefits of communities in the District having sustainable wastewater services accrue to the entire District and not just to those communities connected to a scheme.

Community Benefit: Wastewater collection and treatment reduces the possibility of health problems like spread of communicable diseases resulting from open sewer or inadequate septic tank facilities the benefits of which can be attributed to the community as a whole. Inadequate wastewater disposal facilities can also detract from the aesthetic nature of the community and impact on receiving waterways.

The Community benefit can vary depending upon the amount of demand present. High users include premises with multiple pans.

User Benefit: Individual users in the particular wastewater scheme who want to and are able to use the service can be identified as beneficiaries of the service.

(b) Funding

District Allocation: Given the District wide benefit assessed from the service, Council resolved a Targeted Fixed Rate assessed on each rating unit including those connected to an existing wastewater scheme to be the most efficient, effective and transparent method for funding this allocation.

The District Benefit rate for Wastewater will reduce in 2025/26 as the first step towards a “user pays” approach, taking into account potential changes to the future delivery of water and wastewater services as part of Local Waters Done Well reforms.

To assist in smoothing the impact of this change, Council will transition the reduction in this rate over 3 years commencing 2025/26, with the intention to remove the District Benefit rate by 1 July 2028. The allocation for the 2025/26 financial year will be assessed at 6% of the rates requirement (excluding the trade waste contribution rate).

Community Allocation: Council resolved a uniform (harmonised) Targeted Fixed Rate (TFR) across all scheme areas in the district and assessed on each separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit, would be the most efficient, effective and transparently lawful method for funding this allocation.

Within a scheme area, the TFR will be differentiated by properties that are connected or have the ability to connect (serviceable). Any SUIP will be considered to have the ability to connect (serviceable) if in the opinion of Council it is practicably serviceable and its boundary is situated within 30 metres of Council's sewerage main, to which it is able to be connected but is not so connected.

User Allocation: Council resolved user Fees and Charges to be the most efficient method for funding this allocation for Te Kūiti , where revenue is received from connection fees and Trade Waste charges.

14.4.2 Te Kuiti – Non Residential

14.4.2.1 For all non-residential properties in Te Kuiti, Council will assess a Targeted Fixed Rate per SUIP set on a differential basis based on the following Categories (differentiated by the use to which land is put):

- **Category 1** - All Businesses
- **Category 2** - Education & Community Childcare, Places of Worship, Marae, Clubs and Societies and Emergency Services. This category consists of organisations that are generally deemed ‘not for profit’. For avoidance of doubt, Category 2 only covers properties with uses listed within this category and no others.
- **Category 3** - Government Department use, Rest Homes and Hospitals.
- **Ability to connect** – Those non-residential properties which are not connected but have the ability to connect.

14.4.2.2 All non-residential SUIPs will be charged one base charge for up to four pans and per

pan (Pan Charge) for every pan over and above this threshold. The base charge and per pan charge is calculated as follows:

Category	Base Charge	Pan Charge (per pan)
Category 1	50% of District residential connected rate (for up to 4 pans)	70% of District residential connected rate (for 5th pan and over)
Category 2	50% of District residential connected rate (for up to 4 pans)	30% of District residential connected rate (for 5 – 10 pans)
		20% of District residential connected rate (for over 10 pans)
Category 3	100% of District residential connected rate (for up to 4 pans)	70% of District residential connected rate (for 5th pan and over)
Ability to connect – base charge	50% of the District residential connected rate	

14.4.3 Trade Waste Charges

14.4.3.1 The Trade Waste Bylaw regulates the discharge of Trade Waste to a wastewater system operated by Council and sets out the mechanism for implementing trade waste charges.

14.4.3.2 Larger industrial meat processing industries (namely Te Kuiti Meats Ltd and Universal Beef Packers), who discharge trade waste into Council’s sewerage system, play a major role in the local community. The very nature of their presence means that they contribute to economic and social well-being. They do that by virtue of the fact that they employ a large number of local people. There are a range of positive downstream impacts for the community as a result. There is an economic benefit in that the related employment results in economic activity with people living locally and investing in the local property market, sending their children to local schools and spending their earnings within the local economy. Social benefits also accrue with families becoming integrated within the local community, joining clubs and societies and reduced crime.

14.4.3.3 Council will continue with the ‘exacerbator pays’ principle for the large industrial meat processing companies as users of the sewerage network in Te Kuiti through the continued implementation of the Trade Waste Bylaw as it relates to Trade Waste Charges. However, Council will recognise the public good attached to the contribution these significant industries make to the social and economic well-being of the District Wide Community. This public good component is considered to be enjoyed by all in the community. By having such a large combined demand for a labour force means that these industries attract people to our community for work and lifestyle reasons. Having these people living and working in the community provides economies of scale for infrastructure and services that are then enjoyed by all in the District. Further, these industries not only provide employment opportunities but also largely exist to add value to products produced by primary industry within the Waitomo District.

14.4.3.4 Council has decided that the cost of receiving and treating Trade Waste from the two major industrial meat processing industries via the Te Kūiti sewerage network will be funded 80% by way of Trade Waste Charges (Exacerbator Pays) and 20% by way of Targeted Fixed Rate (Public Good) on a per rating unit basis across every rateable property in the District.

14.4.3.5 The continuation of the cap on Trade Waste Charges at 80% of full cost recovery for the two meat processors only is dependent on Te Kūiti Meats Limited and Universal Beef Packers providing a demonstrable commitment to an agreed level of on-site treatment of their Trade Waste prior to releasing it to the Te Kūiti Wastewater Network.

15.0 Water Supply

Level of alignment to community outcomes

Primary Contribution	Secondary Contribution
A district for people	A prosperous district A district that values culture A district that cares for its environment

15.1 Description

15.1.1 The Water Supply activity provides for the environmentally safe collection, treatment and reticulation of Council's public water supplies. Water supply is essential to run households, maintain public health and sustain economic development. Council is committed to providing a water supply service that meets the diverse needs of the Waitomo District.

15.2 Supply Areas

15.2.1 Council provides water supply in the following communities:

1. Te Kuiti
2. Maniaiti/Benneydale
3. Mokau
4. Piopio

15.3 Period of Benefit (Intergenerational Equity)

15.3.1 Capital works that are an improvement or addition to the asset are considered intergenerational in nature.

15.4 Activity Analysis and Funding Mechanisms

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	6%	6%	TFR – District Benefit (Transition rate for 3 years commencing 2025/26, with the intention to remove this rate by 1 July 2028 as we move to a “user pays” approach)
Community Benefit	64%	64%	TFR – Per community where service is provided (Te Kuiti and Rural areas). Harmonisation paused, Transition rate – until a decision on the forming of a regional entity for delivery of water services is made
User/Applicant Benefit	30%	30%	Targeted Metered Water Rate

(a) Distribution of Benefits

District Benefit: Council has assessed that there is a District-wide benefit from provision of adequate water supply services in its communities. Council notes that the social, economic and environmental benefits of communities in the District having sustainable Water Supply services accrue to the entire District and not just to those communities connected to services.

Community Benefit: Water treatment and supply contributes to providing a safe and healthy lifestyle and reduces the possibility of health problems resulting from

contaminated water and inadequate supply. These benefits are attributable specifically to the community as a whole.

Provision of water supply ensures the maintenance of fire-fighting capability, the benefits of which accrue to the entire community. Factors such as the sensitivity of the surrounding environment on the availability of water at source are outside of a community's control.

All residents and properties in the area serviced by a particular water supply scheme can be identified as direct beneficiaries of the service.

(b) Funding

District Allocation: Council resolved that a Targeted Fixed Rate assessed on all rating units in the District including those connected to an existing Water supply scheme is the most transparent, equitable and appropriate method of funding this benefit allocation, as well as reflect the that the provision of adequate water supply services benefits the whole District as it is essential for maintaining public health and safety and protection of property from fire.

The District Benefit rate for Water Supply will reduce in 2025/26 as the first step towards a "user pays" approach, taking into account potential changes to the future delivery of water and wastewater services as part of Local Waters Done Well reforms and the planned installation of water meters in Years 4 and 5 of the LTP 2024-34.

To assist in smoothing the impact of this change, Council will transition the reduction in this rate over 3 years commencing 2025/26, with the intention to remove the District Benefit rate by 1 July 2028. The allocation for the 2025/26 financial year will be assessed at 6% of the total rates requirement.

Community Allocation: In the previous 10YP, Council resolved that a uniform (harmonised) Targeted Fixed Rate across all supply areas in the district and assessed on each separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit, would be the most efficient, effective and transparently lawful method for funding this allocation.

Due to affordability considerations and uncertainty around future ownership of water supply assets, Council will continue to pause the current transition to full harmonisation over the life of the plan. The activity was to be fully harmonised in 2024/25 however due to the uncertainties with the formation of a regional entity to deliver water services and the implementation of metered water commencing from Year 4 Council have elected to pause the full harmonisation of the charges. Within a water supply area, the TFR will be differentiated for properties that are connected or have the ability to connect (serviceable).

Any SUIP will be considered to have the ability to connect (serviceable) if, in the opinion of Council, it is practicably serviceable and its boundary is situated within 100 metres of a water main, to which it is able to be connected but is not so connected.

Any SUIP situated in Te Kuiti, Piopio, Maniaiti/Benneydale or Mokau that has been fitted with a water meter and/or is defined as having an extraordinary supply (in accordance with Council's Water Services Bylaw) will be charged a targeted fixed rate per cubic metre of water consumed over and above an annual consumption of 292m³ per SUIP.

16.0 Roads and Footpaths

Level of alignment to community outcomes

Council considers the community outcomes that this activity contributes to as:

Primary Contribution	Secondary Contribution
A district for people	A prosperous district A district that cares for its environment

16.1 Description

16.1.1 The Roads and Footpaths GOA includes the maintenance and development of roads, kerbs and channels, bridges, street lighting, footpaths and street cleaning for all of the Waitomo District, with the exception of the State Highways, which are managed by NZTA Waka Kotahi.

16.1.2 Council maintains its roads under contract to a standard that provides safe and comfortable driving within the limitations of available funding.

16.2 ACTIVITIES

16.2.1 The functions comprising this activity are:

1. Subsidised Roothing
2. Unsubsidised Roothing

16.3 Period of Benefit (intergenerational equity)

16.3.1 The benefit of most operating costs is expected to arise in the year the funding is sourced. Capital works that are an improvement or addition to the asset are considered intergenerational in nature.

16.3.2 In relation to the damage to local roads from forestry harvest the period of benefit has been considered over an exotic forest's life (ie 27 years) because of the high road damage costs during harvest relative to the rest of the forest's growing lifecycle.

