

# This section provides information about Waitomo District Council and:

- Glossary of terms and acronyms used in the Plan
- Index

Creating a better future with vibrant communities and thriving business.





#### Waitomo District Council

The Waitomo County Act was passed in 1904 and the first meeting of the Waitomo County Council was held in September 1905.

The Borough of Te Kuiti was constituted in 1910.

In 1922 the Awakino County was amalgamated with the Waitomo Council in an area of the then Otorohanga County to form a separate local authority.

Part of the Kawhia County was included with Waitomo County in 1956 and the balance incorporated with Otorohanga.

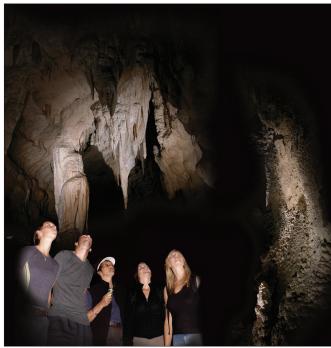
The Te Kuiti Borough and Waitomo County Councils were amalgamated to form the Waitomo District Council on 1st April 1976, and although minor changes to boundaries occurred with the 1989 reorganisation, the District remained substantially unchanged.

The present Waitomo District Council was reconstituted on 1st November 1989 as a result of the local government reorganisation process that occurred across New Zealand.

#### The District

Waitomo district encompasses 354,649 hectares of predominantly rural land on the west coast of the Central North Island. The western boundary is the Sea. It is adjacent to the Otorohanga District to the north, Taupo District to the east and Ruapehu and New Plymouth Districts to the south.

Te Kuiti is the administrative and main trading centre in the District, with approximately 45% of the District population residing in this town. There are several other smaller settlements located throughout the District, including the popular beach settlements of Mokau, Awakino, Marokopa, and Te Waitere. The main rural communities are Benneydale, Piopio and Waitomo Village.



WAITOMO CAVES

Benneydale Township is located 35 kilometres south-east of Te Kuiti. The village of Benneydale was established in the 1940's for housing coal miners and their families related to the new state-owned underground coal mine which opened at that time further up the valley.

Piopio lies in a picturesque part of the King Country amongst rolling farmland with impressive limestone formations, rugged hills and pockets of beautiful native bush. All the streets in Piopio's town centre are named after New Zealand native birds. Piopio itself is the name of an extinct native bird.

Waitomo Village (Village) is one of New Zealand's original tourist destinations and has been attracting visitors to its labyrinth of glowworm caves for over 100 years. The Village is located 15 minutes from Te Kuiti and 2 hours, 50 minutes from Auckland. Waitomo's eco-tourism and caving adventures are associated with its world famous limestone caves. For the adventurous there's cave abseiling or rappelling, Black Water Rafting and caving adventures. There are also fabulous free attractions from caves to coast.

While the District is predominantly contained within the Waikato Region, the south-eastern corner of the District is within the Manawatu-Wanganui (Horizons) Regional Council's jurisdiction.





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The District enjoys a favourable climate with an annual average of 1,750 hours of sunshine. The average temperature ranges between 18.5°C in the summer to 9.5°C in the winter. Frosts are experienced 47 days per year on average, with 1,473mm of rainfall annually.

#### The People

The usual resident population for the District was 8,910 for the 2013 Census (9,441:2006 Census). This illustrates that the District is experiencing a population decline.

The Maori population for the 2013 Census was 3,531 (3,642:2006 Census).

The age distribution of people in the District is slightly larger than for New Zealand in the age group 16-65 and slightly lower in the age groups 65 and over and younger than 15.

By 2031, the District is expected to have the 3rd highest percentage of people under the age of 15 years (22%) out of all 73 territorial local authorities. The national median percentage, at that point in time, is expected to be about 17%.

The median age is projected to increase from 35 years to 40 years by 2031, the 12th youngest of all Districts at that point in time.

The median income of \$25,600 is slightly below the rest of NZ (\$23,300:2006 Census).

#### The Environment

The landscape varies from inland forested areas overlaying limestone and papa deposits to coastal marine areas. The main rivers are the Mokau, Awakino and Marokopa, each having high recreational and fishery values. Additionally, Te Kuiti straddles the banks of the Mangaokewa Stream with Benneydale built alongside the Mangapehi Stream. The limestone caves at Waitomo Village are fed by the waters from the Waitomo Stream.

The District is characterised by extensive areas of hill country, some of it steep, particularly the Herangi Range to the west.



MAROKOPA ESTUARY

### The Economy

The District has a strong agricultural base and also contains agricultural industry such as meat freezing works. Dairy farming is increasing in the District and is replacing some pastoral uses.

