



# Waikato Waters

Healthy Water, Healthy People  
Te Mana o Te Wai, Te Mana o Te Tangata

**Waikato Waters is a council-controlled organisation taking over delivery of your drinking water and wastewater services from 1 July 2026.**

**Waikato Waters** will be one of the Waikato's **largest infrastructure business with assets valued at**



**\$1.4 billion**

and soon to have over

**50,000 customers**



**Waitomo is one of six shareholding councils who own Waikato Waters.**

Waikato Waters focus will be on protecting public health and the long term provision of waters infrastructure and services. It has been established to meet increasingly demanding environmental and regulatory standards - in a way that is more efficient, resilient and affordable than were each shareholding council undertaking this work on their own.

The shift to the new organisation is being carefully staged to ensure customers do not have any sudden shifts in service, and that there is certainty in the costs you will be paying.

For the 2026/27 year, the total waters rates and charges will remain the same for our district as outlined in the Water Services Delivery Plan.

[www.waitomo.govt.nz/media/wc0mrxbk/wdc-water-services-delivery-plan-3-september-2025.pdf](http://www.waitomo.govt.nz/media/wc0mrxbk/wdc-water-services-delivery-plan-3-september-2025.pdf)

## Key dates

### 1 July 2026 - Day One for Waikato Waters

This is when three of the shareholding councils (Waitomo, Waipā and South Waikato) shift their assets and service delivery into the new entity. On 1 October 2026 Matamata-Piako moves across and, on 1 July 2027, Ōtorohanga and Hauraki assets and services also shift across to Waikato Waters.

### Water Services Strategy – by 30 June 2027

Waikato Waters is required to adopt a Water Services Strategy before 1 July 2027.

The Water Services Strategy will set out how services will be delivered, maintained and improved, and will need to align with each council's growth strategies, infrastructure plans and environmental outcomes.

The Water Services Strategy will also outline the charges for water and wastewater users - providing information about costs, levels of service, performance measures and long term financial and investment plans.

Customers and the wider community will be invited to have their say on the draft Water Services Strategy in early in 2027.

**1 July 2027** – This is when Waikato Waters will be fully operational and able to set its own charges in accordance with the Water Services Strategy.

### Your water and wastewater charges this year

From 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027, waters rates and charges have been set in Waitomo District Council's Water Services Delivery Plan

[www.waitomo.govt.nz/media/wc0mrxbk/wdc-water-services-delivery-plan-3-september-2025.pdf](http://www.waitomo.govt.nz/media/wc0mrxbk/wdc-water-services-delivery-plan-3-september-2025.pdf)

These charges are being invoiced under the Rating Act. In other words, there will be no change to how customers are to be charged during this period as a result of Waikato Waters Ltd being established.

Waitomo District Council is proposing changes to the District Wide Benefit rates (paid by all ratepayers) for water, wastewater and tradewaste that will impact the amount being charged for these services – for details see pages 10-11.

Please direct any questions relating to your waters charges to Waitomo District Council on 0800 932 4357.

You can find out more about Waikato Waters here:

[www.waikatowaters.co.nz](http://www.waikatowaters.co.nz)