16.4 Costs and benefits

16.4.1 There is a greater opportunity for the Waitomo District community to have input on decisions, proposals, issues and other matters through consultation by treating the Roothing activity distinctly from other activities. The Roads activity comprises two functions due to the requirement to identify expenditure eligible for NZTA funding and the other expenditure that is not eligible for subsidy.

16.4.2 The contribution towards the community outcomes were considered as well as the long term sharing of these costs versus the social, environmental and economic benefit that comes from the exotic forestry sector.

16.4.3 Modelling of forestry compared to non-forestry road costs has made it more transparent that there was a significant difference in costs. The modelled incremental costs from harvest damage are not fully passed on through the rating differential and there is strong intent to work with forestry businesses to find the best solution for maintaining and funding road damage during log harvest.

16.5 Impact on social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of the community

16.5.1 In considering the setting of the differential factors, Council reduced the differential factor to recognise the benefit that Forestry Activities provide to the district and to assist with affordability. The benefit recognised that the forestry industry provides to the district is through employment and commercial activity.

16.5.2 The capital value of the forestry property values do not include the value of the trees resulting in a lower capital value compared to other property categories thereby resulting in forestry properties contributing significantly less towards roading costs.

16.5.3 Consideration of the overall impact of the introduction of the differential categories and the resulting differential rates on each category of ratepayer.

16.5.4 The roading activity therefore lends itself to be funded by a separate targeted rate. There are several indicators why there should be a separate differential on the roading rate for exotic forestry (detailed above).

16.5.5 Due to the relatively low capital value of forestry land but the high contribution to roading costs from harvesting activities, the differential should be a substantial uplift on other categories of land. The differential for exotic forestry properties has been moderated somewhat less than the direct contribution to costs caused to due the benefits to the wider community from the exotic forestry activity and the affordability on ratepayers. Having regard to the overall effect of any rating impact, the Council has settled on a differential factor of 3. This differential factor may be reviewed during the 2025/26 annual plan development.

16.6 Activity Analysis and Funding Mechanisms

16.6.1 Council has chosen to differentiate the District Roding Rate into two categories and will use the 'use to which the land is put' (Schedule 2 (1) of LGRA 2002) to define the land liable for these rates. The TR will be assessed as a rate per \$100 of capital value to part fund the Roads and Footpaths activity. Council has chosen to primarily use valuation data to determine the allocation of rating units to differential rate categories.

The following land use categories and differential factors will apply to the District Roding Rate:

Differential Category	Definition	Differential Factor
a) District Roding Rate - General	All rating units in the district excluding those properties categorised as differential b) below.	1.0
b) District Roding Rate - Forestry Exotic	<p>Rating units that have been assigned the FE category code (Forestry Exotic) by Council's Valuation Service Provider and/or properties that are partially used for exotic forestry.</p> <p>Properties with a mixed use Where rating units have a mixed use (eg; pastoral and exotic forestry), and the area of exotic forestry is 20 hectares or more, the rating unit will be apportioned to enable the district roding rate to be charged correctly. The portion used for exotic forestry will be charged the differential of 3.0 and the remaining portion will be charged the differential of 1.0.</p>	3.0

16.7 Subsidised Roding

Waka Kotahi the national road funding authority, provides a subsidy for works that meet the criteria for subsidy. The Activities currently subsidised by Waka Kotahi are:

1. Sealed Pavement Maintenance
2. Unsealed Pavement Maintenance
3. Footpath Maintenance
4. Footpath Renewals
5. Routine Drainage Maintenance
6. Structures Maintenance
7. Environmental Maintenance
8. Traffic Services Maintenance
9. Level Crossing Warning Devices
10. Emergency Reinstatement
11. Network and Asset Management
12. Professional Services
13. Road repairs for damage to local roads from forestry harvesting

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
National Benefit	50%	71%	Subsidy
District Benefit	45%	27%	Differentiated Targeted Rates for 2 categories (rate per \$100 of capital value)
Exacerbator	5%	1%	Differentiated Targeted Rates for 2 categories (rate per \$100 of capital value)
		1%	Fees and charges (Petroleum Tax Rebates and Contributions)

(a) Distribution of Benefits

National Benefit: The District's roading network is part of the national and regional transport network. Efficient and sustainable development of the network within the District contributes to the economic and social well-being of the entire nation and region, as it is used by travellers, goods transporters and others who may or may not live in the District. Transport facilities are maintained and developed to provide safe and comfortable travel within and through the District.

District Benefit: All residents and businesses within the District can be identified as direct beneficiaries of the service as provision of roads enables access and transport to people and organisations within the District. The economic benefits of maintaining efficient transport facilities accrue to all residents of the District in one way or another.

Exacerbator: Extensive damage may occur to local roads from heavy vehicle movements during the forest harvest resulting in increased costs for repairing roads during and after the harvest period. The forestry traffic, at times of harvest, creates significant damage beyond that of other users to roads. The frequency of heavy traffic use during the harvest is believed to also accelerate damage compared to if the same volume was spread over a much longer period.

The implementation of forestry differential to recover part of the direct cost of exotic forest harvesting on local roads is seen to be a prudent way to balance the economic benefits derived by the district from forestry operations with the increased costs of maintaining local roads during harvest. The incremental annual average cost of maintaining a forestry road over the forest lifecycle is well in excess of the cost to maintain other roads and therefore an additional contribution from ratepayers who own exotic forests is considered appropriate.

In the case of mixed-use properties with less than 20 hectares of forestry, it was considered that these blocks may be too small to make a material impact on roading during harvest. This land may be steep or in small plantings that may have taken place to aid with erosion and may not be harvested.

(b) Funding

National Allocation: The National benefit portion is funded through the NZTA Waka Kotahi subsidy.

The amount of subsidy is decided by NZTA Waka Kotahi and is based on assessing costs and benefits therefore, Council resolved that the remainder of this allocation be transferred to District Allocation.

District Allocation: Council resolved that a combination of differentiated targeted rates (rate per \$100 of capital value) assessed on the two categories defined above, Petroleum Tax Rebates and contributions to works would be the most efficient and transparently lawful method of funding this allocation.

Exacerbator Allocation: Council resolved that differentiated targeted rates (per \$100 of capital value) assessed on the two categories defined above would be the most efficient method of funding this allocation. Council will continue to work with forestry parties to establish agreements whereby the parties assume all or part of the funding and/or management of the road repairs or reconstruction for roads directly and significantly impacted when forest harvesting takes place.

16.8 Unsubsidised Roding

These are activities carried out to ensure the safe and efficient travel within and through the District and are necessary for road or pedestrian safety and convenience but are not subsidised by NZTA Waka Kotahi and for which Council has sole financial responsibility.

These include:

1. Amenity Lights
2. Unsubsidised Miscellaneous work including road legalisation and road stopping and support services for unsubsidised road projects
3. Street Cleaning and Litter Bins
4. Carpark maintenance (other than kerbside parking)

Attributable Benefit		Funding	
Benefit Group	% of Benefit	%	Method
District Benefit	100%	83%	Differentiated Targeted Rates for 2 categories (rate per \$100 of capital value)
		17%	Fees and Charges

(a) Distribution of Benefits

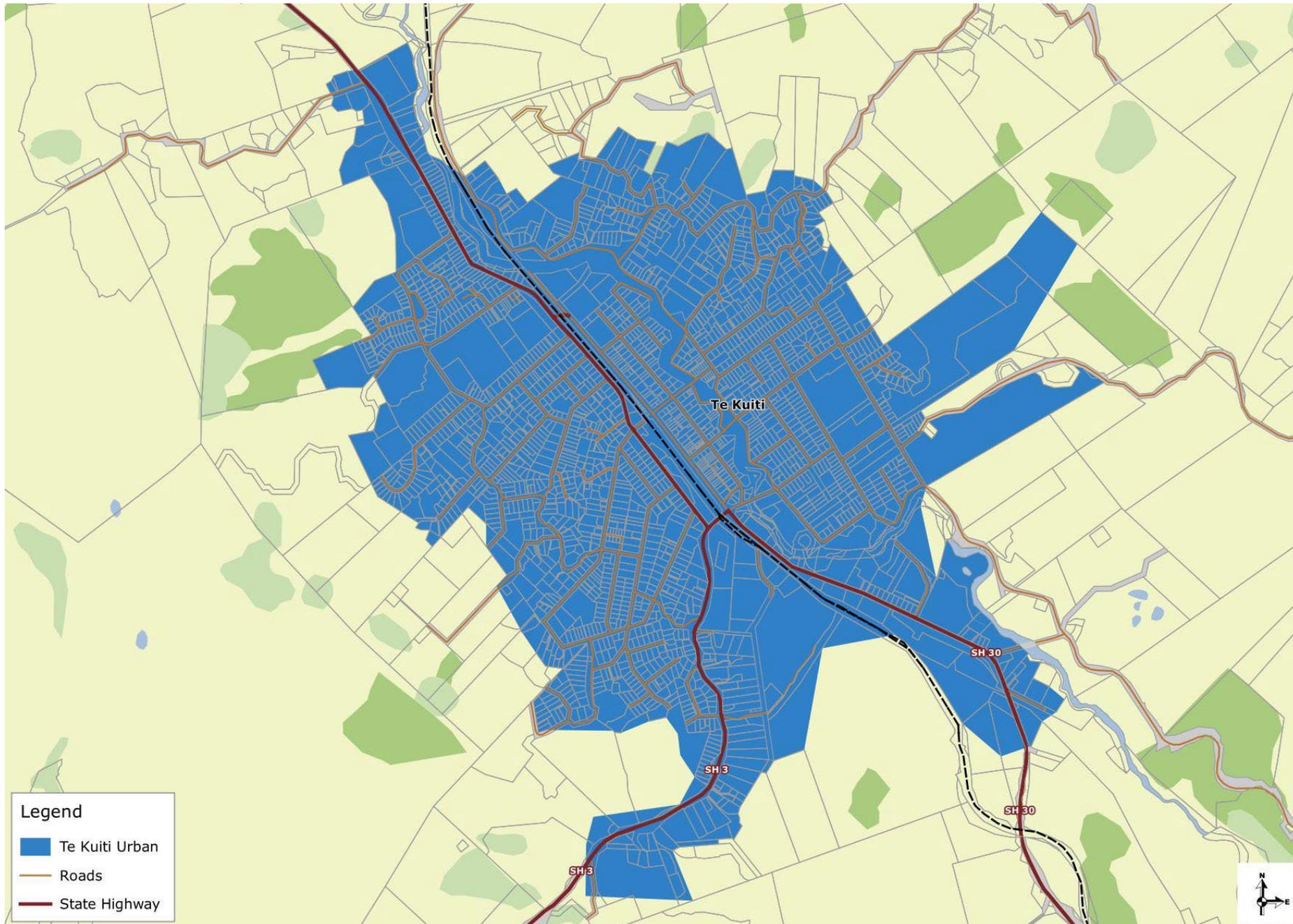
District Benefit: Maintenance of transport services to provide for pedestrian safety and convenience has a District wide benefit in that all residents use or visit the urban centres.