- Some 206,000 hectares of land in the District is being utilised for agricultural or horticultural purposes. This represents approximately 58% of the total land in the District.
- Approximately 113,000 hectares of the District is covered in indigenous vegetation. Indigenous forests are mainly located on the west coast within the Whareorino Forest and the northwestern highlands in areas such as the Tawarau Forest.

The District supports a variety of visitor attractions. The attractions can be divided into four distinct and largely autonomous physical characteristics which provide different levels of use, types of recreation and tourism opportunity. All four are based on important natural features of the District. These types are:

**The Coast:** The District includes about 80 kilometres of coastline stretching from Kawhia Harbour in the north to the Mokau River in the south. The attractions of this coastal environment are its sense of remoteness dominated by high energy wave action and coastal cliffs. Black, magnetite sands dominate the coast providing a contrast to the white sands of the east coast. The main types of coastal recreation are presently camping, fishing, surfing, diving and picnicking/day trips.

**Highland Forests:** The Waitomo district has some of the most extensive tracts of forested area in the Waikato Region. Two large western forests of significance to the tourist industry are the Whareorino and the Tawarau Forests. Whareorino Forest which is located 30 kilometres west of Waitomo Village, occupies a large area of land (15,903 hectares) which covers a complete altitudinal sequence of indigenous vegetation from close to sea level to the crest of the Herangi Range.

To the east, part of the massive Pureora Forest Park lies within the Waitomo district. A predominantly walking and cycling trail has been developed through the Pureora Forest park - The Timber Trail. The Timber Trail is a two-day cycling experience however there are also opportunities for day trips and multi-day experiences for walkers. The Timber Trail has been accorded the highest of priorities amongst the Department of Conservation assets. It provides a new tourism asset to the Waitomo district to compliment other clusters of activity.



KOKAKO - PUREORA FOREST PARK

Tawarau Forest located in proximity to Waitomo Village contains significant karst and cave features within the forest. It contains numerous "clean" caves as a result of the intact indigenous forest cover and includes what is probably the largest continuous tract of virgin forest remaining on karst topography in the North Island. The forest is in both private and public ownership and contains excellent examples of the dense rimu/miro forest type which once occurred throughout the region.





Karst, including Caves: The tourism industry in Waitomo district is well developed around the karst landforms and cave formations of the area. In particular the glow-worm caves, of which Waitomo glow-worm cave is the most well known internationally and nationally. There are numerous other significant cave systems in the Waitomo area as well as other karst features of natural, scientific, educational and recreational interest including cliffs, natural tunnels and bridges, and fossil sites. In addition, there are also undeveloped wild caves, and various conventional forms of tourism development associated with the natural features.

The District's main township Te Kuiti is branded as the sheep shearing capital of the world and hosts a variety of recreational opportunities, from sea and trout fishing to

the Great New Zealand Muster. Hunting, tramping and mountain biking are all popular activities ideally suited to the Districts natural environment.

Mining also forms an integral part of the District economy as represented by extensive quarrying operations and mineral extraction from the black sand in the north western part of the District. Roading aggregate, limestone and coal deposits are also available across the District.

#### **District Statistics**

LOCATION	
Latitude:	38° 21' South
Longitude:	175° 11' East of Greenwich
Altitude:	55m above mean sea level
Area:	336,357 hectares (3363.57 sq km)
CLIMATE	
Temperature Summer Average	18.5°C Winter Average 9.5°C
Sunshine Mean Average	1,749 hours
Rainfall Average	1,473 mm per year
Frosts Average	47 days per year
POPULATION ANALYSIS (Source data 2013 Census)	
Total Population	8,910
Median age	35
Number of households	3,390
Electors	5,793
RATING STATISTICS	
Total Rates Revenue 2014/15 (excluding Penalties) Budget:	\$17,338,635 (excl GST)
Total Rateable Capital Value as at 30 June 2013	\$3,136,145,000
Total Capital Value at as 30 June 2013	\$3,726,761,000
Number of Rateable Properties as at 30 June 2013	5,753
PUBLIC DEBT OUTSTANDING	
30 June 2013 (Actual)	\$45,182,000
30 June 2015 (Budget)	\$53,995,000
PUBLIC EQUITY	
30 June 2013 (Actual)	\$270,525,000
30 June 2015 (Budget)	\$276,273,000
OTHER INFORMATION	
Number of Building Consents 2012/13	183
Value of Building Consents 2012/13	\$14,050,482
Total District Roading Sealed	459 kilometres
Total District Roading Unsealed	555 kilometres
Registered Dogs Total (30 June 2013)	4,001