(b) Funding

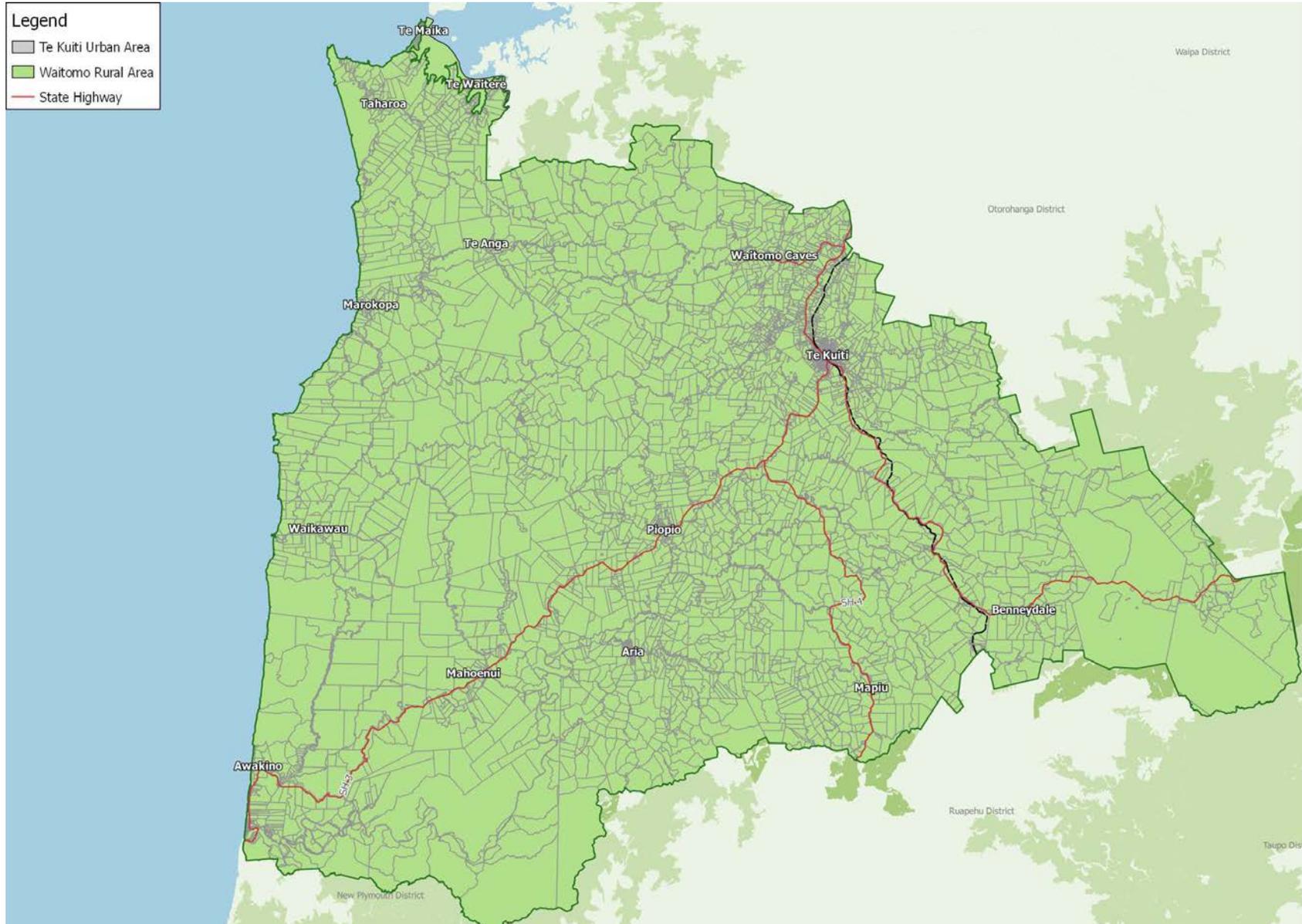
District Allocation: Council resolved that a combination of differentiated targeted rates (per \$100 of capital value) assessed on the two categories defined above and fees and charges would be the most efficient method of funding this allocation.

Fees and charges include receipts from road closures, overweight permits, etc. together with a long-standing contribution from identified parties towards maintenance of the District's roads based on annual production or capitation.

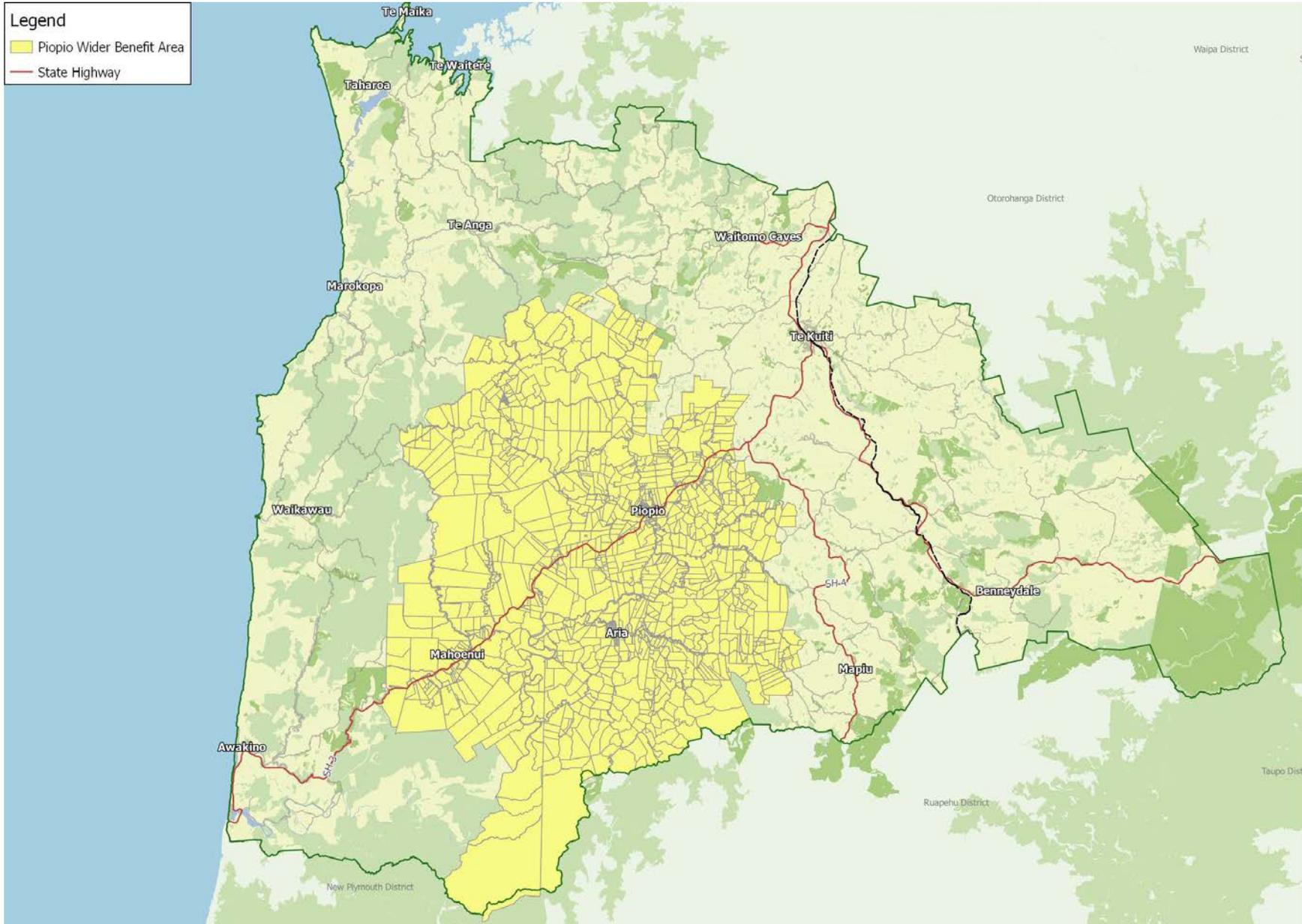
APPENDIX ONE: TE KUITI URBAN RATING AREA



APPENDIX TWO: RURAL RATING AREA



APPENDIX THREE: PIOPIO WIDER BENEFIT AREA



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FEES AND CHARGES

2025/26

Effective from 1 July 2025

*All Fees and Charges are inclusive of GST,
with the exception of bonds, penalties and residential housing*

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COMPLIANCE		
Description	2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
Building consent fees		
Building Consent cost includes Inspection fee and Code Compliance Certificate. All fees are payable on application.		
Code Compliance Certificate - CCC	160.00	165.00
Record of title	30.00	32.00
Production of Project Information Memorandum (PIM)	315.00	325.00
Solid Fuel Heaters		
Freestanding (1 inspection)	555.00	575.00
Insert (2 inspections)	780.00	805.00
Minor Works (1 inspection)		
Garden Sheds Basic Warning System Marquees Plumbing or Drainage Swimming pools/Spa pool fence only	650.00	670.00
Minor Building Works (2 inspections)		
Carports Demolitions Decks Swimming Pools over 35,000 litre capacity (includes fence)	1060.00	1095.00
Other Buildings (2 Inspections)		
Garages Hay Barns Implement Sheds Bridges	1060.00	1095.00
Detached habitable buildings, no plumbing or drainage (5 inspections)		
Sleep Out Office Studio Additions/alterations up to 30m ² Internal alterations to dwellings	1730.00	1785.00
Detached habitable buildings, with plumbing or drainage (6 inspections)		
Sleepout with toilet/shower Additions/alterations up to 60m ² with plumbing and drainage Internal alterations to dwellings	2050.00	2115.00
Additions/alterations up to 60m² (6 inspections)	2050.00	2115.00
Other new buildings up to 60m² excluding dwellings and commercial buildings (6 inspections)	2050.00	2115.00
<i>Note: For other building work over 60m² the below dwelling and commercial/ industrial fees apply.</i>		
Dairy Sheds (3 inspections)	2170.00	2235.00
Re-sited Dwellings (3 inspections)	2435.00	2510.00
Re-sited dwellings with additions or alterations (includes 6 inspections)	3510.00	3615.00
Dwelling Single Storey up to 100m² (8 inspections)	3460.00	3565.00
Dwelling Single Storey up to 250m² (9 inspections)	3778.00	3895.00
Dwelling Single Storey larger than 250m² (9 inspections)	4150.00	4275.00
Dwelling Two Storey or more up to 250m² (9 inspections)	4270.00	4400.00
Dwelling Two Storey or more larger than 250m² (9 inspections)	4690.00	4830.00
Commercial /Industrial up to 300m² (9 inspections)	4600.00	4740.00
Commercial/Industrial - Basic kit-set type building, no services or internal fit-out (3 inspections)	2015.00	2075.00
Commercial/Industrial larger than 300m² (9 inspections)	5175.00	5330.00
Commercial - Internal Alterations (3 inspections)	2015.00	2075.00
Inspection Fee (compliance inspection/ etc.) per inspection	200.00	210.00
Travel costs – applies to inspections in excess of 5km from the Waitomo District Council Queen Street office	Tier 1 rate per km – 95 cents	Tier 1 rate per km – 104 cents
Inspection fee – swimming / spa pools <i>Note: The first triennial inspection is undertaken at no charge. This fee covers all subsequent inspections.</i>	160.00	206.00
Amendments - project value over \$20,001	500.00	515.00
Amendments – minor works with project value up to \$20,000	275.00	285.00
Compliance Schedules		
New Compliance Schedule (Section 102 Building Act 2004)	400.00	415.00
Amendments to existing Compliance Schedule (Section 106 and 107 Building Act)	295.00	305.00

COMPLIANCE		
Description	2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
2004)		
Request for Extension of Time for a Building Consent – work start or CCC	168.00	175.00
Application for exemption from requirement to carry out seismic work under section 133AN – includes 1 inspection.	715.00	740.00
Applications for waivers or modifications to means of restricting access to residential pools under section 67A – includes 1 inspection.	715.00	740.00
Processing of Section 71/77 Certificate	265.00	165.00
Plus on-charge of Solicitors fee to prepare and register certificate. (Actual Cost)	Actual Cost	Actual Cost
Certificate of Acceptance - Section 41(c) (1 inspection) Any building work in respect of which a building consent cannot practicably be obtained in advance because the building work has to be carried out urgently.	990.00	1020.00
Certificate of Acceptance - Section 96(1)(a) (1 inspection) (i) the work was done by the owner or any predecessor in title of the owner; and (ii) a building consent was required for the work but not obtained. (In addition to the fees that would have been payable had the owner or previous owner applied for a building consent before carrying out the building work).	2000.00	2030.00
Certificate of Public Use (1 inspection)	685.00	705.00
Certificate of Public Use – reissue for extension of time (1 inspection)	350.00	360.00
Notice to Fix (1 inspection)	475.00	490.00
Accreditation Levy (consents valued over \$20,000) For every building consent with an estimated value of \$20,000 and over, \$1.75 per \$1,000 is payable	1.75 per \$1,000	1.75 per \$1,000
Building Research Levy For every building consent with an estimated value of \$20,000 and over, \$1.00 per \$1,000 is payable	1.00 per \$1,000	1.00 per \$1,000
MBIE Levy For every building consent with an estimated value of \$65,000 and over, \$1.75 per \$1,000 is payable	1.75 per \$1,000	1.75 per \$1,000
Lapsed or Refused Building Consents Refunds will be paid to the person(s) who paid the fees on application. <i>Note: Refund will have an administration fee deducted (see below)</i>	Refund of BRANZ and MBIE levies, ccc and unused inspection fees, and less administration fee	Refund of BRANZ and MBIE levies, ccc and unused inspection fees, and less administration fee
Administration fee for refund on refused or lapsed consents	210.00	220.00
Peer Review of Specific Designs by External Agents	Actual Cost	Actual Cost
Any additional costs incurred in processing a building consent shall be recoverable on actual and reasonable basis.	170.00 per hour	175.00
Applying for an exemption from requiring a building consent under schedule 1 clause 2 of the Building Act 2004, project value over \$20,001. <i>Note: this is an application for an exemption only. It is not guaranteed that the exemption will be granted. The application fee is non-refundable.</i>	555.00	575.00
Applying for an exemption from requiring a building consent under schedule 1 clause 2 of the Building Act 2004, project value up to \$20,000 <i>Note: this is an application for an exemption only. It is not guaranteed that the exemption will be granted. The application fee is non-refundable.</i>	265.00	275.00
Application for an exemption to carry out seismic work (1 inspection) Process application for exemption from requirement to carry out seismic work on a building subject to an earthquake-prone building notice (Section 133AN Building Act 2004)	630.00	650.00
Building Control Officer - per hour Hourly rate for any additional inspections, reports, or advice required	New	190.00
Other Regulatory Fees and Charges		
Overseas investment certificates – for determining and issuing	330.00	340.00
Section 348 – Right of way (ROW) application – processing application for ROW under the Local Government Act 1974	680.00	700.00
Sale and Supply of Alcohol Certificates for Building Certification	220.00	230.00
Record of Title search	30.00	32.00
Fee for uplifting building line restrictions. <i>Note: It is not guaranteed that the building line restriction will be approved. The application fee is non-refundable.</i> <i>Note: There are legal fees associated with having the BLR removed from the Record of Title. These legal fees are not included in this fee. Please enquire with your solicitor or conveyancer regarding their fees.</i>	700.00	725.00

Building Act 2004 – explanatory note

- These fees and charges become operative on 1 July 2025 and will apply for all work carried out and decisions issued on or after 1 July 2025, irrespective of when the application was lodged with the Council.
- The charges set out in this schedule are pursuant to Subpart 9, Section 281 A, B and C of the Building Act 2004.
- All such charges are stated inclusive of GST at 15%, however should the GST rate be amended, GST will be charged at the prevailing rate.
- Where a fixed charge is in any particular case inadequate pursuant to section 281B to enable the Council to recover its actual and reasonable costs in respect of the matter concerned, the Council will require the applicant to pay an additional charge to the Council.

Charge-out rates for council officers and mileage

Charge out rates for Council officers are set out in this schedule and:

- Are fixed charges;
- If reference is made in the schedule to actual staff time, it will be charged in accordance with the relevant hourly charge-out rates;
- The charge-out rates for Council officers and for mileage will apply to all matters listed in the Schedule so that:
 - if the fixed charge which has been paid in advance is greater by more than \$50.00 than the actual and reasonable costs incurred by the Council relating to that application, a refund will be given when those costs are finally assessed; and
 - if the actual and reasonable costs incurred by the Council relating to that application are inadequate to enable the Council to recover its actual and reasonable costs then additional charges calculated for staff time at the same rate will be payable (as well as any other items of additional charge which may have been incurred).

COMPLIANCE		
Description	2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
Land Information Memorandum (LIM)		
Land Information Memorandum (LIM)	330.00	340.00
Administration Fee for refund on cancelled LIM (note where substantial work has been completed on the LIM a refund will not be given; where substantial work has not been completed, the LIM fee will be refunded minus the administration fee).	55.00	60.00
Hardcopy LIM	25.00	30.00
Animal and Dog Control Fees		
All Fees are set in accordance with the Dog Control Act 1996 and by Council Resolution.		
Urban (for dogs in an urban area which comply with the provisions of Dog Control Act 1996)	130.00	134.00
Spayed or Neutered Dogs in the Urban Area	98.00	101.00
Special Owner (Dog Control Policy) Dogs	77.00	79.00
Gold card holders for urban dogs	117.00	117.00
Rural Dogs	55.00	57.00
Rural Dogs > 5 For every 5 rural dogs you register the 6th dog registration is free if paid on or before registration date.	Multiple rural dog discount	Multiple rural dog discount
Late registration	50% of the fee that would have been payable if that dog had been registered on the first day of the registration	50% of the fee that would have been payable if that dog had been registered on the first day of the registration
Dangerous Dogs registration	150% of the fee that would apply if the dog were not classified as a Dangerous Dog.	150% of the fee that would apply if the dog were not classified as a Dangerous Dog.
Disability Assist Dog registration <i>Note: To be eligible, the dog must be certified as a disability assist dog in accordance with Schedule 5 of the Dog Control Act 1996.</i>	No charge	No charge
Replacement Registration Tag	5.25	5.40

COMPLIANCE		
Description	2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
Impounding Fees		
The owner of an impounded dog that is not claimed or signed over to Council remains liable for all impounding and sustenance fees, veterinary costs, irrespective of the fate of the dog.		
Seizure (per dog seized)	68.00	70.00
First Impounding (registered dog)	75.00	80.00
First Impounding (unregistered dog)	110.00	115.00
Second Impounding	150.00	154.00
Third and subsequent impounding	220.00	230.00
Plus Sustenance fees - per day	18.00	20.00
Veterinary charges		Actual cost
Re-Homing Re-homing of unwanted/ unclaimed dogs (unregistered) dogs will be the applicable registration fee and micro-chipping fee and all other reasonable associated costs.	Applicable costs	Applicable costs
Surrender/disposal (in addition to applicable impounding charges and sustenance)	80.00	90.00
Micro-chipping	30.00	35.00
Permits		
Consent to keep more than 2 dogs in the urban area. Provided that if more than one inspection is required prior to approval, a further fee of \$30.00 will apply per inspection.	60.00	65.00
Special Owner property check		40.00
Dog Collars		
Barking collars	40.00	45.00
Batteries for barking collars	6.00	8.00
Small		10.00
Medium		12.00
Large		14.00
Extra large		16.00
Stock Impounding Fee - Excluding dogs		
First impounded animal	125.00	130.00
Per animal thereafter (impounded at the same time as the first impounded animal)	45.00	46.00
Subsequent Impounding – within any 24 month period involving animals owned by the same person/organisation	245.00	252.00
Per animal thereafter (impounded at the same time as the subsequently impounded animal)	45.00	46.00
Veterinary charges		Actual cost
Driving charges – (per hour, per officer) - leading, driving or conveying stock (pursuant to section 14 of the Impounding Act 1955) plus mileage at local government rates, plus any other reasonable costs incurred, including the full costs of any after-hours response	140.00	150.00
Grazing (per day) – horses, cattle, mules, ass, deer, pigs plus costs of any hard/ supplementary feeds i.e. hay, grain	10.00	15.00
Grazing (per day) – sheep, goats, and any others plus costs of any hard/ supplementary feeds i.e. hay, grain	5.00	10.00
Advertising costs (pursuant to the Impounding Act 1988)	Actual cost	Actual cost
Stock surrender		Actual costs