#### **Elected Representatives**



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### Management Structure



Group Manager Customer Services

Services Helen Beever

Group Manager Assets Christiaan Van Rooyen Group Manager Community Services John De Luca Group Manager Corporate Services Vibhuti Chopra





## Glossary of Terms and Acronyms

## Terms used in this document:

Activity	The goods or services that WDC provides to the Community.
Annual Report	A document that WDC prepares each year which provides the public with information on the performance of the WDC during the year (in both financial and non-financial terms).
Assets	Assets are things that WDC owns, such as roads, parks, buildings and cash holdings.
Asset Management Plan	A planning document that combines management, financial, strategic and engineering techniques to ensure an asset continues to provide the desired level of service to its customers at the lowest long term cost.
Capital Expenditure	The term used to describe expenditure on assets (land, infrastructure, plant and equipment) that will provide benefit to the Community for a period greater than 12 months.
Capital Value	The sum of the unimproved value (land value), and the value of the improvements is equal to the capital value of the land.
Community	A network of people and organisations linked together by common factors. This might refer to a network of people linked by place (that is, a geographic community), common interest or identity (for example, a Hapu, a voluntary organisation or society), or an administrative community (such as a District).
Community Outcomes	The Community's view of what is important for its current and future social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being as identified through a special consultative procedure. These outcomes inform the development of WDC's planning and co-ordinate the activities and planning of all sectors of the community.
Community Well-beings	One of the main purposes of councils, as stated in the LGA 2002, is to promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of communities, in the present and for the future. These four aspects are known as the 'four community well-beings'.
Corporate Support	Used to describe the inputs that are used by all of WDC's activities.
Council	The seven elected members that form the governing body (WDC) of the WDC.
Current Assets	Assets that can be readily converted to cash, or will be used up during the year. These include cash, stock, debtors, and operational investments.
Current Liabilities	Creditors and other liabilities due for payment within the financial year.
Designated Investments	Investments representing Special Funds and Reserve Accounts.
Development Expenditure	A form of capital expenditure that refers to an investment in an asset to improve its value. The investment in the asset results in the asset's condition being better than when it was first purchased, or built by WDC. This does not include renewing old assets to their original state; these are classed as renewal works.
Exceptions Annual Plan	A document adopted by WDC in each of the years between LTPs which sets out the budget and sources of funding for the year and reports on any exceptions from those forecast in the LTP.
Infrastructural Assets	Fixed utility systems that provide a continuing service to the Community and are not generally regarded as tradable. WDC's infrastructural assets consist of roads and footpaths, water supply systems, sewerage systems, stormwater systems and solid waste management systems (e.g. refuse transfer stations and the Rangitoto landfill).
Key Performance Indicators	Targets set by WDC to enable the Community to monitor WDC's progress towards agreed outcomes each year. A table of performance measures is provided in each activity section.
Levels of Service	Operational levels of service are stated in the activity sections of the Waitomo District Council's Long-Term Plan (LTP).
Level of Service Expenditure	A form of capital expenditure that refers to an investment in an asset to improve its value as a result of improving the service that the asset provides to the community. The level of service investment in the asset results in the asset's condition being better than when it was first purchased or built by WDC. This does not include improvements to assets as a result of increased need or demand for that asset due to growth, this is classed as Development Expenditure; or renewal of old assets to their original state, which is classed as Renewal Expenditure.
Local Government Act 2002	The Key legislation that defines the regulations and responsibilities for local authorities.
2009-19 Long Term Plan	A plan covering a period of 10 years (2009-2019), developed by the WDC and describing what the WDC will do to contribute to the achievement of Community Outcomes. An LTP describes what the WDC will do over the ten year period, why it plans to do these things, how much these things will cost including how they will be funded and how success will be judged.
Long Term Plan 2012-2022	A plan covering a period of 10 years (2012-2022), developed by the WDC and describing what the WDC will do to contribute to the achievement of Community Outcomes. An LTP describes what the WDC will do over the ten year period, why it plans to do these things, how much these things will cost including how they will be funded and how success will be judged.
Operations Expenditure	The expenditure required to meet the costs of normal day-to-day services provided by WDC. This includes expenditure resulting from inputs on such items as contract costs, materials, electricity and plant hire.
Operating Revenue	Money earned through WDC activities in return for service provided, or by way of a grant or subsidy to ensure particular services or goods are provided.
	Examples include Land Transport New Zealand (LTNZ) Financial Assistance Rates (FAR) subsidies, rental income and fees and charges.
Operating Surplus	An accounting term meaning the excess of income over expenditure. Income and expenditure in this context excludes "capital" items such as the receipt of repayment of intergeneration loans, the cost of capital works and transfers to and from reserves. An operating surplus is inclusive of non-cash items such as income and expenditure owing but not paid (debtors and creditors) and depreciation.
Outmite	Goods and services the WDC will produce or provide to achieve agreed outcomes.
Outputs	,