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND ALCOHOL LICENSING		
Description	2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
Health Act Licence Fees		
Amusement Device Permits (Section 11 Amusement Device Regulations 1978)		
1. First Device (first 7 days or part thereof)	10.00	10.00
2. Each additional Device (first 7 days or part thereof)	2.00	2.00
3. Each device for further period of 7 days or part thereof	1.00	1.00
Fees for Functions under the Food Act 2014		
All administration and verification activities including annual verification, reporting, non-	185.00	228.00

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND ALCOHOL LICENSING		
Description	2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
conformance visits and any activity not specified in the schedule below		
Fees applicable to Template Food Control Plans		
Application for new registration of Template Food Control Plan (plus actual staff time at hourly rate of \$228 after the first hour)	450.00	450.00
Application for renewal of registration of Template Food Control Plan (plus actual staff time at hourly rate of \$228 after the first hour)	360.00	360.00
Application for a significant amendment (section 45(3)) of registration of Template Food Control Plan, or move from Template Food Control Plan to National Programme (plus actual staff time at hourly rate of \$228 after the first hour)	180.00	180.00
Application for a minor amendment (section 45(2)) of registration of Template Food Control Plan. <i>Note: Minor changes constitute changes to details such as contact information (email, phone, day to day manager, and postal address).</i>	80.00	80.00
Voluntary suspension of Template Food Control Plan (plus actual staff time at hourly rate of \$228 after the first hour)	90.00	95.00
Fees applicable to National Programmes		
Application for new registration of premises under a National Programme (plus actual staff time at hourly rate of \$228 after the first hour)	450.00	450.00
Application for renewal of registration of premises under a National Programme. (plus actual staff time at hourly rate of \$228 after the first hour)	360.00	360.00
Application for significant amendment (section 81) of registration under a National Programme or move from National Programme to Template Food Control Plan during the registration year. (plus actual staff time at hourly rate of \$228 after the first hour)	180.00	180.00
Application for a minor amendment of registration under a National Programme, such as a change in contact information, trading name. (plus actual staff time at hourly rate of \$228 after the first hour)	180.00	80.00
Voluntary suspension of National Programme. (plus actual staff time at hourly rate of \$228 after the first hour)	90.00	95.00
Issue of improvement notice, or review of an improvement notice. (plus actual staff time at hourly rate of \$228 after the first hour)	170.00	185.00
Application for statement of compliance. (plus actual staff time at hourly rate of \$228 after the first hour)	170.00	185.00
Copy of Food Control Plan folder and documents.	30.00	30.00
Canceling an audit or verification within 24 hours of the scheduled date and time of audit.	110.00	185.00
Environmental Health Officer Hourly rate for any additional staff time	185.00 per hour	228.00 per hour
Administration fee for refund on cancelled applications pursuant to the Food Act (note where substantial work has been completed on the application a refund will not be given, where substantial work has not been completed, the application fee will be refunded minus the administration fee).	55.00	60.00
Hawkers, Mobile Shops, and Stalls (Public Places Bylaw Clause 11)		
Hawkers		
Note: Some applicants may be eligible for a fee waiver -to check for eligibility please enquire with WDC Customer Services.	66.00	67.00
Street stalls, raffle days, street collections - non commercial	Free	Free
Street Stalls day	20.00	21.00
Street Stalls month	60.00	62.00
Mobile Shop 1 day rate	40.00	42.00
Mobile shop 1 month rate	80.00	83.00
Mobile shop annual fee	400.00	415.00
Mobile Trader 1 day rate	40.00	42.00
Mobile trader 1 month rate	80.00	83.00
Mobile Trader annual fee	400.00	415.00
Impounding of Stereo		
<i>Impounding Charges for Stereo (RMA 1991 sec 336). Note: Impounded stereo will be sold after six months if not claimed and impounding fees not paid.</i>	198.45	205.00
Licensing – Alcohol (Ref: Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013)		

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND ALCOHOL LICENSING		
Description	2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
Existing premises - Section 100(f) certificates certifying that the proposed use of the premises meets the requirements of the RMA	157.50	180.00
New or altered premises - Section 100(f) certificates certifying that the proposed use of the premises meets the requirements of the RMA	262.50	280.00
Off/On/Club Application Fee – Very Low Risk	368.00	368.00
Off/On/Club Application Fee – Low Risk	609.50	609.50
Off/On/Club Application Fee – Medium Risk	816.50	816.50
Off/On/Club Application Fee – High Risk	1,023.50	1,023.50
Off/On/Club Application Fee – Very High Risk	1,207.50	1,207.50
Annual Fees		
Off/On/Club Application Fee – Very Low Risk	161.00	161.00
Off/On/Club Application Fee – Low Risk	391.00	391.00
Off/On/Club Application Fee – Medium Risk	632.50	632.50
Off/On/Club Application Fee – High Risk	1,035.50	1,035.50
Off/On/Club Application Fee – Very High Risk	1,437.50	1,437.50
Managers Certificate – New and Renewal	316.25	316.25
Temporary Authority	296.70	296.70
Special Licences		
Class 1	575.00	575.00
Class 2	207.00	207.00
Class 3	63.25	63.25
Administration fee for refund on cancelled sale and supply of alcohol applications (note where substantial work has been completed on the application a refund will not be given, where substantial work has not been completed, the application fee will be refunded minus the administration fee)	53.00	60.00
Other Applications		
Temporary Licence Under section 74 of the Act to sell alcohol pursuant to a licence from premises other than the premises to which the licence relates during repairs etc.		296.70
Permanent Club Charters The holder of a permanent club charter (as described in section 414 of the Act)		632.50
Extract from Register Under section 66(2) of the Act for an extract from a register		57.50
Licensing – Other		
Transfer of Certificates of Registration or Licence <i>Note: This covers transfer of certificates of registration or licence due to change in ownership of the business.</i>	100.00	103.00
Offensive Trades – Registration Fees		
Saleyards – Registration Fees	265.00	275.00
Hairdressers – Registration Fees	265.00	275.00
Funeral Director – Registration Fees	265.00	275.00
Mortuary Premises – Registration Fees	265.00	275.00
Camping Grounds – Registration Fees	265.00	275.00
Body Piercing and Tattooing - Registration Fees	New	275.00
Skateboarding impounding fee	66.00	68.00
Application for Lease of Airspace	110.00	115.00
Lease of Airspace	Charge will be assessed on a site by site basis	Charge will be assessed on a site by site basis
Parking Infringement Fees		
Excess Parking – For parking on a road in breach of the provisions of Waitomo District Council’s Land Transport Bylaw 2025, in excess of a period fixed by the bylaw or otherwise where the excess is:		
Not more than 30 minutes	12.00	20.00
More than 30 minutes but not more than 1 hour	15.00	25.00
More than 1 hours but not more than 2 hours	21.00	36.00
More than 2 hours but not more than 4 hours	30.00	51.00
More than 4 hours but not more than 6 hours	42.00	71.00
More than 6 hours	57.00	97.00
Other Parking Offences		
Parking on designated bus stop	40.00	70.00
Parking on designated loading zone	40.00	70.00
Parking on a footpath	40.00	70.00

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND ALCOHOL LICENSING		
Description	2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
Parking contrary to parking signage	40.00	70.00
Parking on ornamental verge	40.00	70.00
Parking within 1 m of a vehicle entrance	40.00	70.00
Parking on or within 6m of an intersection	60.00	100.00
Inconsiderate parking	60.00	100.00
Double parking	60.00	100.00
Parking on a yellow broken line	60.00	100.00
Parking in a designated space for disabled persons	150.00	750.00
Towage Fees		
Towage fees in respect of parking offence		
If the motor vehicle has a gross weight of 3,500 kilograms or less - a fee not exceeding \$78.43 [+GST], if the towage takes place between the hours of 7 am and 6 pm on any day other than a Saturday, Sunday, or public holiday; or a fee not exceeding \$104.61 [+GST], if the towage takes place at any other time; or		Actual costs up to 90.20 or 120.30
If the motor vehicle has a gross weight of more than 3,500 kilograms - a fee not exceeding \$194.26 [+GST], if the towage takes place between the hours of 7 am and 6 pm on any day other than a Saturday, Sunday, or public holiday; or a fee not exceeding \$298.87 [+ GST], if the towage takes place at any other time; or		Actual costs up to 223.40 or 343.70
Towage fees - not associated with parking infringement or offence	Actual Cost	Actual Cost
The registered vehicle owner will be liable for any costs associated with towage and storage of the vehicle towed for any reason other than parking offences		
Litter Infringement Fee		
Litter, of less than or equal to 1 litre, left in a public space, or on private land, without the occupier's consent – First Offence	110.00	115.00
Litter, of less than or equal to 1 litre, left in a public space, or on private land, without the occupier's consent – Second or Subsequent Offence within a Year	400.00	400.00
Litter, of more than 1 litre and less than or equal to 20 litres ¹ , left in a public space, or on private land, without the occupier's consent – First Offence	165.00	170.00
Litter, of more than 1 litre and less than or equal to 20 litres ¹ , left in a public space, or on private land, without the occupier's consent – Second or Subsequent Offence within a Year	400.00	400.00
Litter, of more than 20 litres ¹ and less than or equal to 120 litres ² , left in a public space, or on private land, without the occupier's consent – First Offence	275.00	285.00
Litter, of more than 20 litres ¹ and less than or equal to 120 litres ² , left in a public space, or on private land, without the occupier's consent – Second or Subsequent Offence within a Year	400.00	400.00
Litter, of more than 120 litres ² left in a public space, or on private land, without the occupier's consent – First Offence	400.00	400.00
Litter, of more than 120 litres ² left in a public space, or on private land, without the occupier's consent – Second or Subsequent Offence within a Year	400.00	400.00
Hazardous ³ or offensive litter ⁴ left in a public space, or on private land without the occupier's consent – First Offence	400.00	400.00
Hazardous ³ or offensive litter ⁴ left in a public space, or on private land without the occupier's consent – Second or Subsequent Offence within a Year	400.00	400.00

¹- 20 litres is the approximate maximum capacity of two standard supermarket bags in normal conditions.

²- 120 litres is the approximate maximum capacity of a standard mobile garbage bin in normal conditions (for example the red lid 'wheelie bin' used for domestic refuse collection in the Waitomo area).

³- Hazardous litter includes broken glass, barbed wire, jagged metal, medicines, hazardous waste etc.

⁴- Offensive waste includes rotting food, animal remains, faeces including discarded nappies etc.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT			
Description		2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
General			
Pre application	Pre application meeting	Actual staff time	Actual staff time
Lodgment meeting	To lodge any consent	Actual staff time	Actual staff time
Pre-hearing meeting	For any meeting or mediation held (s99)	Actual staff time	Actual staff time
Deemed Boundary Activity (s87BA)	Consider and issue notice	Fixed 420.00	Fixed 420.00
Marginal or temporary rule breaches / exemptions(s87BB) <i>Note: please discuss this with Council's Planner prior to application</i>	Consider and issue notice (if applicable)	Fixed 700.00	Deposit 800.00
Land use consents			
Application or land use consent	All land use consents, except as otherwise provided below	Deposit 1500.00	Deposit 1500.00
Notified resource consents			
Limited notified consent	Any resource consent application that requires limited notification	Deposit 6,500.00	Deposit 6,700.00
Notified consent	Any resource consent application that requires public notification	Deposit 10,000.00	Deposit 12,000.00
Subdivision Consents			
Application for subdivision consent	Creating 9 lots or less where no road/reserves proposed	Deposit 3,000.00	Deposit 3,200.00
Application for subdivision consent	Creating 10 lots or more, or any subdivision where a road/reserve is proposed	Deposit 4,500.00	Deposit 4,700.00
Application for joint subdivision and land use consent	For any joint subdivision and land use consent application	Deposit 4,500.00	Deposit 4,650.00
Subdivision processes (post approval)			
Section 223 certification	for subdivisions < 2 Lots	300.00	260.00
Section 223 certification	For subdivisions > 3 Lots	600.00	620.00
Section 224C certification		500.00	260.00
Section 241	Cancellation/partial cancellation of amalgamation condition	Fixed 550.00	500.00
Section 221	Consent notice – preparation, authorisation, change or cancellation	Fixed 350.00	335.00
Cross lease	Amendments to flats plans	Deposit 630.00	620.00
Engineering	For inspections of any works for conditions, including checking engineering plans and any amendments	Actual staff time	Actual staff time
Other resource management activities			
Section 127	Application to change or cancel condition(s) of consent (non-notified only, notified consents will be charged the relevant notification fee)	Deposit 1500.00	Deposit 1550.00
Section 125/126	Applications for extensions of consent periods	Deposit 600.00	Deposit 620.00
Section 124	Exercise of resource consent while applying for new consent	Deposit 1,500.00	Deposit 1,550.00
Section 128-132	Review of consent conditions (non-notified only, notified consents will be charged the relevant notification fee)	Deposit 800.00	Deposit 825.00
Section 134	Transfer of holders interest in a consent (fixed fee)	Deposit 150.00	Deposit 155.00
Section 139A	Existing use right determination	Deposit 2,000.00	Deposit 2,060.00
Section 138	Application to surrender a resource consent	Deposit 500.00	Deposit 515.00
Section 139	Application for Certificate of Compliance	Deposit 1,000.00	Deposit 1,030.00
Section 357	Objection pursuant to sections 357(A) or (B)	Deposit 450.00	Deposit 463.50
NES	Confirmation of compliance with National Environmental Standard	Actual staff	Actual staff

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT			
Description		2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
Other	Any application pursuant to the RMA not listed elsewhere	time Deposit 1,500.00	time Deposit 1,550.00
Designations			
Public or limited notified	Notice of Requirement for Designation	Deposit 10,000.00	Deposit 12,000.00
Non-notified	Notice of Requirement for Designation	Deposit 5,000.00	Deposit 6,000.00
Sections 181, 182	Requirement for alteration or removal/partial removal of designation	Deposit 1,500.00	Deposit 1,550.00
Section 184/184A	Application to determine designation lapsing	Deposit 2,500.00	Deposit 2,575.00
Section 180	Transfer of rights and responsibilities for designations	Deposit 1,500.00	Deposit 1,550.00
Sections 177, 178	Request to the requiring authority responsible for an earlier designation. Application to do anything which would prevent or hinder the public work or project	Deposit 600.00	Deposit 620.00
Section 176	Application for outline plan	Deposit 800.00	Deposit 825.00
Section 176A (2)	Waiver of requirement for outline plan	Deposit 250.00	Deposit 260.00
Heritage orders			
Sections 189/189A, 196, 177	Requirement for a heritage order. Requirement for removal of heritage order. Request to requiring authority responsible for the earlier heritage order.	Deposit 1,500.00	Deposit 1,550.00
Plan Change application (to amend the District Plan)			
1st schedule	Processing, considering and determining a private plan change application.	Deposit 30,000.00	Deposit 31,000.00
Compliance and monitoring			
General	Administration, review, correspondence.	Actual staff time	Actual staff time
Inspections (excluding engineering)	To monitor progress with giving effect to any resource consent, and compliance with consent conditions.	150.00 per inspection	155.00 per inspection
Engineering	For any inspection required.	Actual staff time	Actual staff time
Miscellaneous charges			
Legal instruments	Search for easement documents, covenants, encumbrances, or any other document registered on Certificates of Title.	Actual staff time + LINZ costs	Actual staff time + LINZ costs
Affixing council's seal/authorising document	For administrative costs incurred in affixing council's seal and/or signature to any document where a charge is not otherwise listed.	Fixed 250.00	Fixed 260.00
Variation/cancellations	Variation or cancellation of any legal document/ instrument not otherwise listed.	Fixed 450.00	Fixed 465.00
Public notice	Costs associated with public notices.	Actual staff time + advertisement fees	Actual staff time + advertisement fees
Signs	Affixing signs on site.	Fixed 35.00 per sign	Fixed 35.00 per sign
Delegated approvals	Staff decision on application, acting under delegated authority.	Actual staff time	Actual staff time
Bonds – excluding engineering	Preparation, release and signing of any bond (excluding engineering).	Fixed 1000.00	Fixed 1030.00
Bonds - engineering	Preparation, release and signing of any bond - engineering (roading and servicing works).	Fixed 1000.00	Fixed 1030.00
Consultants	The applicant will reimburse council for any fees paid by council to any consultants.	Actual consultant costs + actual costs	Actual consultant costs + actual costs
Noise control (for the return of equipment seized under the RMA)	For the return of equipment seized under the RMA.	Fixed 180.00	Fixed 190.00
Hearings			
Attendance	A charge will be made for the costs of all staff and/ or consultants required to attend a hearing.	Actual staff/ consultant time	Actual staff/ consultant time

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT			
Description		2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
Hearing by commissioner(s)	Where independent commissioner(s) preside.	Actual costs	Actual costs
Hearings by commissioner(s) where requested pursuant to s100A of the RMA	1. Where applicant requests (whether or not also requested by a submitter(s))	Actual costs to be paid by applicant	Actual costs to be paid by applicant
	2. Where requested by a submitter(s): (a) The applicant shall pay the amount WDC estimates it would cost for the applicant to be heard and decided if the request was not made. (b) The submitter(s) who made the request will pay equal shares of any amount by which the cost of the application being heard/decided exceeds the amount payable by the applicant (i.e. in (a) above).	Actual costs As per 2(a) and (b)	Actual costs As per 2(a) and (b)
Note: applies to applicants and Requiring Authorities			
Hearing by Council	A charge will be made per councillor, as set by the Remuneration Authority, including time spent on site visits.	\$93 for Hearing Member \$116 for Hearing Chair	\$93 for Hearing Member \$116 for Hearing Chair
Postponement/withdrawal or cancellation	If the applicant fails to give a minimum of 5 working days written notice of a request for cancellation, withdrawal or postponement of a scheduled hearing.	Actual Costs	Actual Costs
Venue	Hiring a venue for the hearing	Actual Costs	Actual Costs
Request for information/supply of resource management documents			
Providing information	Any request to provide information in respect of the District Plan or any consent.	Actual staff time	Actual staff time
Providing copies	Copying information relating to consents and Council's functions under section 35 of RMA and the supply of any document.	Actual staff time + photocopying costs	Actual staff time + photocopying costs
Waitomo District Plan	Full printed copy of text and planning maps.	200.00 per copy	206.00 per copy
Photocopying – charged as per Council's corporate rate			set rates
Officer's hourly charge out rates			
General Manager – Strategy and Environment		200.00 per hour	220.00 per hour
Managers – any other		185.00 per hour	205.00 per hour
Principal / Senior Planner		185.00 per hour	195.00 per hour
Planner		175.00 per hour	185.00 per hour
Engineer		170.00 per hour	180.00 per hour
Technical staff – any other		170.00 per hour	180.00 per hour
Team Leader Monitoring and Compliance/ Officer		160.00 per hour	200.00 per hour
Administrator (any) and any other staff member not listed		100.00 per hour	105.00 per hour
Consultant		Actual costs	Actual costs
Mileage			
For each kilometer travelled		1.35 per km	1.04 per km
Hazardous Activities and Industries List (HAIL) determinations			
Investigation fee		157.00	165.00

Resource Management - explanatory notes

These fees and charges become operative on 1 July 2025 and will apply for all work carried out and decisions issued on or after 1 July 2025, irrespective of when the application was lodged with the Council.

Fixed charges

- The charges set out in this schedule are charges which are fixed pursuant to Section 36 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA).

All such charges are stated inclusive of GST at 15%, however should the GST rate be amended, GST will be charged at the prevailing rate.

- All fixed charges are payable in full in advance. Pursuant to Section 36AAB (2) of the RMA, the Council will not perform the action or commence processing the application to which the charge relates until it has been so paid.

Note: Documentation or certificates will not be issued until payment of charges have been cleared.

Additional charges

Where a fixed charge is in any particular case inadequate to enable the Council to recover its actual and reasonable costs in respect of the matter concerned, the Council will require the applicant to pay an additional charge to the Council.

The following may also be included as additional charges:

- If it is necessary for the services of a consultant to be engaged by the Council (including their attendance at any hearing or meeting) then the consultant's fees will be charged in full to the applicant as an additional charge;
- If any legal fees are incurred by the Council in relation to legal advice obtained for any particular application, including any fees incurred if Council's solicitor is required to be present at any hearing, mediations or meetings, these fees will be charged in full to the applicant as an additional charge;
- If any Commissioner hearing fees and associated costs are incurred in considering and determining any particular application, these fees will be charged in full to the applicant as an additional charge.

Purpose

The purpose of each fixed charge and any additional charge is to recover the actual and reasonable costs incurred by the Council in receiving and processing applications and in issuing decisions and monitoring performance of conditions.