Separately Used or Inhabited Part	A separately used or occupied part of a rating unit includes any part of a rating unit that is used or occupied by any person, other than the ratepayer, having a right to use or inhabit that part by virtue of a tenancy, lease, licence, or other agreement, or any part or parts of a rating unit that are used or occupied by the ratepayer for more than one single use.  As a minimum, the land or premises intended to form the separately used or inhabited part of the rating unit must be capable of actual habitation or actual separate use. For the avoidance of doubt, a rating unit that has only one use (i.e. does not have separate parts or is vacant land) is treated as being one separately used or inhabited part.
Stakeholders	People, groups and or organisations that have an interest in what happens in the District.
Statement of Financial Position	Also referred to as Balance Sheet, the name of this financial table has been changed as required by the accounting standards for PBE.
Strategic Goals	WDC has set Strategic Goals for each of its activities. These goals are targeted at ensuring WDC's work programmes are promoting the achievement of Community Outcomes. The goals are long-term and in most cases will take many years to achieve.
Sustainable Development	Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations.
Targeted Uniform Annual Charge	A targeted rate based strictly on a uniform amount set for each separately used or inhabited rating unit, within a defined (targeted) area, e.g. stormwater, solid waste kerbside collection, etc.
Uniform Annual Charge	A service charge that is levied on each separately used or inhabited rating unit, e.g. solid waste management, sewerage, water supply, etc.
Uniform Annual General Charge	Uniform Annual General Charge that is levied on all separately used or inhabited rating units in the District.
Waitomo District Council (WDC)	Waitomo District WDC: the organisation established to administer WDC affairs, conduct operations and bring effect to WDC policy and strategies.
WDC Organisation	Any organisation in which one or more local authorities own or control any proportion of the voting rights or have the right to appoint one or more of the directors, trustees, etc.
WDC Controlled Organisation	Any organisation in which one or more local authorities own or control 50 percent or more of the voting rights or have the right to appoint 50 percent or more of the directors of the organisation.
WDC Controlled Trading Organisation	A council-controlled organisation that operates a trading undertaking for the purpose of making a profit.

## Acronyms used in this document:

AMP	Asset Management Plan
AP	Advisory Panel
BLG	Better Local Government Reform
Board	District Economic Development Board
Capex	Capital Expenditure
ссо	Council Controlled Organisation
COs	Community Outcomes
DDR	District Development Rate
DEDB	District Economic Development Board
DLA	District Licensing Agency
DWS	2005 Drinking Water Standards
EAP	Exceptions Annual Plan
ETS	Emissions Trading Scheme
FAR	Financial Assistance Rates
FRN	Floating Rate Notes
ICL	Inframax Construction Limited
ISBU	Internal Services Business Unit
JMA	Joint Management Agreement
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LGA 2002	Local Government Act 2002
LGRA	Local Government Rating Act
LoS	Level of Service
LTP	Long Term Plan
LTNZ	Land Transport New Zealand
МоН	Ministry of Health
NAASRA	National Association of Australian State Roading Authorities
NZWS	New Zealand Waste Strategy
Opex	Operational Expenditure
PHRMP	Public Health Risk Management Plans

PWBRA	Piopio Wider Benefit Rating Area
RFS	Request for Service - Waitomo District Council's service request system.
RSS	Resident Satisfaction Survey
RTO	Regional Tourism Organisation
SCADA	Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition
SUIP	Separately Used or Inhabited Part
SWaMMP	Solid Waste (Activity) Management and Minimisation Plan
swss	Sanitary Waste Subsidy Scheme
TKISA	Te Kuiti Infrastructure Support Area
TKWTP	Te Kuiti Water Treatment Plant
TKWWTP	Te Kuiti Waste Water Treatment Plant
ТМР	Treasury Management Policy
TUAC	Targeted Uniform Annual Charge
UAC	Uniform Annual Charge
UAGC	Uniform Annual General Charge
WDC	Waitomo District Council
WDHB	Waikato District Health Board
WINZ	Water Information New Zealand
WMF	Waikato Mayoral Forum
WRC	Waikato Regional Council (formally known as Environment Waikato)





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