Charge out rates for council officers and mileage

Charge out rates for Council officers are set out in this schedule and:

- Are fixed charges;
- If reference is made in the schedule to actual staff time, it will be charged in accordance with the relevant hourly charge-out rates;
- The charge-out rates for Council officers and for mileage will apply to all matters listed in the Schedule so that:
 - if the fixed charge which has been paid in advance is greater by more than \$20.00 than the actual and reasonable costs incurred by the Council relating to that application, a refund will be given when those costs are finally assessed; and
 - if the actual and reasonable costs incurred by the Council relating to that application are inadequate to enable the Council to recover its actual and reasonable costs then additional charges calculated for staff time at the same rate will be payable (as well as any other items of additional charge which may have been incurred)

Remission of fees

Staff with delegated authority may decide to reduce any charges Section 36AAB(1) of the RMA.

RECREATION AND PROPERTY

Description	2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
Cemeteries (Public Amenities Bylaw Clause 8)		
Te Kuiti Cemetery		
Plot Purchase (Berm and Lawn Cemetery)		
Adult	1793.00	1847.00
Child (under 12 years)	754.00	777.00
Ashes Plot		
Ashes Wall	381.00	392.00
Garden of Memories	509.00	524.00
RSA		

RECREATION AND PROPERTY		
Description	2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
Interment Fees Te Kuiti		
Adult	1378.00	1420.00
Child (under 12 years)	715.00	736.00
Ashes interment	289.00	298.00
Stillborn	153.00	158.00
Rural Cemeteries: Piopio, Mokau, Te Waitere and Aria		
Plot Purchase		
Adult	1330.00	1370.00
Child (under 12 years)	557.00	574.00
Ashes Plot	231.00	238.00
Interment Fees		
Adult	1467.00	1511.00
Child (under 12 years)	726.60	748.00
Ashes interment	404.00	416.00
Stillborn	227.00	234.00
Sundry (for all cemeteries in the District)		
Extra for breaking concrete	180.60	186.00
Additional depth	253.00	760.00
Extra Saturday	243.00	250.00
Extra Public Holiday	485.00	500.00
Fixing of Plaque	181.00	186.00
Disinterment Fees (all Cemeteries)		
An estimate will be provided to customer, actual cost will be charged		
Burial	Actual Cost Plus 10% Administration	Actual Cost Plus 10% Administration
Ashes	Actual Cost Plus 10% Administration	Actual Cost Plus 10% Administration
Non-Residents (out of district burials)		
	Add 60% to plot purchase	Add 60% to plot purchase
Research Fees	66.00	68.00
Hall Hire – Les Munro Centre		
Full day - Commercial	960.00	989.00
Full Day - Community Group*	480.00	494.00
Hourly Rate - Commercial	120.00	124.00
Hourly Rate - Community Group*	60.00	62.00
Funeral Rate	480.00	494.00
Booking Fee	5.00	5.20
Bond - Credit card hold		
<i>Bookings of less than 50 people - card holder bond \$50.00. Bookings of more than 50 people and less than 100 people - card holder bond \$250.00. Bookings of more than 100 people - card holder bond of \$500.00</i>	50.00 250.00 500.00	50.00 250.00 500.00
<i>Cancellation Fee - 50% of the hire cost if canceled within 5 working days</i>	50% of hire cost	50% of hire cost
<i>A minimum hire duration of 2 hours applies to Les Munro Centre, Railway Building 3 and Piopio Hall, a fee of \$50.00 will be imposed for pre-inspections if hirer fails to attend within 15 minutes of agreed meeting time.</i>	50.00	50.00
*Community Group means a not-for-profit organisation that has the primary objective to provide programmes, services or activities that benefit any or all of the social, cultural, economic, and environmental wellbeing of communities.		
Community Halls		
Piopio Hall		
Complex hire		
Full day	160.00	165.00
Hourly rate	20.00	21.00
PA system	No charge	No charge
Bond – Credit card hold of \$100.00	100.00	100.00
Te Kuiti Railway Station Buildings 3		
Full day	140.00	144.00
Hourly rate	32.00	33.00

RECREATION AND PROPERTY		
Description	2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
Bond - Credit card hold of \$100.00	100.00	100.00
<i>Community Groups may be eligible for a subsidy for hall hireage. To check for eligibility please enquire with WDC Customer Services.</i>		
Elderly Persons Housing - Tenancy arrangement		
Small single bedroom - per week	150.00	190.00
Large single bedroom - per week	160.00	200.00
Bedsit - per week	140.00	180.00
Rental Housing - Tenancy arrangement		
47 Te Kumi Road		450.00
4 Moa Street House		320.00
4 Moa Street Garage		120.00
Parks and Reserves		
Community Group*	new	Free
Commercial Users Only – All Parks		
Ground Hire (per day)	366.00	377.00
Bond	525.00	541.00
Application fee for an Activity Requiring Authorisation pursuant to the Reserve Management Plan	168.00	173.00
Application fee for a variation to an existing Activity Requiring Authorisation pursuant to the Reserve Management Plan	168.00	173.00
Application fee for an allowed activity pursuant to the Reserves Management Plan	30.00	31.00
*Community Group means a not-for-profit organisation that has the primary objective to provide programmes, services or activities that benefit any or all of the social, recreational, cultural, economic, and environmental wellbeing of communities.		
District Aquatic Centre		
Adult	5.00	5.00
Adult swimmer with an under 5	3.50	3.50
Seniors	3.50	3.50
Disability/health (green script of letter from health professional required)	2.10	2.10
Child	2.50	2.50
Students	3.50	3.50
Under 5's	Free	Free
Spectators	1.00	1.00
Learn to Swim Classes (per lesson)	13.50	13.50
Hire of whole complex (per hour) under 50 swimmers + 31.00 for lifeguard per hour	110.00	110.00
Hire of whole complex (per hour) over 50 swimmers + 31.00 per lifeguard per hour e.g. 300 people would require 6 lifeguards	110.00	110.00
Lane Hire (per lane per hour)	17.50	17.50
Lane Hire for Swimming Club (per lane per hour)	13.20	13.20
Schools Base Fee (per hour)		
31.00 per lifeguard per hour	39.00	39.00
BBQ Hire (per hour)		
a refundable cleaning bond of 22.00	33.00	33.00
Te Kuiti Aerodrome		
Visiting Aircraft Landing Fee	15.00	15.00
Touch and Go First Practice Landings Circuit - treated as one landing.	15.00	15.00
Te Kuiti Aeroclub Members Landing Fee	15.00	15.00
Commercial Users	20.00	20.00
Annual Plane Storage (casual)	562.00	578.90
Ground lease fees (annual) >200sqm	\$3.18/sqm	\$3.30/sqm
Ground lease fees (annual) <200sqm	\$6.61/sqm	\$6.80/sqm

COMMUNITY AND PARTNERSHIPS		
Description	2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
Waitomo District Library		
Rentals (Fiction) – Books up to 2 years old (Rental 21 Days)	0.60	0.60
Rentals (Fiction) – Books over 2 years old (Rental 21 Days)	No charge	No charge

COMMUNITY AND PARTNERSHIPS		
Description	2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
Bestseller Collection - 14 day hire	5.50	5.50
Classic DVDs - 1 week hire	No charge	No charge
DVDs - 1 week hire	No charge	No charge
Electronic Games - 1 week hire	2.00	2.10
Magazines - 1 week hire	1.60	1.60
Jigsaw Puzzles (21 days)	2.20	2.30
Children's Wooden Puzzles (21 days)	No charge	No charge
Rental Talking Books	1.70	1.80
Board games	2.50	2.60
Kit Collection (3 Days) – low value kits	New	2.00
Kit Collection (3 Days) – low value kits	New	2.00
Kit Collection (3 Days) – Mid value	6.10	6.50
Kit Collection (1 week) – Mid value		6.50
Kit Collection (3 Days) – high value kits	11.00	11.50
Kit Collection (1 week) – high value kits	11.00	11.50
Lost or Damaged Items Replacement Cost + fee	7.30	7.50
Books by Mail - postage fee (per item)	6.30	6.50
Requests to other Libraries (per item) where reciprocal agreement exists	6.30	6.50
Requests to other Libraries (per item) where no reciprocal agreement exists	26.50	27.30
International Requests to other Libraries (per item)	55.10	56.80
Aotearoa Peoples Network (APNK) internet/computer charges	No charge	No charge
Items requests/hold, per request	No charge	No charge
Annual Non-Resident Fee (excluding Ōtorohanga and Ruapehu District)	49.60	51.00
Membership Card (initial)	No charge	No charge
Temporary membership bond	22.00	22.70
Lost Membership Card replacement	5.50	5.70
Covering Books (Small)	5.50	5.70
Covering Books (Large)	6.60	6.80
Scanning (per request)	0.60	0.60
Binding documents	5.50	5.70
Sale of Books	0.90	0.90
Sale of Books - Fill a Bag/Stock-up	3.30	3.40
Library Bags	6.30	6.50
Overdue Charges		
Overdues – (per day per book) Book collection	No charge	No charge
Overdues - All DVDs and E-games (per day, per item)	No charge	No charge
Magazines – Overdues – Magazine (per day)	0.10 per day	0.10 per day
Overdues - Board Games (per day)	0.50 per day	0.50 per day
Overdues - Kit Collection per day	1.50 per day	1.50 per day
3D printing service		
3D printing – service fee	2.00	2.00
- per gram of filament 1 colour	0.30	0.10
- per gram of filament 2 colours	0.30	0.20
- per gram of filament 3+ colours	0.30	0.30
Photocopying		
A4 Black and White printing/photocopying – Per side	0.20	0.20
A4 Colour printing/photocopying – Per side	0.40	0.40
Laminating		
A4, per page	3.40	3.50
A3, per page	6.70	6.90

CORPORATE SERVICES		
Description	2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
Official Information		
Handling of enquiries - charge per half hour plus actual and reasonable costs (first hour free of charge)	38.00	38.00
Photocopying or printing on standard A4 (first 20 pages no charge)		0.20

CORPORATE SERVICES

Description	2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
Supply of property records (Hardcopy property files accessed by a customer)	11.00	11.30
Record of Title	30.00	32.00
GIS System – Generating and Printing of Maps/ Plans		
A4 (Plan)	0.50	0.50
A4 (Aerial)	0.70	0.70
A3 (Plan)	1.10	1.10
A3 (Aerial)	2.10	2.20
A2 Plotter (plan)	5.30	5.50
A2 Plotter (aerial)	11.00	11.50
A1 Plotter (plan)	8.60	9.00
A1 Plotter (aerial)	13.30	14.00
A0 Plotter (plan)	16.30	17.00
A0 Plotter (aerial)	20.50	21.00
Creation of non-standard maps / plans (cost is per half hour plus printing fees)	52.50	54.00
Supply of data in digital form by email (cost is per half hour)	52.50	54.00
Property number, allocation only (urban and rural RAPID number)	No charge	No charge
Email and digital		
Supply of data in digital format by email. Includes producing a document by computer and sending via email to customer. (per half hour plus actual and reasonable costs)	52.50	54.00
Supply of information regarding Rating Information Database to commercial entities (per half hour plus actual and reasonable costs – minimum charge one hour)	52.50	54.00
Community Owned Facility Insurance		
Administration fee	110.00	113.30

ASSETS

Description	2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
Roading		
Traffic Management Plans (TMP) – Processing Fee		
Vehicle crossing and minor works	157.50	165.00
Major works 5+ days or pavement excavation	315.00	325.00
Event minor less 1000 people	157.50	165.00
<i>Does not include Road Closure Fee - Traffic Management Coordinator may use discretion to waive Road Closure Fee dependent on complexity of TMP.</i>		
Urban/CBD major works / Major Events (1000+ people)	525.00	545.00
<i>Does not include Road Closure Fee - Traffic Management Coordinator may use discretion to waive Road Closure Fee dependent on complexity of TMP.</i>		
Road Closure Application Fee	569.00	590.00
<i>Fee includes administration and the cost of one advertisement; two adverts are required. Council will cover the cost of one advertisement</i>		
Entrance way Inspection	273.00	285.00
Annual License to Occupy a Roothing Reserve or Encumbrance for Stock Underpass (minimum)	275.10	285.00
Application fee to process a License to Occupy a Roothing Reserve	126.00	250.00
Corridor Access Request – formerly Road Opening Notice	219.50	500.00
Road Encroachment	264.60	275.00
Road Damage Deposit		
Bond (deposit refundable)	6279.00	6470.00
Rapid Number		
New	176.40	185.00
Replacement	88.20	91.00
Overweight		
Overweight Permit	305.60	315.00
Overweight Permit Renewal	259.40	270.00
No Spray Zone Application		
	264.60	275.00
Roothing Information		
Land Information Request	74.00	77.00
Engineering Consent	86.10	89.00
High Productivity Motor Vehicle (HPMV) Permit		

ASSETS		
Description	2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
HPMV Permit	385.40	400.00
HPMV Permit up to 10 identically configured HPVM vehicles, belonging to the same company	394.80	410.00
HPMV Permit Renewal	259.40	270.00
Water Services Connection Fees		
Administration fee for new connections – fee per application (includes water supply, wastewater and stormwater)	251.00	258.00
Wastewater Treatment and Disposal		
Connection (Te Kuiti, Te Waitere, Maniaiti/Benneydale - All Council supplies excluding Piopio) Approved Contractor to send all engineering design, supply and installation cost (plant, labour, material, as built and Traffic Management) to Council for review and approval. Connection length – up to 8 meters to sewer main. Client will be charged actual costs for installation of pipe length past 8 meters. This fee covers the cost associated with accessing Council's infrastructure and are applicable irrespective of existing infrastructure. Traffic Management Plan approval and implementation to be charged at actual cost.	2415.00	Quote to be provided by Council approved Contractor
Disconnection	250.00	258.00
Piopio Wastewater		
Connection involving retrofitting of an existing approved septic tank Approved Contractor to send all engineering design, supply and installation cost (plant, labour, material, as built and Traffic Management) to Council for review and approval.	11214.00	Quote to be provided by Council approved Contractor
Connection (including new septic tank as specified by Council) Approved Contractor to send all engineering design, supply and installation cost (plant, labour, material, as built and Traffic Management) to Council for review and approval. Connection length – up to 8 meters to council sewer main. Client will be charged actual costs for installation of pipe length past 8 meters. Traffic Management Plan approval and implementation to be charged at actual cost.	23888.00	Quote to be provided by Council approved Contractor
Stormwater		
Connection Approved Contractor to send all engineering design, supply and installation cost (plant, labour, material, as built and Traffic Management) to Council for review and approval. Connection length – up to 8 meters to stormwater pipe main. Client will be charged actual costs for installation of pipe length past 8 meters. This fee covers the cost associated with accessing Council's infrastructure and are applicable irrespective of existing infrastructure. Traffic Management Plan approval and implementation to be charged at actual cost	3502.00	Quote to be provided by Council approved Contractor
Kerb Connection Approved Contractor to send all engineering design, supply and installation cost (plant, labour, material, as built and Traffic Management) to Council for review and approval.	1250.00	Quote to be provided by Council approved Contractor
Water Supply (Water Services Bylaw 2015)		
Water Supply Rates		
Cost per m ³ above 292m ³ -Water rates set by RFP new rate calculated annually through rate setting process.		
Te Kuiti	3.94	4.61
Piopio	4.30	5.03
Maniaiti/Benneydale	4.74	5.55
Mokau	6.30	7.37
Connection Fee Te Kuiti, Piopio, Mokau, Maniaiti/Benneydale (All council supplies) Approved Contractor to send all engineering design, supply and installation cost (plant, labour, material, as built and Traffic Management) to Council for review and approval. Connection length – up to 8 meters to stormwater pipe main. Client will be charged actual costs for installation of pipe length past 8 meters. This fee covers the cost associated with accessing Council's infrastructure and are applicable irrespective if a connection has already been laid. Traffic Management Plan approval and implementation to be charged at actual cost.	3150.00	Quote to be provided by Council approved Contractor
Disconnection	568.00	585.00
Reconnection	568.00	585.00
Toby/ Valve locates	159.00	164.00

ASSETS		
Description	2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
Testing Meters Fee		
Domestic 15 mm and 20 mm	488.00	503.00
40 mm large connection	580.00	597.00
50 mm and 100 mm bulk	891.00	918.00
Water Meter Reading Fee* 10% administrative costs		
• Te Kuiti	125.00	129.00
• Mokau	215.00	221.00
• Maniaiti/Benneydale	146.00	150.00
• Piopio	128.00	132.00
<i>*For final meter reads on extraordinary water use accounts</i>		
Other Charges		
For identification of underground services or any other operation deemed to differ from the normal fees and charges line item.	Cost Recovery Basis Plus 10% administrative costs	Cost Recovery Basis Plus 10% administrative costs
Bulk Water (tankers/hydrant etc.)		
Bulk Water take (tankers/hydrant etc.) Cost per m ³	13.00	13.00
General Administration fee cover cost per invoice received	35.00	36.00
Water Permit (standpipe) Hire	238.00	245.00
Water Take Application Fee	177.00	182.00
Annual Fee - this covers the cost associated with management of hydrant standpipe, contractors, volume of water take calculation and annual calibration of water meter and testing of non-return valve.	170.00	175.00
Trade Waste		
Administrative Charges		
Required Trade Waste Application Fee (Must reapply after 5 years)	177.00	182.00
Non-compliance Re-inspection Fee	136.00	140.00
Annual Trade Waste Consent Charges		
Exempt Trade Waste Licence	134.00	138.00
Permitted Trade Waste Licence	266.00	274.00
Conditional Trade Waste licence (includes disposal from cleaning of separator unit x2 per annum)	748.00	770.00
Conditional Trade Waste licence (non-food)	New	270.00
Tankered Trade Waste Charges		
Receipt treatment and disposal of liquid trade wastes per m ³ (1,000 litres) at Te Kuiti Wastewater Treatment Plant:		
Septage disposal from within Waitomo District per m ³ (1,000 litres) <i>Septage is septic tank waste including partially treated sludge that accumulates in a septic tank</i>	267.00	275.00
Greywater per m ³ (1,000 litres)	41.50	43.00
Grease Trap waste per m ³ (1,000 litres)	294.00	303.00
All out of Waitomo District tankered waste per m ³ (1,000 litres) casual users	345.00	355.00
<i>Note: Tankered trade waste compromising a mixed waste load will be charged at the higher rate</i>		
Solid Waste Management		
Kerbside Collection		
Purchase of WDC Rubbish Bags - Residents (each)	5.00	5.30
Landfill and Transfer stations		
Waitomo District Landfill		
<i>(Note: most charges are per 1 tonne (1,000kgs). There is no charge to dispose of official WDC Refuse Bags at Landfill)</i>		
Purchase of Recycle Bin (Green Bin, each)	16.00	16.50
General Refuse		
General Refuse (per tonne), 10kg and above (see below)	336.00	351.00
General refuse minimum charge (under 10kg) <i>*Note: refer to example of weighbridge charges below</i>	12.00	12.50
Green Waste		
Green Waste (per tonne)	220.00	232.00
Special Refuse		
Concrete and Bricks (per tonne)	95.00	103.00

ASSETS

Description	2024/25 fee or charge (\$)	Updated 2025/26 fee or charge (\$)
Fibreglass (per tonne)	300.00	314.00
Clean Fill (per tonne)	59.00	66.00
Clay (per tonne)	47.00	53.00
Whiteware – each	35.00	36.00
Television - each	24.00	25.00
Computer - each	21.00	22.00
Household kitchen appliances	9.00	9.50
Oil, paint – per litre	7.00	7.50
Lead Cell Batteries (each)	36.00	37.00
Gas Cylinders (each)	17.00	17.50
Metal (scrap only, per tonne)	103.00	106.00
Polystyrene (per tonne)	1491.00	1541.00
Timber Waste (per tonne)	190.00	201.00
Burial (per unit)	77.00	
Tyres		
Car	18.00	19.00
4x4	23.00	24.00
Light Truck	23.00	24.00
Truck	28.00	29.00
Tractor	69.00	71.00
Contaminated Soils	381.00	397.00
Contaminated Waste	426.00	444.00
Bulk Liquid Wastes will not be accepted		
Rural Transfer Stations <i>Charges are per refuse item: Van (each). If the amount of general refuse is over and above the standard item, additional charges will be applied.</i>		
General Refuse		
Disposal of Unofficial rubbish bags - (if the size of the unofficial bag used is similar or smaller than WDC rubbish bag)	5.00	5.30
Wheelie Bin	37.00	38.00
Car boot	40.00	41.00
Van	70.00	72.00
Ute	80.00	82.00
Trailer	80.00	82.00
Special Refuse (E.g. Whiteware)	35.00	36.00
Televisions – each	24.00	25.00
Computer – each	21.00	22.00
Household kitchen appliances	9.00	9.50
Landscape Supplies		
Riverstone (per tonne)		
Riverstone 19mm Rolys	123.00	127.00
Riverstone 25-65mm Rolys	134.00	138.00
Riverstone 65-200mm Rolys	150.00	154.50
Riverstone Builder Mix	134.00	138.00

*Waitomo District Landfill example of weighbridge charges:

6kg - \$12.36 **\$12.50** 11kg - \$12.71 **\$16.01** 19kg - \$15.47 **\$19.52** 22kg - \$16.51 **\$23.03**